

Timeline

Key:

Cornelia's life

Historical events

Religious events

Important advances in education

Cultural notes

1809

Cornelia is born in Philadelphia

1810

U.S. population: 7,239,881.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, originally founded by the Congregationalist Church, begins to send Protestant missionaries to foreign countries and Indian tribes.

1811

January: A slave insurrection in Louisiana results in the deaths of some 75 slaves

1814

October 5: The Indian leader Tecumseh is killed at the battle of the Thames in Canada, ending his hopes for an Indian confederation resisting American expansion.

Francis Cabot Lowell opens the first U.S. factory able to convert raw cotton into cloth using power machinery.

May 27: The Creek Chief Red Eagle surrenders to General Andrew Jackson after the battle of Horse Shoe Bend, opening southern and western Alabama to white settlement.

August 24: The British avenge an American raid on York, Ontario (now Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada, by setting fire to the White House and the Capitol.

September 14: Lawyer Francis Scott Key, detained on a British warship, writes "The Star-Spangled Banner," which was destined to become the country's national anthem.

December 15-January 1815: Hartford Convention. Federalists call for the repeal of the Three-Fifths compromise; requiring a two-thirds vote for admission of new states and declarations of war; limiting presidents to one terms; and forbidding successive presidents to come from the same state.

December 24: A peace treaty ending the War of 1812 is signed at Ghent, Belgium

1816

Richard Allen forms the African Methodist Episcopal Church

The American Bible Society is founded.

December: The American Colonization Society was established to transport free blacks to Africa.

1817

Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet founds a free public school for the deaf in Hartford, Conn.

1819

U.S. population: 9,638,453.

The financial Panic of 1819, the country's first major economic depression, produces political division and calls for the democratization of state constitutions and an end to imprisonment for

debt.

February 13. A Firebell in the Night. A political crisis arises when Rep. James Tallmadge of N.Y. proposes an amendment to a bill granting statehood to Missouri. He proposes that all slave children be freed when they reach their 25th birthday and that any further introduction of slaves be barred.

William Ellery Channing's "Unitarian Christianity" sermon lays out the principles of liberal Protestantism.

1820

U.S. population: 9,638,453.

March 3: The Missouri Compromise prohibited slavery north of 36 degrees, 30 minutes north latitude. Missouri is admitted as a slave state, and Maine (up to then a part of Massachusetts) is admitted as a free state.

April 24: The Land Act of 1820 reduces the price of land to \$1.25 an acre for a minimum of 80 acres (down from \$1.64 per acre for a minimum of 160 acres

English writer Sydney Smith asks: "In the four quarters of the globe, who reads an American book? or goes to an American play? or looks at an American picture or statue?"

1821

Emma Hart Willard opens the Troy Female Seminary, the first institution in the United States to offer a high school education for girls.

1822

Stephen F. Austin establishes an American colony in Texas.

The American Colonization Society founds Liberia as a colony for free blacks from the United States.

1823

December 2: Responding to a fear that Russia would seize control of the Pacific Coast and that European powers would assist Spain in reclaiming its New World colonies, President James Monroe announces what has become known as the Monroe Doctrine. He declares that the Western Hemisphere is closed to further European colonization and threatens to use force to stop further European interventions in the Americas.

1824

"The Red Harlot of Infidelity," Frances Wright, arrives from Scotland, and lectures publicly on birth control, women's rights, and abolition.

1825

The Erie Canal opens

1826

July 4: Thomas Jefferson and John Adams die on the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The first photograph is created in France

1827

Samuel E. Cornish and John B. Russwurm publish the first African American newspapers, Freedom's Journal.

Massachusetts enacts the first law requiring every community with 500 or more families to

establish a high school.

1829

April 6: Mexico forbids further U.S. immigration into Texas and reconfirms its constitutional prohibition on slavery.

Louis Braille publishes his reading system for the blind

1830

U.S. population: 12,866,020.

Indian Removal Acts promise financial compensation to Indian tribes that agree to resettle on lands west of the Mississippi River.

September 25: The first national Negro convention is held in Philadelphia.

April 6: Joseph Smith founds the Mormon Church.

