



## Hosea Doton's Daily Journal, 1880

Transcribed by Scott Fletcher



## Preface

In 1880, Hosea Doton and his wife Elvira lived at 34 Pleasant Street in Woodstock, VT in a house that no longer exists. The property extended east to the Ottaquechee River and was large enough for a barn and a sizable garden.

On January 1, 1880, Hosea hosted his brother and five surviving sisters for an impromptu New Year's meal. The guests arrived just after Elvira had left to visit her cousin for the day.

During the year, Hosea continued to make meteorological reports to the Smithsonian Institution and local newspapers. He also continues to provide astronomical data for use in Vermont and New Hampshire almanacs published by the Claremont Manufacturing Company.

In 1880, he no longer records temperature and barometer readings in his daily entries, but instead provides a Meteorological Summary for the year in the back of his diary. He notes that the hottest day was May 15, 1880 at 93.60 degrees while the coldest day was February 27 at 24.00 below zero. 29.85 inches of rain and melted snow were recorded during the year along with 77.80 inches of snow. He also provides high, low and mean barometer readings for each month.



*Hosea Doton owned this home on Pleasant Street in Woodstock from 1874 until his death in 1886.*

Hosea also continues to do surveying work for local residents such as Frederick Billings and Frank McKenzie, and prepares reports for the Vermont Census Bureau and the directors of the Woodstock Railroad.

In July and August, Hosea tutors Parmley Billings, son of Frederick Billings, in Geometry. After his studies with Hosea, Parmley enrolled as a freshman at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass. In September, his sister Laura Billings begins studies with Hosea in Geology and Astronomy.

This is one of twenty-two volumes of diaries by Hosea Doton housed by the Pomfret Historical Society in a small brick building next to the Pomfret Town Hall. The building was erected in 1904 by some of Hosea Doton's former students, dedicated in his memory, and used to store Pomfret's original charter from 1761.

This transcript includes very minor revisions to spelling and punctuation while trying to retain the original character of the diary. Language, spelling, and punctuation common to the mid-1800s have been preserved. A glossary and brief notes on people mentioned in Hosea Doton's diaries appear at the end of this transcript.



Thursday, January 1

Carter's writing fluid. The New Year dawns upon us most beautifully, for the sky is not much obscured by clouds. Mrs. D. went by a previous appointment to see cousin Emeline Vose. She had hardly left the house before Spenser and sister Page came, and very soon Elmer Emery and sister Abigail came, and I thought the other sisters might come, and soon they came too, so we were together once more. There are now six of us left to get together on some of the appropriate holidays, and it is well to meet on such days and exchange friendly greetings. The day was remarkably pleasant throughout, and I hope we can meet so often with all our near and dear friends. Notwithstanding our visit I kept the meteorological work along and it proved to be correct. I paid 36 cts for groceries and 20 cts for dress goods as linings. Brought forward 22.01.

Debits - .36, .20

Friday, January 2

The year seems beginning very pleasantly, and we are now in very good health and hope we can keep so. I spent much of the day on the weather reports, testing the computations. In the afternoon I went to the office and found the papers for the week. Mr. Green called to see if there was a map of the state of Vermont that was reliable, but I cannot find one that I am satisfied with. Wallings large map can be improved. Paid 25 cts for kerosene.

Debits - .25

Saturday, January 3

I went to the office and mailed a letter to the Life Ins. Co. of Brattleboro sending five dollars as assessments. Paid ten cts postage. Went to the office and got the Jan. No. of the Uni. Quarterly. Polk and Abbie came in the middle of the day and went home just before night. Mrs. D. gave Abbie a county map one of my getting up in 1855 nearly twenty five years ago. Robert Perkins called in the evening. It began to rain a little before nine o'clock, but it stormed but little during the night. Abbie paid me 50 cts towards lamp.

Debits - .50

Sunday, January 4

The day was too cloudy and damp for us to go to church and we remained very quietly at home resting and reading and writing. Reading has been without any particular aim, that is no particular subject has claimed our thought or time. Mrs. D. has copied meteorological matters for December, and I must fix the sheet to send to the Chief Signal Officer at Washington. Robert Perkins called in the afternoon to talk of former Woodstock papers and their editors and publishers. Ward Crosby called in the evening to return book and to speak of the subject of the Catholic Church and of our own similar ceremonies. I have written some today but have tried to rest. Miss Latimer came in the evening and is to remain through the night. Late in the evening the sky was very clear, with all the appearance of having beautiful weather.

Monday, January 5

A clear and beautiful morning but the cirro stratus clouds soon began to appear and to take the form of polar bands that were strongly marked before nine o'clock, though not very dense. Horace Dunham called in the forenoon, and spoke about a plan of the roads and bridge near the old Smith place. Miss Latimer went to South Pomfret in the afternoon. I lent to Robert 50 cts. Got letter from Franklin, and receipts from the Life Association.

Debits - .50

Tuesday, January 6

It began to snow very soon after six o'clock, and it was a very dark and stormy day. I spent some time on the cemetery plan and I must very soon finish it, for it has been on my hands for a long time. The storm was nearly rain in the afternoon, but it ceased altogether before night.

Wednesday, January 7

The weather is warm for January, and it reminds me often of the first six days of 1863. In the forenoon I went to White's bookstore and saw Mr. Crosby and I am some afraid of his health. I think he will not be able to preach more for some time. In the afternoon I carried Mortimer's watch to Mr. Murdock to be repaired. I went to Mr. White's and got the Jan. number of the Princeton Review, and I think it is a very strong paper. I worked on the cemetery plan. Paid 10 cts to the mission fund.

Debits - .10

Thursday, January 8

Went to the post office paid quarterly box rent 25 cts and 25 for stamps. I came home and worked on the weather report till I finished it and mailed it to the department. Horace and Caroline Dunham came here in the afternoon and went home just before night. Robert called in the evening and we spoke of the Democratic party of 1804 etc. I took the time this morning and found my room clock exactly right. I have today sent for the last volume of the Princeton Review, and I expect to find strength and mental power in it.

Debits - .50

Friday, January 9

Another cool morning though the days are very pleasant. Cirro stratus clouds began to gather early in the forenoon and a storm of mist began as early as here o'clock p.m. I spent the greater part of the day on the cemetery plan. I have hardly been out today, for I was too busy in the house. Spent the day very quietly, for we have had but very few interruptions. Robert called in the evening. I find the Princeton Review to be very able, as it calls out some of the best thinkers.

Saturday, January 10

A pleasant morning. I went to Gov. Converse's office and carried two registers, Vt. & N.H.. - I also carried three N.H. Registers to Mr. Montague, and I carried a N.H. copy to H.S. Dana; and I gave three Vt. Registers to F.N. Billings for himself, Frederick and Mrs. Allen. In the afternoon I worked on the plan of the cemetery and I find it to be some work to letter it. Charles Winslow called in the afternoon and spent some time in looking over books and concluded to read the Pacific R.R. Survey and I am pleased with his selection.

Debits - .30, .03

Sunday, January 11

The morning was clear and beautiful and I wished to go to church but did not think it best to go, but Mrs. D. went to the house and found that Mr. C. was unable to preach and she returned home. We are some afraid that Mr. C. will not be able to preach again for some time. He has put too much hard thinking into his work since he came here to keep up for a long time. We remained at home in the afternoon and read and rested what we could. Mrs. Maxham called and said that her mother is unwell with cold or influenza. Her age (about 85 or 86) will be some against her. There are but few of her father's family living now. Mrs. Perkins is here in Woodstock. John is in Bridgeport and Robert now in Sharon, Vt. Besides herself, this is all the family.

Monday, January 12

We are now having a very pleasant thaw, but is hardly sufficient for a "January thaw" such as we have sometimes had. Mailed letters to Abbie and Amelia. I had to speak of the mock court that comes off at Pomfret tomorrow eve. In the afternoon I worked on the plan of the cemetery; and I find it some hours work to letter one tier of lots. It began to snow very lightly at 3 o'clock p.m. and increased in the evening.

Tuesday, January 13

The wind blew some through the night and it may be drifted some on the hills. I mailed a letter to Hon. R.G. Horn member of Congress from Michigan. Laura Barrett called this morning to take leave of us for a short time as she goes to Lebanon today with her mother while her father and Arnold go to Boston. The morning was cloudy but the afternoon was nearly clear with north wind and the cold increases. I hope the drifted roads will not prevent their holding their moot court at Pomfret.

Wednesday, January 14

A cool morning. Ther. -14 in the night but -8 this morning. Am very busy on the cem. plan this forenoon. At noon Mr. Chamberlin came from Pomfret to attend R.R. meeting. The old board of officers was chosen and I hope the year may show an increase of the business of the road. Mrs. Marcy and Miss Etta Latimer called just before night. I was too tired to write or read much in the evening, but am reading Historic focus in the Princeton Review.

Thursday, January 15

Ther. +1 at 7 but +0 by nine. The temperature rose very steadily afterwards. In the forenoon I mailed a letter to Albert Darling. Mrs. Bates came in the forenoon and Miss Latimer soon after. Fred Doten came in the afternoon and left just before night. Mrs. Bates went with Horace Dunham and will be there a few days. I wrote what I could on the cem. plan but found it very slow work. Robert called in the evening. Mrs. D. found time in the evening to go out and do some errands that she wished to do in the forenoon. Paid Mrs. Vose \$1.25 for work.

Debits – 1.25

Friday, January 16

Began quite early on the plan and hope to finish it in a few days. Went to the post office, got Vick's Catalogue that we have looked for for these two or three weeks. It is a beautiful number, and we must send to him directly for our spring flower and garden seeds. Paid Paul 25 cts for groceries. Tried to find John Ransom to have him fix my student lamp, but could not find him. Mortimer came at night with wood. Was very tired with my writing and doing errands about the village.

Debits - .25

Saturday, January 17

Tried to repair my lamp and perhaps have done it. Went to the post office and to Chapman's. Paid 31 cts for soap, and 3 cts for wicking. In the afternoon I paid Dr. Chandler ten dollars on account. His whole account was \$36.50 and I am glad to be able to begin to pay it. In the afternoon I carried the plan of the cemetery to Mr. Bailey who is one of the committee to get up the survey and plan. The soap I got of Chapman was Castile, and I tried a small piece of White Castile, very pure. We are now using "Benbow & Sons, London Honey Soap Prize medal 1862." It is very good.

Debits - .31, .03, 10.00

Sunday, January 18

A cloudy and misty day, though the mist changed to light rain before nine o'clock. This was just enough to keep every one in doubt whether or not to take an umbrella. We remained at home cozily and quietly, reading and writing and resting through the day. I have studied some on an article on the Inspiration of the New Testament in the Jan. No. of the Princeton Review, written by President Bartlett of Dartmouth College. I have not yet read the whole article, but so far it seems to be very sound and rational. I was glad to find so valuable of an article. Judging from what I have seen, the Review is a remarkably able work. I do not recollect as I had ever seen a copy of the work till a few weeks ago. Since then I have sent for the last volume of the last year. That volume contains a review of Huxley by Pres. Porter of Yale, and one of Tyndall by Mark Hopkins late Pres. of Williams College. Such reviews are a treasure to inquiries after truth.

Monday, January 19

In the forenoon I called on Mr. Bailey but could not meet Mr. French on the cemetery plan. Met Mr. Boyce and had a long talk on the owners of the cemetery lots. Paid Wentworth 20 cts for hair cutting and 5 cts to Billings for twist. Mr. Chamberlin was here a few minutes in the afternoon, and we had a talk on R.R. bonds, etc. He had taken up a bank note and brought it to me to have the names erased. Dr. McMillan of Barnard called on me to know about a town plan of B. but I had not seen one for a long time.

Debits - .25

Tuesday, January 20

It began to snow about six o'clock in the morning and continued through the day. Six inches of very wet snow fell before four o'clock, that made 0.46 inches of water. The civil authority met today for the abatement of taxes. I had found a very bad error in my grand list and they made the correction. I paid 25 cts to Paul for lamp shades. Last Saturday I got Dr. Chandler's bill for attendance in July 1878 and since. It was \$36.50 and I paid him last Saturday \$10.00.

Debits - .25

Wednesday, January 21

Had five inches more snow this morning and it made an abundance of shoveling. I cleared the paths and also the roof of the house before going about my work at the table. I tried to finish the plan and in the afternoon I carried it to Mr. Pratt and to the committee that were employed to see to the getting up of the plan. I paid Slack 25 cts for kerosene. Simeon Dunham called and we had a pleasant chat.

Debits - .25

Thursday, January 22

I was too tired this morning to call on Mr. French or Mr. Bailey to look over the plan and find what additional names are to be put on. This afternoon I received a card from Franklin, and they will be here next Saturday. I hope they will come for it has been about eleven years since Mrs. Gookin was here. The three sisters do not often meet.

Friday, January 23

This morning about nine o'clock I was surprised by a call from one of my old scholars Carlos Ware now of Fulton, Illinois. Much of the day has been taken up with calls. Henry Hutchinson called to look over books. Eugene Smith called to see if a line could not be agreed upon on the westerly line of the lot where John Fuller has built his house. I hope they can get the matter settled. Horace called in the afternoon. Mrs. Bates is here and Miss Latimer called in the afternoon. Paid baker 10 cts.

Debits - .10

Saturday, January 24

In the forenoon we were quite busy in chores about the house. I paid 54 cts to Paul for groceries. Miss Latimer called to see Mrs. Bates. In the afternoon we went to the depot to meet our friends from Franklin, N.H. Mr. Henry Bates and his little boy came from Fairlee, as his mother is with us. The cars were fifty minutes late, but our friends came as we expected and we all had a very pleasant meeting. Ten of the friends met at our house including ourselves. Horace Dunham took Henry Bates, mother & son to his house.

Sunday, January 25

The morning was quite pleasant and cool, thermometer about 6 degrees above zero and it soon rose to about 30 above. We did not rise very early but got breakfast before church time. Mr. Gookin went to the brick house in the forenoon and in the afternoon they all went to the Methodist house to see the old place and the old seat that belonged to their father, but they were disappointed for they heard a bible agent who was making a collection, or rather taking a collection for the benefit of the bible society. - In the early part of the evening Mr. & Mrs. Marcy came up from Taftsville with Miss Latimer and I suppose they went to



Horace Dunham's from here, and have not yet returned. Mr. Gookin went to the brick house in the evening.

Monday, January 26

Cool. – Ther. only 2 above zero. – Mailed Register to Norman Perkins of Chicago, a letter and paper to Amelia. Soon after ten o'clock Horace came from home and brought Mrs. Bates and Henry and his little boy, and they left for their home in Fairlee. Mr. and Mrs. Gookin went home with Horace and will stay a day or two. I received for postage five cents, and I paid three cents postage. We were alone in the afternoon though we had frequent short calls.

Credits - 05

Debits - .03

Tuesday, January 27

Cool and some cloudy with clouds increasing. It began to rain at about ten o'clock and it increased till night. At five p.m. 0.54 of an inch had fallen. I spent nearly all day on the Pomfret town plan that I am trying to restore to its original clearness. It was made by Thomas Barnes more than sixty years ago, for he died in 1818. The plan cost the town only six dollars, but a good and correct plan would now cost the town more than fifty dollars. Such is the difference in the times.

Wednesday, January 28

The morning was very warm and the thermometer rose till two or three o'clock in the afternoon. Horace Dunham called and Mrs. D. went home with him so that the three sisters might be together. I worked on the town plan the greater part of the day. The old plan was made on a piece of home prepared parchment. I have cleaned it what I could, and am now restoring the numbers. Robert Perkins called. Mr. & Mrs. Leach called. Mr. & Mrs. Gookin returned from Horace Dunham's.

Thursday, January 29

The morning is much cooler and the temperature is still falling. Paid 14 cts at the bakery. Called on Charles Marsh to speak on the deed of J.N. White to H.B. Smith. I wish the difficulties about those lines and lots could be adjusted. – Horace Dunham called in the afternoon and Mrs. Latimer and Angela came in the forenoon and left in the afternoon. I spent the greater part of the day on the town plan. The barometer was very high in the afternoon and rising.

Debits – 0.14

Friday, January 30

In the forenoon Mr. & Mrs. Gookin went to Horace Dunham's. A very rough afternoon. Mrs. Winslow called to see Mrs. Gookin, but she was not here. Wife went to see Dr. Williams about her teeth, for she has been sorely afflicted with toothache, neuralgia, etc. It has become extremely troublesome. I kept at work on the town plan, and hope I shall finish it before long.

Saturday, January 31

In the forenoon Simeon Dunham called to hang the door made for the barn two years ago. He finished it in the afternoon and I can now close the barn. Mr. Chamberlin came for a time in the middle of the day, and Miss Latimer came towards night. Received a dividend of the bank six dollars and I wish I had more of the stock. Paid Fuller 50 cts for meat and baker 15 cts for bread. I worked on the Pomfret plan and nearly finished it. Paid Express bill 25 cts for Mr. Chamberlin and he left with me blank deeds that came from Montpelier. He paid me 25 cts for ex. paid.

Credits – 6.00, .25

Debits – .50, .15, .25

Sunday, February 1

Mr. & Mrs. Gookin came from Horace Dunham's this morning but not in time to go to church. They remained here through the day, but we did not any of us go to church except Miss Latimer who attended

the Episcopal Church in the forenoon. Mrs. Doton's head and face are some better and I hope she has seen the worst of it, for those decayed teeth should soon be past their worst trouble. The day passed away quietly while we spent much of the time in promiscuous reading. Brought forward \$7.35

Monday, February 2

A cool morning. Ther. -20 and it does not start up easily. Mr. & Mrs. Gookin started for home, intending to stop at Taftsville over night. We arranged the baggage which was some materials Mrs. Gookin took of her aunt Russ' estate in barrel so I think it will go safely. In the afternoon I finished the Pomfret plan and am glad to get it off my hand. Miss Latimer went to Mr. Chapman's.

Tuesday, February 3

It began to snow early in the morning and continued till late in the evening, a little more than ten inches having fallen. I sent three dollars to the Life association of Brattleboro. Paid 9 cts for stamps. Charles Vaughan called soon after noon. Archibald came for some tracing cloth and paid 25 cts. The storm was somewhat severe through the day full ten inches of snow falling. I kept my room through the day and worked at my table.

Credits - .25

Debits - 3.00, .09

Wednesday, February 4

Spent the greater part of the forenoon in shoveling paths about the house and door yard. This was much of a storm but the wind was not so strong as I anticipated. In the afternoon I went to Woodruff's and got a bag of flour \$2.10 but did not pay for it. Carlie Dunham was here a short time in the forenoon.

Thursday, February 5

In the forenoon I went to the P.O. and to Paul's and paid Paul 33 cts for groceries. Spent the greater part of the day on the R.R. returns for Poor's Manual. Find a slight loss in R.R. running as they paid the town \$110.75 more than the money on hand. Miss Latimer was here preparing her lecture for this evening. We have a strong invitation to attend the meeting at Mrs. Allen's in the evening and one equally strong to take tea at Mrs. Russell's.

Debits - .33

Friday, February 6

Finished R.R. return and carried it to Mr. Porter. Mr. Hutchinson came to the depot and called on me with an old book. Am doing some of the chores in writing. Horace & Simeon Dunham went to finish the measuring across the river at the Seavey place. Paid 54 cts for kerosene at Slack's and meat at Richmond's. Miss Latimer called again in the afternoon and went from here to Horace Dunham's. We are working up the meteorological report for January.

Debits - .56

Saturday, February 7

Made preparations for taking the Sun's altitude for the time this morning, but it was early obscured by clouds and the snow began to fall lightly about nine o'clock. Spenser called in a few moments at about eleven o'clock. I began to touch the report for the towns of the survey and the monuments placed at the crossings. Charles Winslow called in the afternoon returning books that he had been reading and taking a few more.

Sunday, February 8

A clear and beautiful morning. I took four observations on the Sun's altitude to compute the time and the results were very satisfactory. The village clock was but a few seconds out of time and Moore's clock was but two seconds slow. I went to Moore's and Murdock's and gave them the corrected time. I borrowed "The Personal Reminiscences of General Lee," to peruse today and I also took a little dictionary to examine. Spent nearly all day on these books, so that I neglected other things that I intended to do. I

have for a long time regarded General Lee as the strongest military man in the whole war, and this book only tends to increase my admiration of the man. Place him in command of the north and how long could the late civil war have lasted?

Monday, February 9

Mr. Paul called in the morning & I sent the old parchment town plan by him to Pomfret, and at night received for the work \$7.50. – Mailed letter to Franklin, the first since their visit here. Returned the books that I borrowed of Montague yesterday. Paid Paul 12 cts for groceries. Selected a pair of spectacles of Mr. Randall and am trying them this evening. The day has been cold and windy and now at eight o'clock it is 7 below zero, and the temperature is falling. Mailed the weather report for January.

Credits – 7.50

Debits - .12

Tuesday, February 10

A cold morning. Ther. -24 and at seven o'clock it was -23. A little the coldest that we have had this winter. In the morning Mr. Paul called and took my account for surveying the line between Woodstock and Pomfret. It was in all about thirty dollars, and it will cost me more than that to write a good report. I am trying the pebble spectacles and I must say that they are softer and purer than any glass ones that I ever used. Wrote Mr. Raymond's agreement and am glad to get it off my hands.