1831

Married Pierce Connelly (Episcopalian minister)

Moved to Natchez, Mississippi

Pierce resigned his ministry and the family went to Rome to be received into the Catholic Church

Lord Shrewsbury (premier of England and Ireland) took them under his wing

Met Borghese family (Gwendaline Shrewsbury was married to their son)

Gwendaline ("Angel of Rome") showed Cornelia around Rome while doing charity work

January 1: A 25-year-old Bostonian, William Lloyd Garrison, publishes the first issue of the Liberator, the first publication dedicated to immediate emancipation of slaves without compensation to their owners.

August 21: Nat Turner, a Baptist preacher, leads a slave insurrection in southern Virginia, which provokes a debate in the Virginia legislature about whether slavery should be abolished.

August: William Miller predicts that the second coming of Christ was imminent and that "cleansing by fire" would occur between March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844.

1834

McCormick reaper patented

1837

John Henry born

Returned to America

lived in Grand Coteau, LA, in a cottage called "Gracemere"

Pierce taught for the Jesuits

Financial panic Martin Van Buren becomes president

1838

Underground railroad established

Trail of Tears (Indians removed forcefully from their homelands)

1839

Mary Magdalen was born and died two months later

John Henry fell into boiling sugar and died 43 hours later

Financial depression

First bicycle

1840

Pierce went on a retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius

Cornelia was pregnant with their fifth child

Pierce told her he felt called to the priesthood and that she would probably have to become a nun

Fifth child – Frank – was born

In order for Pierce to become a priest, Cornelia was required to take a vow of chastity

Catholic Church saw a need for good Catholic schools to educate converts and Cornelia was considered to be someone who could help meet this need

US population = 17,069,453 (black = 2,874,000; free black = 386,000) 2,816 miles of railroad in operation

Washington Temperance Society formed

1841

William Henry Harrison becomes president; dies after one month John Tyler becomes president after

Harrison's death Women granted university degrees for first time

1842

Charles Dickens tours the United States; writes *American Notes*, which outrages Americans

1843

A Christmas Carol published

1844

May 24: first telegraph message (Samuel Morse) sent from Washington, DC, to Baltimore, Maryland

1845

Mar 3: Florida admitted as a state Mar 4: James K. Polk inaugurated as president Dec 19: Texas admitted as a state

Ireland's potato famine

The game of baseball is created

Gregory XVI is Pope

John Newman becomes a Catholic

1846

on the order of Bishop Wiseman Cornelia took charge of a large poor school with a convent attached

Cornelia had to send her children away to school

Society of the Holy Child Jesus was founded on October 13, 1846 when Cornelia and three companions

took up residence in the Derby convent

Cornelia began her year of training as a novice

Other nuns joined her and taught night, day, and Sunday school

Pierce began to consider himself the co-founder of the young society

Dec 28: Iowa admitted as a state

Donner Party trapped in the mountains

First American to be operated on under anaesthetic (ether) Neptune discovered by Johann Galle,

Germany Howe develops sewing machine

Pius IX elected Pope

1847

Pierce came to see Cornelia, but she told him he should not have done so without Bishop Wiseman's

permission

Pierce went to the children's schools and took them abroad without the permission of their mother

Pierce went to Rome and presented the "rule" for the society

Cornelia presented her rule later (without knowing Pierce had submitted one of his own)

Pierce went back to see Cornelia, but she refused to see him until he brought the children back

The Society could not meet the debts on the buildings and needed to find a new home

They moved to a property at St. Leonard's on the Sea

Mormons found Salt Lake City

1848

Opening of St-Leonards's-on-the-Sea

War between US & Mexico

Gold discovered at Sutter's Mill, in California

May 29: Wisconsin admitted as a state

Cholera epidemic in Europe

Mar 31: Spirits rap out messages in the presence of Margaretta & Katherine Fox, of Hydesville Village, New York, & Spiritualism sweeps the US

Seneca Falls suffrage meeting

1849

Cornelia was sued by Pierce for restoration of conjugal rights

Court ruled in favor of Pierce, but Cornelia appealed

Zachary Taylor becomes president

Cholera epidemic sweeps South Minnesota established as a territory

1850

US pop = 23,191,876 (black = 3,639,000; free black = 435,000) Cholera epidemic sweeps Midwest

Zachary Taylor dies; Millard Fillmore becomes president Sept 9: California admitted as free state