Wednesday, February 11

In the morning I mailed Mr. Raymond's fence agreement as a drop letter. Paid five cents postage & 10 cts for bread. I am beginning to study deeply on the matter of the town lines, and why so many corners marked out in the neighborhood of Taftsville. The day is very pleasant and Mrs. D. is taking a walk to Mrs. Fisher's, Mrs. Porter's, Mrs. Dr. Williams and Mrs. O. Richmond's. She had very pleasant calls.

Debits - .15

Thursday, February 12

Mr. Paul came in the morning and brought money from the towns of Pomfret and Woodstock \$30.00 for surveying the town line. I spent much of the day in looking up the facts in relation to the line between Woodstock and Pomfret and matter of adjusting the line in early times. Paid Taxes to Mr. Reed \$25.69 and paid White one dollar for Princeton Reviews. Paid five cents for postal cards. Have found some able articles in the reviews, and spent some time in their perusal.

Credits – 30.00

Debits – 25.69, 1.00, .05

Friday, February 13

Much more spring like this morning. Mr. Russell called for weather probabilities. Horace Dunham came and brought Miss Latimer. Sent a postal card to W.D. Marsh a son of Dr. Samuel Marsh of Potsdam, N.Y. Mortimer came down this afternoon and sent ten dollars to Mrs. Bates. Miss Kate Gibson and Miss Lizzie Bridge came in the afternoon. Miss Latimer went to Taftsville on the four o'clock train.

Saturday, February 14

Spent the greater part of the forenoon at my table, but took time to go to the post office. Paid Paul 44 cts & Roger 10 cts. Lizzie Bridge staid through last night and today made calls and went home at night. Clara French called in the evening making a very pleasant call and social chat on books, etc. Miss Latimer came in late in the evening for the night. Mortimer came with wood in the evening. I spent much of the day in looking up historical matters for town report.

Debits - .54

Sunday, February 15

Finished our letter to Mrs. Page and mailed it. Paid six cts postage. I have tried to rest through the day. Worked on the meteorological work and arranged how to make the reports this year. Robert called on us and relieved the monotony of the stormy day. I had been studying somewhat closely on the town lines and corners and in making plans for the report. We very much miss Mr. Crosby's sermons and I am somewhat fearful that we cannot again hear them. His health is bad and case is discouraging, but we hope he will regain health and strength. Our venerable Father Russell Streeter died this evening at his home where he had lived for a long time.

Debits - .06

Monday, February 16

Went to the Post office to mail letters for Miss Latimer. Paid Fuller 40 cts for meat. Spent all the forenoon in writing on weather reports. I think of shortening the reports or rather condensing them some. Did not write much in the afternoon but sent report to Mr. Hale. Called on Robert and had a touch of his extra fine scrap book work. Allen Thompson called in the evening. Miss Latimer rode to South Pomfret with Mrs. Fuller and brought some things from there.

Debits - .40

Tuesday, February 17

Finished the weather reports for January and sent to the papers and received a letter from Mr. Hale calling for the tabular monthly report. Am glad to furnish it for it is of the most value of anything of weather records. Miss Latimer was here making arrangements for starting for Potsdam tomorrow. Mrs. Bates will probably meet her at Bethel. Miss L. went to South Pomfret in the evening. Mrs. Bates starts from West Fairlee in the morning.

Wednesday, February 18

Sent Miss Latimer's trunk of papers by Mr. Billings. Sent weather report to Mr. Hale and paid bakery 15 cts. The funeral of Father Streeter is attended at the church that he dedicated Nov. 18, 1835. I give these dates from memory and am not sure that I am right. Mr. Ballou of Barnard preached the sermon from Malachi II: 10. "Have we not all one father" Hath not our God created us?" which was the text of the first sermon that he heard Mr. Streeter preach, and here was very appropriate for Mr. Ballou. All the ministers of the village were present except Mr. Hicks who was called away. Mrs. D. attended but I could not well go.

Debits - .351

Thursday, February 19

Rested well and must work today. Have spent much of the forenoon in clearing my table of the many papers that had accumulated on it. A sudden change of weather in the night, and it is rapidly growing cold with high wind. The high wind lasted through the day. The day was so rough that I could not go out and could write but little here in the house. Lent 3 dollars to Robert and paid 10 cts to a lady at the door. Robert called in the evening and had written to Cincinnati to learn more of Rev. I.D. Williamson, also to the Bangor Whig to learn more of John Horr Lynde.

Debits - 3.00, .10

Friday, February 20

I early began work on some of the facts for the report of surveys. I had a very quiet day and wrote quite easily. Had but few calls through the day. Dr. Colton called in the afternoon and says Mrs. Chamberlin, who has been quite sick, is some better. I kept my thoughts on the subject of the report and studied while I could not write. I called on Mr. H.S. Dana to get some light on the descent of property in an estate for friends in New Hampshire.

Saturday, February 21

Wrote to our friends in Franklin, then went to the post office. Paid White 20 cts for the story Shirley, and Paul 5 cts for crackers. Kept very busily at work on my town line report. Got a letter from Franklin so our letters passed each other at the crossing of the two trains. Mrs. Dr. Chandler and her sister Emma Dunham called towards night. The storm has been moving some through the day, and the snow about one inch and a half. The barometer fell very rapidly through the night and the greater part of the day. Spent the evening in writing on the report.

Debits - .20, .05

Sunday, February 22

Though some cloudy in the morning it soon became very clear and pleasant. Through the day it was remarkably pleasant. I kept my room and wrote the greater part of the day. Towards night we both made a few minutes call on Mrs. Perkins and Robert, as they were fully alone. We soon returned and found our house remarkably pleasant. Robert called on us in the evening for a very pleasant chat. Mrs. D. is now reading some of "Currer Bell's" writings. Charlotte Bronte was a remarkable woman to plan a story of such length as "Shirley" or "Jane Eyre." There may be a peculiar charm to her writings, but I do not think it very profitable reading for me.

Monday, February 23

It began to snow lightly soon after four o'clock in the morning, and it kept the storm awake till about noon. I paid Paul 19 cts for coffee but am not sure that I can use it. Mr. Dana called and returned my Whitney's Essentials of Grammar. I spoke to him about a word that Robert has found, used in the days of Queen Elizabeth. Received a letter from my old friend "Josiah Barker Crooker," who is now very feeble and mostly confined to his house.

Debits - .19

Tuesday, February 24

Cool: Ther. 2.6 degrees above zero but the air was clear and bracing. I began my writing very early and continued it up till nearly noon, when I called on H.S. Dana at the Probate Office. Wrote the greater part of the afternoon. Mrs. D. called on Mrs. Vose with some work and came home soon after five o'clock. Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Hutchinson called late in the afternoon. I find myself too tired to write much this evening and I put it aside.

Wednesday, February 25

In the morning I went to Montague's to look over some old books to find a copy of Porter's Rhetorical Reader. I did not find one but I found a copy of Pierpont's National Reader, which is of itself a treasure. I got it of course. Came home and went to my writing work. Paid 10 cts for thread & twist. Wrote the greater part of the day on the report, and am sure it will be some long, but I cannot avoid it.

Debits - .10

Thursday, February 26

I spent the whole day at my writing. Paid peddler (Todd) 10 cts for handkerchief. Misty in the morning and slight rain at times through the day. I am putting too much work into that report but it seems to be a duty to do it. Robert went to Pomfret to find some old books and to get some facts of Pomfret history. Mortimer brought a load of wood yesterday and I think the sleighing will be rather hard before another day.

Debits - .10

Friday, February 27

A foggy morning, but it soon began to clear away. I called to see the clock with Robert and Willie Moore. I examined the fixings for the hammer to the bell, the tolling hammer and the clock hammer. I drove my writing through the day and got where I can see the last of it. There is some more writing to do but not much more of the real study to plan it. The afternoon was very clear and warm.

Saturday, February 28

Began my writing again this morning but in the forenoon went to the post office and got papers. Paid Slack 25 cts for kerosene. Saw Mr. Montague and had a short talk about town line. Drove my writing rapidly till Horace Dunham and Mr. Montague called to examine the report. Leland Doten called and seems now to be very well, but I can see that his nervous strokes have affected him severely. Robert made a very pleasant call this evening. Well, it is now Saturday night and nearly nine o'clock and I will leave my writing. Received 3 cts postage.

Credits - .03

Debits - .25

Sunday, February 29

It rained the greater part of the night and it was a good time for rest. The clouds broke away in the forenoon, and in the afternoon I worked at my desk with my pen. We have been almost entirely alone, and it has been a very good time for writing. The afternoon was very clear and the light was almost oppressive. I have read but very little today, for it was rather difficult to fix thought on reading. The roads are bad for either sleighs or wagons.

Monday, March 1

Mailed old Vt. Almanacs to Mr. Huse at Montpelier. Paid 23 cts for stamps. I finished the report of the survey. Norman Wood came from Mr. Chamberlin's in the forenoon. Mrs. Chamberlin is still very sick, though a little better than a few weeks ago. I sent report to Charles Vaughan, one of the Selectmen of Pomfret. I hope the old board of Selectmen will be re-elected, so that they can have a good test of ability. On hand 9.00.

Debits - .23

Tuesday, March 2

In the morning I mailed letter to Franklin. Went to Paul's, paid 22 cts for sugar. Have listed the meteorological matters in part, and must soon finish them. Town Meeting and how quiet! I went upstreet and met Mr. Montague, and I took the report to re-read and examine for correct copying. I looked it over in the evening and made all the partial corrections needed but not to change a single thought.

Debits - .22

Wednesday, March 3

Spent much of the forenoon in working the time and found the Town clock two seconds slow. It seems to be running very nearly right. I will now let it run so as to detect its rate, for that is the most important to know. I worked on the meteorology for February much of the afternoon. Mrs. Marcy and her sister Etta came in the evening. Mr. Miller called with a letter from Mrs. Ayers.

Thursday, March 4

Rainy through the night, but closed before morning. Sent \$3.00 to the Life Association. Finished the computation of the weather observation and Mrs. D. is now copying them. Horace Dunham called in the afternoon and Carlie in the evening. Mr. Hunton called in the evening for papers that I copied for him months ago. He paid me \$1.00 for copying the surveys.

Credits - 1.00

Debits - 3.00

Friday, March 5

A very warm day. Ther. rose to +60 degrees. Spent nearly all day at my table. We are now copying the meteorology for February. Ward Crosby called in the morning and I wrote a letter for him as he has had a call to a railroad and I hope he will secure the situation. Received a letter from Mamie Shaw of Fall River, Mass., to go to Abbie. I began to copy meteorological notes into a new volume. Spent all the evening at my table.

Saturday, March 6

Sent Miss Shaw's letter to Abbie and hope she can have it answered favorably. I am preparing for copying the meteorological reports in the books got for the purpose. Mrs. D. is copying the work for February and I must send it next Monday. Our Nautical Almanac for 1881 has come and we must soon take up our next computations.

Sunday, March 7

We remained at home through the day, and spent the time in reading and writing. We were alone till night when Robert came in and we had a pleasant chat. I have copied three months of meteorological work into our record book, the volume for 1879.

Monday, March 8

Cool with strong N.W. wind, and the temperature is falling. Horace Dunham called in the morning and Kimball Perkins called about the same time. Mrs. Dunham and Mrs. Doton have each written a long letter to their aunt Mrs. Ayers of Potsdam. I finished the meteorological report and mailed it this afternoon. Ward Crosby has just received a call to go to Salem, Mass. to take a place on the Eastern Railroad, and I do hope he will do well at the work.

Tuesday, March 9

Another cold morning. Ther. zero, but it rose quite rapidly for a short time. Wind N.W. early but it soon changed to S.E. and has remained so through the day. Mrs. Dunham came in the afternoon and Mr. Dunham called at night and they left soon after seven o'clock. Ward Crosby called to take leave of us and say a few words as he leaves tomorrow for Salem, Mass., where he has an engagement on a railroad, and I am glad that a place has opened for him. I hope he will find it a good place and do well.

Wednesday, March 10

I sent a correction to the Signal Service to correct an error. I wrote two meteorological articles for the papers, one for the Observer and one for the Standard. I spent nearly the whole day on those articles. A very strong March wind through the day. Those winds are unlike any other wind here and seem to have a distinct character as any of those of the Indian Ocean or the Mediterranean.

Thursday, March 11

Cold, with a very light snow increasing slightly through the day. Paid Paul 10 cts for lampshade and 35 cts for tea. Fred Doten called about eleven o'clock. The day is cold and March-like. There is a very chilly northeast wind, that makes it unpleasant being out. We have not heard from Mr. Chamberlin's for more than a week, and do not know how they are getting on with the sickness that has been upon them so long.

Debits – .45

Friday, March 12

The weather is some cool though perhaps not so cold as yesterday. Mrs. Bates came from Malone, N.Y., leaving her sister Elvira at Potsdam with her sister Caroline. I spent my time at my table and am trying to arrange my reports and have them placed in a book. I sent the monthly weather report to the Observer and left a similar copy with Mr. Green.

Saturday, March 13

This morning I went to Montague's to get wire hooks for fastening papers, and I went home to fix my sloping desk shelf. In the afternoon, Judge Miller and Horace Dunham came to see about some matters connected with the estate of Mrs. Russ. The talk was rather tiresome but perhaps necessary. Fred Doten called in the afternoon to see about wood, and I hope he will draw some soon. Mrs. Lowell called in the afternoon and Mrs. Russell called in the evening.

Sunday, March 14

A slight snow this morning, but it did not continue only through the forenoon. Mr. Farnsworth preached at the chapel. Mrs. D. went to hear him. His text in the forenoon was II Tim. IV: 7&8. "I have fought a good

fight, I have finished my course, etc." In the afternoon he preached from John III: 16<sup>th</sup>, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." The day was somewhat dull and cloudy, but the clouds were from the west and slightly broken in the afternoon. Have read Dr. Washburn article in the last July No. of the Princeton Review on the aims, etc. of modern Biblical criticism. A very able and learned article. In the afternoon I read the greater part of J.W. Dawson's article in the November No. on the point of contact between science and religion. I cannot say that I was so richly paid as I hoped to be, for it seemed that the writer's mind was doctrinely fixed beforehand and facts and science must be made to correspond.

Monday, March 15

A very beautiful morning. Mrs. Bates took a walk to South Pomfret and is to return tomorrow. I began the work for the Almanac for 1881, beginning on the Sun's declination. To work these quantities by pen or pencil uses too much time, and the mental work is somewhat tiresome. Mrs. Bates paid me 17 cts for register and mailing it to Dr. Sidney Bates of Malone N.Y. The ground is nearly bare. Received a letter from Ward Crosby who is now in Salem, Mass. Paid Paul for match 10 cts.

Credits - .17

Debits - .10

Tuesday, March 16

It began to snow at about 5 o'clock this morning, and it has kept without much cessation through the day. At noon the storm was nearly rain and two inches of snow had fallen. The storm increased very much in the afternoon but it stopped very soon after ten o'clock. Robert made us a very pleasant call in the evening. We expected Mrs. Bates but she did not come. I spent the afternoon and evening on the Sun's declination and some time on the copying the old weather report.

Wednesday, March 17

A very pleasant morning, clear but the wind did not get fully changed till after 7 o'clock. It came around to the N.W. and remained there through the day. Mortimer Spear called in the forenoon and thought he should send some wood this afternoon or tomorrow. Horace Dunham called this afternoon and talked upon the settlement of the Russ estate. This afternoon I finished the Sun's Decn. And this evening I must write a little for amusement.

Thursday, March 18

Cool this morning. Ther. registered on 1 degree above zero. Fred Doton came with a load of wood. Sleighing very bad. There was not enough of this snow to make sleighing. I am at work on the Equation of time and have finished June this evening. Mrs. Bates came back this evening from South Pomfret. She appears almost like getting home again. She thinks of going to Taftsville tomorrow and home to Fairlee early next week.

Friday, March 19

Went to the Post office in the morning, and to Mr. Woodbury's Printing office. Got some legal cap paper of Montague. Spent much of the day in my room but could not do much almanac work. Mrs. Bates started for Fairlee, intending to stop at Taftsville one day or more. Paid Mrs. Vose two dollars for work. She called here in the afternoon with her daughter Mamie. Mr. Chamberlin called here in the afternoon and I wrote a long letter to Polk and Abbie.

Debits - 2.00

Saturday, March 20

Spent much of the forenoon in looking up the old Claremont letter to see just how my almanac work has been going with that company. I am now making my 13<sup>th</sup> Calendar for them that is annual calendars, but I have made two each year except the first. Mrs. D. is some unwell from cold and hard work, two things that do not work well together. The sun has crossed the equinoctial soon after midnight this morning and now reads N. Dec.



Sunday, March 21

Some squalls of snow early in the morning but the day has been improving in point of temperature and fair weather, for the afternoon and evening is very pleasant. Electa called in at noon from meeting at the brick house. We had not seen any of them for a long time. I have kept my room the greater part of the day and have been resting what I could. Mrs. D.'s cold is some troublesome. Robert called in the evening and brought some of the old autographs of John Throop, Abida Smith, Wm. Burns, Laban Chamberlin, John Doten and perhaps some others. Some of these are nearly one hundred years old and are truly rich.

Monday, March 22

In the morning I wrote a long letter to the Clar. Mfg. Company on the subject of money, registers and book-binding. I went to White's and had a long talk with Mr. Middleton. I got the March No. of the Princeton Review paying 33 cts. I also paid Paul 22 cts for sugar and I paid 6 cts at the post office. In the afternoon I worked at my table. Am copying the rain and snow falls into a book.

Debits – .33, .22, .06

Tuesday, March 23

Have run about the village some this morning, for the air is very pure and the weather is beautiful. In the afternoon I received a check for 25 dollars of the Clar. Mfg. Company, that assists me very much in meeting the wants of the times. I have kept my pen going very steadily for some days and am writing very easily.

Credits 25.00

Wednesday, March 24

Colder this morning and the wind was strong in the N.W. The squalls of snow began quite early and the temperature fell rapidly. I got check exchanged at the bank and paid interest to Mrs. Dana of 18 dollars. Kimball Perkins called to get an order on Mr. Prior for a pair of boots. Horace Dunham called in the afternoon. I had a pleasant chat with H.S. Dana on books, work, etc. I have been very busy with copying meteorological papers.

Debits – 18.00

Thursday, March 25

The night was cold, lowest temperature 4 degrees above zero. I had some severe turns of nose bleeding in the night, one soon after midnight and one about six in the morning. Paid for steak piece 16 cents and George Hart 12 cents for chores. Mrs. D. called on Dr. & Mrs. Colton. The March wind is a clear type of the season and is unlike any other wind. Herman Dunham called in the afternoon and had been buying his first book, Longfellow's poems and a scrap book.

Debits – .16, .12

Friday, March 26

Rested very well last night and am some better this morning. Dr. Colton called but he could not get the books that Dr. Richmond and Sherwin have had nearly two years. Mailed letter to Vick with two dollars & ten cts for order. Mrs. Russell enclosed half a dollar. In the afternoon Joanna came from Pomfret and will stay with us a few days. Mrs. Totman called in the afternoon.

Debits - 2.10

Saturday, March 27

This forenoon I had a very pleasant call from Mr. Thompson on R.R. business, on running curves and other parts, and on the trestle work. Mr. Chamberlin came down from Pomfret to attend the meeting of the commissioners on Mrs. Russ' estate, but I did not go for I cared but little about getting interested in the settlement. Paid 40 cts for goods for Abbie and sent by Mr. Chamberlin. Paid 8 cts.

Debits - .40, .08

Sunday, March 28

Found nearly five inches of snow on the ground this morning, and the storm continued till nearly three o'clock afternoon before it broke away. The stars are shining this evening though it is some cloudy. I have worked at my table the greater part of the day and have read but very little. Robert called a short time in the afternoon, which is the only call we have had. The weather is not cold but the snow seems some winterish.

Monday, March 29

The wind is a little undecided this morning, but we may rely upon a N.W. wind as this is the season for it. I spent the greater part of the day at my table on almanac work and meteorological. The almanac is now the work for a few weeks and we hope to be able to finish both copies before the first of May.

Tuesday, March 30

I began my copying work early in the morning and continued it nearly through the day. Paid Fuller 26 cents for meat, and paid Billings 48 cents for Abbie and 3 cents for thread. I went to Fuller's market in the morning and to the post-office in the early evening. Mr. Leach called in the forenoon and Mortimer came in the afternoon for Joanna but she concludes to stay a few days longer. The evening is remarkably clear and pleasant, and the zodiacal light shines out fully and distinctly.

Debits - .26, .51

Wednesday, March 31

Rested rather badly through the latter part of the night. This morning I made a call on Mr. Crosby and found him rather low. The morning was very pleasant but the wind cool. These searching and dry N.W. winds are the marked winds of the season and are unlike any other winds. I hope Mr. Crosby will have good success in going to Lebanon where he expects to stop with near friends.

Thursday, April 1

A very clear and beautiful morning and the birds enjoy it. We received a letter from Abbie containing one dollar for goods from Billings and we paid 38 cts for dress lining. Worked in my room the greater part of the day. Very warm. Mortimer came with a load of wood. I took the time this morning and found the church clock 25 seconds too slow. On hand \$6.90.

Credits – 1.00

Debits - .38

Friday, April 2

A very pleasant morning. I went to the post office and paid quarterly postage 25 cts and then paid Paul 55 cts for groceries. I am ruling the pages for the almanac. Took the time very carefully and found the church clock 26 seconds slow and Moore's clock 47 seconds fast. Mr. Chamberlin came to attend an adjourned meeting of the commissioners on Mrs. Russ' estate. A warm day. Mr. Chamberlin left for home about night.