Sept 18: Fugitive Slave Bill passed

Taiping Rebellion in China

Sept 11: Jenny Lind gives first performance in the US -1852

1851

Judicial Committee reversed the 1849 court decision and sent it back for retrial

Pierce dropped the case because he ran out of money

Cornelia paid the cost to keep him out of prison

Boston, Massachusetts -- mob rescues fugitive slave May 15: Erie Railroad opens

1852

Uncle Tom's Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe

1853

Mercer died in New Orleans

Pierce settled in Florence as rector of an Episcopalian Church and Adeline kept house for him
Cornelia sent sisters to staff poor schools in London, Preston, and Blackpool

Yellow fever epidemic rages in Louisiana and Mississippi until 1855

Railroad goes from New York to Chicago

Mar 4: Franklin Pierce inaugurated as president

Crimean War begins

Boston Public Library opens

1856

Violence in Kansas by both pro- and anti-slavery factions

1857

Mar 4: James Buchanan inaugurated as president Mar 6: Dred Scott case decided Aug 24: financial panic

1858

May 11: Minnesota admitted as a state Aug 5: laying of Transatlantic Cable finished Aug 16: first message sent via Transatlantic Cable

Oct 9: first cross-country mail delivery

Religious revival sweeps the nation

1859

Oregon admitted as state (US has 33 states) Oct 16: John Brown seizes arsenal at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia (former *Museum* subscriber R. W. North is member of militia that captures him) Dec 2: John Brown hanged

50% of US workforce is under the age of 10

1860

US population = 31,443,321 (black = 4,442,000; free black = 488,000) Pony Express Nov 6: Abraham Lincoln wins presidential election Dec 20: South Carolina secedes from the Union

1861

Southern states secede from the Union: Jan 9: Mississippi; Jan 10: Florida; Jan 11: Alabama; Jan 19: Georgia; Jan 26: Louisiana Jan 29: Kansas admitted as a free state Feb 4: Confederate States of America formed

Feb 18: Jefferson Davis becomes president of Confederacy Mar 4: Abraham Lincoln becomes president of Union CIVIL WAR BEGINS

April 12-13: Fort Sumter, South Carolina, standing against Confederacy, is fired on until it is surrendered

April 17: Virginia secedes from the Union April 19: blockade of Southern ports ordered

More states secede: May 6: Arkansas; May 20: North Carolina; June 8: Tennessee

Union Congress proposes income tax

1862

built a convent and school out of an old palace in Mayfield, England

SHCJ arrive in USA

Pasteur's experiments lead to germ theory

1863

Book of Studies published

Free delivery of mail in cities established Jan 1: Emancipation Proclamation takes effect June 20: West Virginia admitted to the Union

1864

Oct 31: Nevada admitted as a state

1865

Mar 4: Abraham Lincoln inaugurated for second term

CIVIL WAR ENDS

April 9: General Robert E. Lee capitulates to General Ulysses S. Grant

April 14: Abraham Lincoln assassinated April 15: Andrew Johnson inaugurated as president

Dec 13: 13th amendment adopted

1866

Cholera epidemic ravages several cities 14th amendment adopted

1867

US purchases Alaska from Russia: \$7,200,000

Mar 1: Nebraska admitted as a state

Dec 2: Charles Dickens gives his first reading during his second tour of the US

1869

Transcontinental Railroad completed

Mar 4: Ulysses S. Grant becomes president

Wyoming Territory gives women the right to vote

1870

US population = 39,818,449

Jan 26: Virginia readmitted to the Union

Feb 23: Mississippi readmitted to the Union

Mar 30: Texas readmitted to the Union

15th amendment adopted

1871

Oct 8-11: [Chicago Fire](#) one of several in drought-dried Midwest

1872

Yellowstone National Park created

1876

Telephone

1877

Great Railroad Strike is the world's first nationwide strike

1879

Cornelia died

Electric lights

1883

Pierce died

Adeline reconciled with the church

Frank never returned to the church

1885

"The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" by Robert Louis Stevenson is published.

1887

rule approved

Sources:

www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/historyonline/chron19.cfm

www.eyewitnessforhistory.com/19ftm.htm

Cornelia Connelly 1809-1879: Foundress Society of the Holy Child Jesus (published by the Society of the Holy Child Jesus American Province)