Debits – .25, .55

Saturday, April 3

Rainy in the morning and the storm has continued slightly through the day. The evening is very rainy. I have finished ruling the calendar pages for the Almanac, and have done other writing. Charles Dana's son John called and I fitted a little bit of a certificate for him, as he starts next Monday for Colorado or some other of the western states or territories. Paid Slack 25 cts for kerosene, and I paid Clapp 18 cents for steak piece.

Debits – .25, .18

Sunday, April 4

The early part of the night was rainy but a part was clear, and the forenoon was rather thick with cirro stratus clouds. It rained again in the afternoon. I have taken the day for rest. I read some articles in the April Quarterly, and some of them were very good. But I cannot say that the Quarterly is quite so deep in thought as the Princeton Review. In that we find the work of some of the deepest thinkers that are to be found. In the afternoon Robert came in and he drew my thoughts upon the professional men that lived in Pomfret long ago. He called again in the evening. Have spent some time in resting and in sleep.

Monday, April 5

We take up the almanac again today, and Mrs. D. is copying the meteorological work. Mortimer called in the forenoon and Joanna went home having been here and got some rested. I paid 10 cts to Geo. Hart for cutting down stump that was left too high in front of the house. Sent five dollars to the Life Insurance Co at Brattleboro it being the amount of the March assessment.

Debits – .10, 5.00

Tuesday, April 6

Put myself in readiness for making survey for Mr. Johnson, on the Bishop farm, but we concluded not to do it, so I came home and worked on the Almanac. Polk came here from his surveying and he staid here to finish it in the evening. Charles Marsh called with description to be filled out. They finished their work before nine o'clock. Received receipt from the Life Insurance Co. The weather seems to be growing cooler.

Wednesday, April 7

Some cooler this morning. Polk staid here through the night and after breakfast he went away and staid the greater part of the day. After supper he left for home. Horace Dunham called on his way home from the political convention at the Junction. I wrote and mailed letter on interest to H.H. Vail of Cincinnati. Paid 5 cts postage. Mr. Spear called in the afternoon and renewed note at the bank. Abbie called in the evening but returned again very soon after.

Debits – .05

Thursday, April 8

A cool but very clear morning. I went to the post office and found the wind very cold. Mailed letter to Franklin. Finished the meteorological report for the department and mailed it in the afternoon. Mr. Chamberlin called about noon, and Lizzie Bridge in the afternoon to go home with him. They left about four o'clock. I am now writing the weather report for the papers. A package of flower and vegetable seeds came from Vick this morning. Paid 3 cts postage.

Debits - .03

Friday, April 9

A very beautiful morning, clear and bright, but the clouds soon began to form. Cloudy in the afternoon. Fast Day. And we remained at home through the day, except to call a few moments on Dr. Williams. I have written but little today. Mr. Baker called from Bridgewater. Miss Houghton called in the afternoon.

Saturday, April 10

In the morning I went to South Street to level a building for Mr. Gobie. I staid there a few minutes and then came home. He paid 35 cents. Paid 15 cts for steak piece. The calls today have been numerous. Mr. and Mrs. Emery and daughter, Mrs. Miller and as an offset Kimball Perkins called for an order to get overalls at Mr. Eaton's.

Credits - .35

Debits - .15

Sunday, April 11

The day is cool and rough with slight squalls of snow in the morning, and again in the afternoon, but there was not snow enough to cover the ground. I made the day one of rest, especially the forenoon. I did some writing in the afternoon but cannot say that I did much of reading or thinking. Herman Dunham called in the middle of the day, and Robert called in the evening. Mr. Parker preached at the chapel but we did not go, for the day was too rough for us.

Monday, April 12

The night has been cold with high winds, and entirely clear. The wind continued through the day from the west and northwest, strong and cold. I spent the day on the almanac and in doing chores about the house. Mortimer came from Pomfret, and will bring our wood very soon as the roads are now good the greater part of the way.

Tuesday, April 13

Cool in the morning but it became warmer through the day. But the west or southwest wind was very strong. I kept about the almanac the greater part of the day. Sent letter on rain falls and on heights of R.R. at the Junction, Town Hall at Woodstock and Ascutney Mountain at Windsor to C.F. Blood of Windsor. – Received a letter from my friend H.H. Vail of Cincinnati on the subject of Vermont interest in reply to one that I sent to him on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Also, received a letter from Mrs. H.B. Thompson of Bridgewater on town map made by her late husband. He died January 26<sup>th</sup>, 1880.

Wednesday, April 14

This morning I fitted the blank pages for the moon-rising and setting. This morning I got of R.A. Perkins two dollars toward what I lent him a few weeks ago, and in the afternoon we paid Billings 12 cts. In the afternoon I worked a part of the time in the garden cutting away old cherry trees, etc. I then spent some time in copying meteorological matters into my record books.

Credits - 2.00

Debits - .12

Thursday, April 15

Spent much of the forenoon in garden work that is in clearing away the rubbish and the old tree back of the barn. Worked at my table in copying old weather records. – In the afternoon Horace Dunham came and we went to the town line and measured from the east side of the old turnpike to the southwesterly corner of the Wyatt lot, now owned by Joseph R. Church. We make the distance 145 rods and this agrees very nearly with previous measurements. R.A. Perkins and myself made the distance 180 rods to the Ash tree near the brook, which is 34 rods westerly of the center of the old turnpike or 35 rods from post on the east side.

Friday, April 16

Called at the bank and received int. on bonds \$17.50 and went to the Savings bank and paid int. \$18.14 that was due the bank March 1<sup>st</sup>. Called at Montague's and got a blank book for writing miscellaneous weather reports. Spent a part of the forenoon in sawing wood near the barn. Afternoon cloudy and cool with signs of rain. It began to rain soon after three o'clock and continued till night. Mrs. Dana called in the afternoon and Carlie in the evening.

Credits – 17.50

Debits – 18.14

Saturday, April 17

The rain continued through the night and this morning there is some snow on the hills. There has been some snow during the day, and three fourths of an inch of water since the storm began yesterday afternoon. We have not seen any of our Pomfret folks today, and perhaps they are making sugar through this storm. Robert is looking up the tragedy of Jo. Burnham and the history of the time. That is a time that I very well remember for they lived, that is the Burnhams, lived in our neighborhood. I have been at work on almanac matters.

Sunday, April 18

Cooler this morning with a fresh and cool breeze from the northwest or nearly north. We must try to rest some today as we may not go to church. We remained at home through the day only going as far as the river. I spent the greater part of the day at my table but have hardly engaged in any reading or writing. Robert called in the early part of the evening, and spoke of the old town or colony of Dresden in New Hampshire which included Dartmouth College. We also spoke of the slaves in Vermont after 1777, though Mr. Walton regards it erroneous that slaves were held after that time.

Monday, April 19

April 19<sup>th</sup> is here, but Lexington and Concord have no new story to tell. One hundred and five years have passed between their day and ours. I have spent much of the day in work in and around the garden and yard. Have finished removing the decayed apple trees from the garden and have begun to mulch those that are left and the bushes and the shrubbery about the yard. Mortimer brought a load of wood and it came in time for we were nearly out. Carlie Dunham came down at noon.

Tuesday, April 20

A shower between one and three o'clock in the morning. Removed the leaves from the west side of the house, and I fixed the climbing honeysuckle at the front door. Worked about the well as the line failed near the bucket. Abbie came down on errands from home and started for home soon after six o'clock. In the evening I copied sun-rising and setting on the calendar for 1881. Paid 60 cts at Billings and 9 cts at the Post-office.

Debits - .69

Wednesday, April 21

Took an observation for the time at 8 o'clock a.m. and found the town clock 64 seconds slow, and again at 4 o'clock p.m. and the result was 65 seconds slow. These results were fully reliable. I went to the Murdock's and found his clock running very well. Left word with Moore about the town clock and hope he will correct it. I worked at the door yard clearing away leaves and mulching small trees and shrubbery. Met Dr. Richmond in the street and his wife rode out. They have both been sick for a long time.

Thursday, April 22

Mr. Moore called this morning and went to the town clock and set it forward one minute, and started the regulator so as to bring it to the right rate if possible. I spent much of the day about the yard and garden. Mortimer came in the afternoon but we could not well go to Pomfret today. Horace Dunham called at night to speak about survey of the road above the Lincoln bridge. A thunder shower at eight o'clock in the evening, and some of the most vivid lightning we ever witnessed. Wood thrush heard.

Friday, April 23

In the morning I cleared the east side of the yard and placed the gate on the hinges again. Called at Frenches and looked over the plan of the cemetery and I made some additional names and lines. In the afternoon I went to the cemetery made some very sure tests of the working of the lots, and find some very badly crowded and others as badly extended. Had a short and very pleasant talk with Judge Barrett about modern text books, etc. paid Paul 57 for groceries.

Debits - .57

Saturday, April 24

In the morning I went to the cemetery lot and took some measurements of F.O. Seaver's lot on the north side and found that the lots south of it were too large by three feet. Came home and finished the plan and in the afternoon left it with Mr. French. Mr. Woodbury paid me \$2.25 and I paid for lecture ticket 50 cts. Joanna came to hear the lecture this evening, and Mrs. D. went with her to hear Mrs. Livermore on a favorite subject. They came home late feeling fully paid for the time and labor. The subject was very ably handled as few but Mrs. L. could handle it. Mrs. Livermore's lecture in the evening on "Superfluous Women."

Credits – 2.25

Debits – .50

Sunday, April 25

Sister Joanna remained here through the night, and this forenoon we all tried to rest. In the afternoon we went to hear Mrs. Livermore speak at the Christian church from Mat. XX: 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. “And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant; Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.” The subject was handled just as a Christian man or woman would handle it, only it was very much condensed. It was carried through on the broad principle of love to God and love to man. And such we are glad to hear at all times. In the evening she spoke at the Town Hall but I did not go. The subject of temperance was taken up and I think she would give them an idea of what temperance is, and how we should give ourselves to the work. Are there few who do it? Mrs. Livermore spoke at the brick church in the afternoon.

Monday, April 26

Arose quite early and began work in the garden. Horace called for my surveying instruments to do some road surveying for the case referred to at the last term of the court. Worked at the almanac for a while and then went to the garden. Began to break up the turf on the west side of the garden near the fence and found it extremely tough and matted together. There was some rain in the middle of the day.

Tuesday, April 27

Saw a most beautiful rainbow in the morning though the sky at the time was only partially obscured. I worked in the garden cutting up the turf near the west side to enlarge that part. Worked on the almanac for a time on the Moon's phases and then on the aspects. Spent the latter part of the day in the garden, clearing the beds and the alleys. Kimball Perkins called to get me to sign a petition to the probate court to amend his guardianship. But if the court will do it I shall be very glad, though I know he is better off as he is.

Wednesday, April 28

In the forenoon I went to the post office and to Mr. French's office and he paid me forty dollars for my survey and plan of the cemetery. I paid Randall one dollar for glasses and on account. Abbie came down from Pomfret and took dinner. She seemed less tired and jaded than when she was here a week ago.

Credits – 40.00

Debits – 1.00

Thursday, May 29

Worked on the column of aspects for a time in the forenoon. Went to Mr. Prior's and paid him 30 cts for boot gores. Called on Robert to find the true spelling of St. Silvester, as it was in the olden times. It was so in the early English calendars. I continued to work on the calendar till nearly night. There was a strong wind in the afternoon from the south and southwest, and it was unpleasant being out. Rosina Winslow and her daughter came here late in the forenoon. She was Cushman Wood's daughter, and her husband was Warren Winslow.

Debits – .30

Friday, April 30

Another cold wind and it increased till nearly night. I worked out in the wind much of the time, and the cold was increasing till night. I have got the garden nearly in readiness to plow but I do not wish to have it plowed this early.

Saturday, May 1

Paid Mr. Hewitt 3 cts for milk. Began the month with tired nerves, as we both work mentally beyond our strength. Mrs. D. is at work on the moon-rising & setting, and today I have worked on the meteorology for April. Balance on hand 41.65

Debits - .03

Sunday, May 2

Rested better through the night and am feeling stronger this morning. Mr. Forbes preaches at the Univ. Chapel today and I hope he will have a full house. Mrs. D. goes this forenoon and I am trying to rest at home. In the afternoon he spoke from John VI: 12<sup>th</sup>. "Gather up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost." His illustrations were mostly from science that matter is indestructible, and he dwelt but little on the destiny of the race. The inferences were in the direction of the doctrine he believes. It puts a young man in a hard place to follow Mr. Crosby's preaching, but we ought not to expect or demand such from any young man, nor from many of the older ones.

Monday, May 3

Wrote a letter to the Insurance office at Brattleboro and sent five dollars the April assessment, and must get the receipt tomorrow night.

Debits - 5.00

Tuesday, May 4

Lyman Maxham came in the morning to have me go to Pomfret to run the east line of the Zenas Paddock farm, but the weather was so warm that I could not go. Mortimer called soon after and we went with him to the old place. We went to our room and arranged things for study and rest. It is well that I did not attempt to run the line for Mr. Maxham for the heat is too oppressive.

Wednesday, May 5

We remained about there through the day calling on Spenser in the forenoon. He is re-painting his house and trying to keep up the repairs. He went to the old homestead to dinner that our sisters had been getting up. I tried to rest me in the afternoon, was very tired in the evening. The day was the warmest this season so far the thermometer rising to 83 degrees.

Thursday, May 6

Came home in the forenoon, and in the afternoon I made an examination of the Welch place to see where the fence was years ago. Made measurements so as to make a plan sufficient to keep the original lot. Mr. Macauley has the care of it and he paid me half a dollar. Cool with strong and cool wind in the afternoon. Another very sudden change, this time from warm to cold.

Credits - .50

Friday, May 7

Planted early potatoes this forenoon, but concluded to go to Mr. Chamberlin's in the afternoon. Got Mr. C's spectacles from Randall's after paying him half dollar for fixing them. Got Mr. French to carry us to Pomfret. Mrs. French driving a beautiful span of young horses. Carried Mr. C's spectacles to him and they fitted him well. He paid me 50 cts for what I paid Mr. Randall. Polk and Abbie came to Woodstock and got home a little while before it was dark.

Credits - .50

Debits - .50

Saturday, May 8

In the morning Polk and myself went to the Paddock lot to run the east line of the two lots. We first found the range line between those lots and the Paine lot, etc. After getting the bearing we went to the N.E. corner of the Wm. Hutchinson lot, after which we tested some of the trees that we suspected of being marked, and are quite sure they were marked for a line. I think my father made the line in that place nearly sixty years ago. The weather is growing warmer which is another change.

Sunday, May 9

We staid in Mr. Chamberlin's west chamber and the air was pure and good. It seems as though the air was better here than at our own place in Woodstock. But when the temperature gets above 90 degrees, it is too warm to think about pure air and exercise. About noon I called on Charles Vaughan and found them very well and I think his place a very pleasant one. About four o'clock in the afternoon we started for home, taking Lizzie Bridge with us. She has been at work a few weeks for Mrs. Chamberlin. We came over the hill near Mr. Ware's place and our old homestead and arrived home very nearly seven o'clock, and Abbie started for home very soon after. We found the max ther. standing at 92 degrees above zero. As the house has been closed a few days we opened the doors and windows for a current of air and the chambers were comfortably cool in a very short time.

Monday, May 10

Another warm morning and I fitted the weather report and mailed it for Washington after spending the greater part of the forenoon on it. The day is too warm for any kind of mental labor. Received a letter from my friend J.B. Crooker, and am glad to find that he is much better. These days are very warm, - yesterday 92 degrees above zero and today 91.5 degrees which is the warmest that I have found in May during the last thirteen years. Fixed pansy bed in the afternoon.

Tuesday, May 11

Set out pansies, but have a great supply in the flower garden. Mrs. Fairbanks and Mrs. French had a supply of them; also Mrs. Hicks (Lizzie Barrett) finished a bed of them. I worked in the garden for a time clearing bushes, etc. Miss Latimer came last evening and this morning went to South Pomfret with Mr. Billings. Too warm in the middle of the day for garden work, but the evening was some cooler and the chambers were comfortably cool. Max. ther. 76.4 degrees.

Wednesday, May 12

Arose early some tired but began to wheel the manure onto the garden, though I knew not why, but soon Mr. Thompson came to plow the garden, and he did it very well. The weather is becoming much cooler and perhaps I can work at my table some more easily. Paid 50 cts to Mr. Thompson for plowing the garden. In the evening I wrote on the weather report for April, and Mrs. D. was at work on the almanac, for we had neglected that for a short time.

Debits - .50

Thursday, May 13

The weather is some cooler and so we may look out for a frost. Wrote on the weather report a part of the time but have tried to do some work in the garden. It seems now too cold for planting or sowing any thing as the ground is so very dry. Mrs. Bates came from Fairlee and has gone to South Pomfret this afternoon. Polk called in the evening and said that Abbie is quite sick and they will write if she is not better soon, but no letter came this evening.

Friday, May 14

Arose early in the morning and went to the garden. Too cool for planting. Took the time at half past eight, and found the town clock five seconds fast. I went to the post office but found no letter from Abbie. Went to the chapel and moved books to our own pew. Paid 6 dollars to Mrs. Johnson for pew rent to Jan. 1, 1880. Took a book, Streeter's Hymns, marked "I. CHURCHILL," to Mrs. Johnson for it was her father's. The afternoon was cool, and what a change since Sunday and Monday.

Debits - 6.00

Saturday, May 15

The day is a little warmer but the morning was rather cool. I worked in the garden in the forenoon, and we must call this the pansy day, for hundreds were carried out of the garden, and we are glad to have them used to do good in the world. I went with Mr. Lockwood to set up the center of Mr. Billings' cemetery lot, and found the old line stakes set up last summer. Spent about two hours at the work, then came home



and went into the garden. Have laid out a grass plot around the crab-apple tree 20 feet square, and a walk to it. Paid Mrs. Vose 3 dollars.

Debits - 3.00

Sunday, May 16

We found ourselves very tired from our garden work yesterday, but it was a pleasure to share such flowers as we have to spare. About twenty of the ladies of the village and a few out, have been furnished with plants from the garden. – Today we have remained at home very cozily and have tried to rest, and probably have done so. I have written the greater part of the time since we got up in the morning and no one has been here excepting R.A. Perkins and Miss Latimer who may be here again tonight. Mortimer came this evening and Miss L. came for the night. Miss Latimer came from South Pomfret to attend church, and remains over to meet the com. who have a meeting on C. Perry's account against Mrs. Russ' estate tomorrow.

Monday, May 17

Arose quite early ready for the work in the garden. Soon after breakfast, Mrs. Powers came to inquire about the lane to her pasture near the upper bridge. Mailed letter to Franklin and paid 24 cts for stamps. Paid 4 cts for grass seed and sowed some on the apple tree plot in the garden. Worked in the garden in the afternoon when not too warm. Com. met to examine Perry's account vs. Mrs. Russ' estate. Mrs. Bates and Miss Latimer were here in the afternoon but left for South Pomfret before night.

Debits – .24, .04

Tuesday, May 18

Was cheered to hear the chattering sound of the gentle rain on the roof over our heads, and about one fourth of an inch of water fell before noon. Paid 3 cts for screws. It rained but little in the afternoon but in all one fourth of an inch fell. Mrs. D. worked on the almanac the greater part of the afternoon and evening. Received a reply from our letter of yesterday to Franklin. Mr. Gookin is quite unwell with a disease of the heart and he is very much as other members of his father's family have been before him.

Debits - .03

Wednesday, May 19

Worked a part of the forenoon at my table on meteorological report and on the Moon's place for the almanac. Went into the garden and cleared some of the turf back of the barn. Mrs. Dunham called in the afternoon and Mrs. D. went with her to South Pomfret to get a part of the sugar made at the place. After their return we spent the time in the garden and it was extremely pleasant. These cloudy and slightly rainy days are improving the gardens very much.

Thursday, May 20

Paid Paul 33 cts for tea, and got a small dictionary of Montague. Planted potatoes on the east side of the garden. Weather very warm in the middle of the day, but late in the afternoon there was a thunder shower with very high wind. Some trees were broken down. One near Mrs. Dana's house on Pleasant Street.

Debits - .33

Friday, May 21

Called on the barber in the forenoon and paid him 20 cts and called at Paul's and Whites. Paid Paul 10 cts. Mortimer came with a load of wood and some other things. The weather was very warm, and I could do but little planting on that account. I worked some in my room writing out lengths of curves on the Woodstock R.R.

Debits .20, .10

Saturday, May 22

Soon after breakfast I went to the cemetery to see to the setting of Mr. Billings' monument to get it exactly the line of the South avenue of the old lot and a line parallel with the back line of the old lot. I remained there till the base was put exactly in place and I think it could not be moved without showing its error of position. In the forenoon I paid Stark for kerosene 2 cts for a half gallon. Worked in the garden till dark.

Debits - .12

Sunday, May 23

This is one of the most clear and beautiful days even known. The air was fully and purely washed by the shower last evening as there was nearly one half inch of the rain. I remained in my room a great part of the forenoon and rested what I could. We were alone and had no one to interrupt rest or sleep. I did no deep or regular reading, and but little of any kind. In the afternoon we went to see Mr. Billings' monument. It does not seem to have lost any of its beauty that we thought we saw yesterday. Went by way of Elm Street and came home the same way. Saw Simeon Dunham and his two daughters on the way. Called at Mr. Porter's door as we came home.

Monday, May 24

Began early to work in the garden. Finished planting potatoes, and spent much of the day. Mr. Isaiah Benson called to have me make a survey for him on Wednesday next. Judge Barrett called while I was in the garden and spoke of the Pomfret case at the last term of the court. I did not go up town today, but kept about my work. The day was very warm and it seems like having summer even in May.

Tuesday, May 25

This is another warm day, and the County court sits at Woodstock. Polk came to attend the opening of the Court and Abbie came with him and went home in the evening. Let Abbie have 40 cts to get some article at the druggists. I spent much of this very warm day in the garden.

Debits - .40

Wednesday, May 26

This is the warmest day of the season. The morning was much warmer than it was yesterday morning. Mrs. Bates came here last night and staid through the night. Miss Latimer came in the morning to see Mrs. Bates, and at noon Mrs. B. started for home and Miss L. left for South Pomfret. I took off the readings of the max. & min. thermometers and the means for the "Standard." Mr. Chamberlin came down from Pomfret and went home towards night. Max. 93.6.

Credits - 2.00

Thursday, May 27

Polk staid here through the night, a very warm night it was. We have found few potato bugs and hope they will not trouble us very much. They are very thick in some places, and people are alarmed about their potato crop. - Polk and Abbie went home in the evening, Abbie having come for him in the afternoon. Max. 92.

Friday, May 28

Polk and Abbie came from Pomfret in the forenoon and Abbie returned soon after dinner. Polk remained as he is watching a will case that is now on trial, and will remain here through the night. I have spent the greater part of the day in the garden. Elmer Emery called in the afternoon.

Saturday, May 29

Court adjourned for the week and Polk went home soon after dinner. I went into the garden early, and have spent nearly the whole day in clearing the alleys and beds and in sowing beets, parsnips and vegetable oysters. Paid 30 cents for meat. Kimball Perkins called in the forenoon and spent the time in wise talk till past eleven o'clock and I am fully satisfied that mentally he is going down fast, if such is

possible. Instead of going home as above written, he went to Taftsville to hear Stephen Pingree's lecture, then home in the eve.

Debits - .30

Sunday, May 30

A rainy, pleasant and quiet day and we remained here alone at home and tried to rest. There is a richness and happiness in these quiet, rainy days such as we seemed to have in our younger days when we were at home and apparently without much care.

Monday, May 31

Polk and Abbie came in the afternoon and the court went in at two o'clock. Dr. Paddock came on the train and wished to stay here a few days to see those from different parts of the county. I remained at home except to mail a letter. Worked in the garden the greater part of the day. Dr. P. went to Mrs. Perkins to sleep instead of remaining here, but will come again in the morning. There seems to be 63 cts not accounted for.

Debits - .63

Tuesday, June 1

Abbie is not very well, and she and Polk remained here. There is some hurry about work that makes it difficult for me to keep a cash book easily and correctly, as I find one dollar and fourteen cents not accounted for last month. This was afterwards so far corrected that the error is but 63 cents. Dr. Paddock went to Mr. Chamberlin's in the afternoon. On hand 24.83.

Wednesday, June 2

This morning I sent 5 dollars to Life Insurance at Brattleboro, and Paid to Woodruff 5 dollars on account and got of him a bag of flour. Dr. Paddock came back from Mr. Chamberlin's and he went to Mrs. Perkins' for the night.

Debits - 5.00, 5.00

Thursday, June 3

A slight frost this morning seen on small bridges and on the covering to small streams of water, but it was not sufficient to affect vegetation in the least. Paid Paul for tea 35 cents. Paid bakery 10 cts for bread.

Debits - .35, .10

Friday, June 4

Dr. Paddock went to Barnard in the stage, leaving about 7 o'clock in the morning.

Saturday, June 5

Cool this morning but no frost. Paid Paul for groceries 24 cts.

Debits - .24

Sunday, June 6

Rain through the greater part of the night, and densely cloudy this morning with light south wind. It was a good night for rest and I think we improved it, as we all rested well. The day is so still and quiet that it seems almost gloomy, yet it is pleasant. Miss Latimer called on her way to church.

Monday, June 7

Sent a letter to Mrs. Bates of Fairlee. Abbie is some better this morning. I have worked a part of the time on the meteorological reports, and a part in the garden. A cloudy day with some rain. Miss Latimer called in the afternoon. H.H. Woodbury paid me three dollars on account, and I paid 6 cts for postal cards. Abbie

is much better this afternoon and evening. Began to set out the geraniums on the line between the houses where there is no line fence.

Credits – 3.00  
Debits – .06

Tuesday, June 8

Densely cloudy at 7 a.m. but broken at 10. Began to mow the door yard, but the sun hardly shone through the day. The folks finished setting the row of geraniums on the line, and have a very fine row. Abbie is improving slowly and will probably go to Pomfret tomorrow. I spent some time on the almanac and it is nearly done.

Wednesday, June 9

Still another cloudy morning, but it was a little broken in the afternoon. Mortimer called in the forenoon. Received circular from the Claremont Co. and I must write to them tomorrow and send the Vt. Calendar soon. I paid Paul 25 cts for groceries.

Debits - .25

Thursday, June 10

Abbie is some better this morning and may go home today. I have worked on the almanac getting the time of the southing of four principal planets to fill the column of aspects. Polk came from Pomfret soon after noon, and he and Abbie left for home soon after three o'clock in the afternoon. I finished the meteorological report and mailed it to the department; and I sent postal card to Claremont about the register.

Friday, June 11

Worked about the garden till it was too warm for out-door work. Got horse and buggy to go to Asaph Churchill's to see about Kimball's work. Left letter with Mr. Churchill for Frank Churchill directing about paying Kimball for work. We then rode to Mr. Chamberlin's to see how Abbie got home last night and found her gaining very slowly. We came home about six o'clock in the evening. Mortimer came with a load of wood.

Saturday, June 12

Began to take our lodgings in the south chamber last night and rested very well. Mailed letter to Amelia at Franklin. Paid 6 cts for stamps, and I paid George French for team twice to Mr. Chamberlin's. 75 cts of this I must charge to Kimball Perkins as I was obliged to go to W.W. Churchill's to arrange about his work.

Debits .06, 2.50

Sunday, June 13

Very clear in the morning so that I took nine observations on the sun's altitude to compute the time. I made two computations to each of these and found them very well taken. But I was too tired to take the corrected time to either of the clocks of the jewelers. There was a light shower about ten o'clock in the morning and again about five or six o'clock in the afternoon. We tried to rest the greater part of the afternoon.

Monday, June 14

I took the time to Mr. Randall and Mr. Moore and found M.'s clock very nearly right, perhaps a few seconds too slow. I spent much of the time in the garden and the greater part on the almanac as I must finish it in a few days.

Tuesday, June 15

Received a letter and Mr. G.'s likeness from Amelia. Horace Dunham called in the morning to speak of a land controversy in that neighborhood, and of a re-measurement of a part of the line between Woodstock and Pomfret. I was in the garden in the cool part of the day and at my table the greater part of the

remaining time. Mrs. Marcy called and Mrs. D. rode with her to South Pomfret, and they returned in the early part of the evening.

Wednesday, June 16

We determined to finish the Calendar for 1881 and we did as we determined and rolled it up for mailing. Arnold Barrett called and we were glad to find that his health is so much improved. I never saw him in better health. Worked in the garden a part of the day. Arranged a row of sunflowers on Miss Richmond's side of the fence, and this will begin the clearing up of a bad hedge row.

Thursday, June 17

Some cool this morning. Went to the post office and got a speech from my friend H.B. Smith on Inventors and Inventions. Horace Dunham took his horse here for us to go to his house. Of course we went and had a very pleasant time. Mailed the almanac to the Claremont Company paying 21 cts postage.

Debits – .21

Friday, June 18

The nights are some cool but the days are warm and the ground is very dry. We spent much of the time, when not too warm, in the garden. Mrs. D. spent some of the time in cleaning house. We fixed the flower pot for the post and fixed it in its place.

Saturday, June 19

Another cool night and a very warm day. The drought is increasing and the vegetation suffers greatly for rain. I worked in the garden and about the yard much of the time. We did much of the transplanting garden flowering plants, etc. and think it nearly done for this summer. Mrs. Dunham and Carlie came in the forenoon. We paid Mrs. McCollum \$2.35 which was not a large sum for these times. Mortimer came in the evening.

Debits – 2.35

Sunday, June 20

A pleasant morning and a clear sky, so I took four observations for the time, and on working them found the results very nearly correct. Kimball Perkins called in the morning and talked till noon, and I was fully tired with his preaching. He is to be pitied but who can help him at all. In the afternoon we tried to rest. Mrs. Russell called in the evening, and I think it was all the calls we had except the one in the forenoon. The north declination of the Sun, the extreme north, comes this afternoon, and the "Sun enters Cancer" at the same time.

Monday, June 21

This was a kind of Dog-day morning and I began to clear the garden of weeds, as there was a light shower at 2 o'clock in the morning, and I hope the drought is checked. Polk called about ten o'clock and left soon after. In the afternoon I went to the Court House to see Ward's crayon drawings & likenesses. We set the calla into the ground for the summer. Paid 10 cts for glycerin.

Debits – .10

Tuesday, June 22

I began to look up the facts for the R.R. report to the census bureau, and for our state commissioner. I think this last is a very bad arrangement, but we must give something for a report.

Wednesday, June 23

Mowed a small piece of grass on the sides and north end of the garden. I leveled the sills to Levi Washburn's house on College Avenue in the forenoon and received for it fifty cents, and in the afternoon I went to the flat to make a survey for Mr. Benson and Mr. Marble. Had a talk with Mr. McKenzie about cemetery grounds, etc.

Credits – .50

Thursday, June 24

Mr. McKenzie called for me this morning and I went with him to his cemetery lot and assisted him in some measurements about an addition that he makes to his curb and lot. Came home and finished a plan of the ground I surveyed yesterday. Very warm in the middle of the day. Ther. +92.2 which is too warm for work. Mr. Benson called for a plan of his survey and paid me one dollar as his part of the work.

Credits – 1.00

Friday, June 25

Got cabbage plants from Judge Barrett's garden and carefully set them. He came home this morning from Hanover. Went to the Post office and to Paul's. Paid Paul 35 cts for tea. Billings 10 cts for thread and Townsend 5 cts for this ink. The day has been too warm for work and is warm this evening. The max. ther. registered 93 which is very nearly as warm as it was in May.

Debits – .45, .05

Saturday, June 26

There was a thunder shower late in the evening and this morning the air is very close and muggy, but it became much better before night. Paid 12 cts for meat and paid Simeon Dunham 1.25 for work on the shed door. The day was too warm for out-door work. I got some pieces of zinc to fix a meridian at a south window and got Mr. Tribou to make them straight and I put them, one of them, up in my room. In the evening I went to the cemetery with Mr. McKenzie to take some levels.

Debits - .12, 1.25

Sunday, June 27

A very bright and warm morning and I made preparations for making time observations. Took six observations and computed the times very carefully with good results. We rested through the day as well as we could. Had an invitation to take tea with Mr. and Mrs. Russell, and of course we went. The day was very warm, the temperature reaching 90 degrees.

Monday, June 28

Went to the depot in the morning to get the account of the work on the road the last year for the census report. Spent much of the time through the day in looking at the accounts kept by Mr. Porter. Worked in the garden in the evening. Found that the potato bugs were again at work in the garden and we began to destroy them, but we do not use paris green. There were strong signs of rain this morning but very little came through the day.

Tuesday, June 29

I began quite early on the railroad accounts for the year ending Sept. 30, 1879 and was obliged to change the work from our annual reports on account of so many different divisions of the work required. Spenser called about noon as he had called to find Dr. Colton. I kept my work on the report for the census till night and found it perplexing to make such divisions correctly. Strong S.W. or W. wind in the afternoon, and nearly clear in the evening.

Wednesday, June 30

It began to rain at three o'clock this morning, and a little more than half an inch of rain fell. The day was pleasant with very slight showers in the afternoon that passed in very narrow belts, one passing between us and the face of Mount Tom. Mortimer, Joanna and Miss Braman called in the afternoon and remained till night. The air was some cooler after the light showers.

Thursday, July 1

Spent the greater part of the day on the railroad census report, and found some time to work in the garden. Received a letter from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and wish I could join them in scientific investigations. Brought forward \$11.24.

Friday, July 2

Spent the greater part of the day on the Census report and found some time for garden work. The ground was very dry for we have had but little rain this season so far, but there are now some signs of rain.

Saturday, July 3

This is our fourth of July for the real fourth comes on Sunday and the boys awoke us a little before twelve o'clock last night by ringing the bells, and were very patriotic during the rest of the night. The day was kept up by the boys, many of the older ones going to the Junction to "celebrate." I paid 13 cents for meat, etc. Mortimer came to carry us to Pomfret but the rain prevented our going. – This would have been our father's birth day and he would have been one hundred years old. He died April 8, 1863. Aged 82 yrs 9 mos 5 days.

Debits – .13

Sunday, July 4

It is now twelve years that we have lived here in Woodstock, and twelve years ago this evening we rode to Pomfret to stay in our old room. Today we have tried to rest and I can hardly say that I have read any thing that was truly worth reading. I spent a part of the day in writing to Mrs. Page who is now in Ludlow.

Monday, July 5

Went into the garden quite early but the ground was too wet for hoeing, and that is some remarkable at the time of such a drought. Went to the corner or block to see Mr. Billings and Mr. Dana on R.R. matters, and I spent nearly all the rest of the day on that work. Sent letter to Mrs. Page at Ludlow.

Tuesday, July 6

I am still at work on the R.R. report for the census, and I called on Mr. Billings to get his opinion on some of the questions to be answered. Mortimer called in the forenoon and in the afternoon I spent some time in the garden. Mrs. D. went with Mrs. Russell to call on Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Winslow. Mrs. W. may leave and go to Massachusetts. Alice is now at home from Florence, Mass. Where she has been at work in a silk factory.

Wednesday, July 7

Spent the greater part of the day on the R.R. report. In the morning I went to the depot with it and it was satisfactory to Mr. Porter, and taking another blank will copy it today. Late in the afternoon Horace Dunham called for me to go to the town line to re-measure a part of it. In this we were quite fortunate, for we very readily found what we wished to correct.

Thursday, July 8

Went early into the garden and after breakfast I went to the depot with the R.R. census report, and towards night found that I had another to make out giving the physical character of the road. In the afternoon Mrs. D. called on Mrs. Barrett and Miss Rindge who is there on a visit. The day has been very warm and is not very cool this evening. Mrs. Latimer and Angela called in the afternoon. – Paid Paul 10 cts for eggs.

Debits - .10

Friday, July 9

In the morning I went into the garden to clear out the potatoes of weeds and stones. Have spent much time in clearing the garden of stones. In the afternoon I worked on the meteorological report and continued on it till night.

Saturday, July 10

This morning I finished the meteorological report and mailed it for Washington. Worked a short time in the garden but the day was too warm for garden work; the thermometer indicating 92.4 degrees which is one of the higher readings. In the afternoon there was very heavy thunder and nearly half an inch of rain. It continued till nearly seven o'clock. After the shower the evening was very pleasant.

Sunday, July 11

The showers of yesterday have not yet cooled the air very much, yet it became some better before the middle of the day. Mr. Whitney of Mass. Preached at the chapel in the forenoon and at the South Village in the afternoon. I did not hear him but Mrs. D. heard him speak from John XVI: 7. "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you, etc." He took up the thought that it is not best for us to rely on others, and if others remained for us to rely upon we should never develop our full strength.; which was of course a very good view of the subject. We rested some in the afternoon and remained very quiet at home.

Monday, July 12

Mortimer Spear called in the morning and he renewed his bank note that was due a few days ago. In the forenoon I rode down the line of the railroad to get the Curve and Tangent points that we made in laying the track, as we were obliged to make some changes in the original line. Saw Mr. Whitney who preached at the chapel yesterday morning. I also met Edwin Pierce who long ago was one of my pupils. Paid Mrs. Latimer 35 cts for yarn. Solar halo in the afternoon. Rain at 6 p.m.

Debits - .35

Tuesday, July 13

Mailed a letter to Albert Darling. Paid quarterly postage and stamp. Received dividend at bank 6 dollars. Paid Richmond & Pinney 25 cts. In the forenoon I heard a lesson from Parmley Billings and am to hear his lessons for a few weeks and I hope he will get so as to enter college with honor to himself and to those who are his instructors.

Credits - 6.00

Debits - .28, .25

Wednesday, July 14

Went into the garden early in the morning but soon after breakfast rested for the recitation. Parmley comes at eleven in the forenoon. The day is very clear and the wind north or northerly for a part of the time.

Thursday, July 15

Went to the Post office in the morning. Paid White one dollar for Princeton Review and paid Murdock 75 cts for eye-glasses, also paid Paul 8 cts for lemons. Am at work on the line of the Railroad to get out all the grades and curves. I am having Parmley Billings' lessons at eleven o'clock each day and they will last through the month, I think. I get but little time to work in the garden and none on the haying.

Debits - 1.00, .75, .08

Friday, July 16

Worked on the R.R. grades and have finished them this evening, and now must take the curves and will soon be ready to report to the Census bureau. A very heavy thunder shower in the afternoon. The surface wind was from the S.W. but the higher clouds probably moved from the N.W. It began to thunder at about four o'clock and rain at five, and continued till past six. Only 0.20 of an inch of rain fell, but the wind was high and destructive to corn and field crops.

Saturday, July 17

In the morning I went to the Cong. Church to take some levels for setting horse sheds, and to plan slopes about the yard. Paid Paul 25 cts for oatmeal & 5 cts to Townsend for ink. I spent much of the time on the



R.R. work, but in the afternoon I went to the post office and met Edward Dana and spoke with him of the lines of the old lots on the westerly side of Elm Street.

Debits - .30

Sunday, July 18

A very clear and pleasant morning, and it continued so through the greater part of the day. I took observations for the time in the forenoon and tested the noon-mark at the east front window and found it very nearly correct so that I shall rely upon it till I have an opportunity to make it more perfectly accurate. It can now be only a few seconds out of the way. Kimball Perkins called soon after nine o'clock and hindered me some time, but left before noon. In the evening or towards night I took two more observations for the time and they agreed very well with those taken in the morning. Joanna and Mortimer came in the evening and returned at about half past nine o'clock.

Monday, July 19

Paid Paul 80 cts for groceries in the morning. Mailed card to Franklin and a card to Miss Gardner. Heard Billings' lessons in the morning. Paid 9 cts postage. Am at work still on the R.R. report for the Census. Mrs. Marcy came in the afternoon and says they are alone now for the boarders are all away, and perhaps we can call on them before their boarders return.

Debits - .80, .09

Tuesday, July 20

A dull and cloudy morning and it began to rain about nine o'clock. Parmley Billings came to his recitations a few minutes before eleven o'clock and his lessons were well got. He left a few minutes after noon. Mortimer called in the afternoon.

Wednesday, July 21

Went to the P.O. in the morning. Paid Slack 13 cts for kerosene. Called at White's bookstore and at the office. Found the June weather report. Heard Parmley Billings' lessons and they were very satisfactory. In the afternoon I went to Eaton's and got drawers and paid him one dollar. In the afternoon I got the May No. of the Princeton Review and White paid me back 34 cts.

Credits - .34

Debits - .13, 1.00

Thursday, July 22

Went to the church to make a measurement of the front line of the lot and found it one foot too short from Mrs. Hunt's lot to Dr. Boynton's. Parmley Billings came to his recitations as usual. Mr. Thompson called in the forenoon, and I am always glad to see him. We got a letter from Abbie and find that she thinks of teaching again. She can do much more good in the school room than in house or farm work.

Friday, July 23

The week seems drawing to a close and I hope some work has been done. I have done some work for the railroad on the report to the Census bureau. I have today paid Richmond 21 cents for meat and have paid Eaton one dollar for a vest. I heard Parmley Billings' lesson and his lesson in geometry was perfectly well got. He is a good scholar and a fine young man. If health permits, he will rise in the world. Christianne Emily called with some berries.

Debits - .21, 1.00

Saturday, July 24

A fine morning and I arose feeling very well indeed. Filled out the annual summary of the readings of the Barometer and the thermometer. Looked over some of the work that Parmley is now attending to, and some of my own work, but have not yet read the proof of the almanac for 1881. Mrs. Winslow and Alice

called here in the afternoon. A very pleasant call. I watched the time at noon, and found my watch five seconds fast. Paid 2 cts to Paul.

Debits – .02

Sunday, July 25

A very pleasant morning with everything beautiful out of doors. The garden smiles and again Judge B. brought us a very rich head of his choice lettuce. It was as fine as it can grow. We took the time to read the proof of the Register that has been by us nearly or quite a week. I took observations for the time and had good success.

Monday, July 26

Rested well through the night and am feeling well for the work of the day. Parmley Billings came to his lessons again and they are very interesting for he studies earnestly and understandingly. Mr. McKenzie called to see me in the morning about his cemetery lot, and I studied on the arrangement of it what time I could spare. I left my gold spectacles with Mr. Randall to be repaired.

Tuesday, July 27

The morning was warm and the sensation is that of dog-days. I heard Parmley's lessons and had a very good talk with him on subjects of study. In the afternoon I wrote out my meteorological article for the Standard. I had not been able to write it earlier this month.

Wednesday, July 28

Parmley Billings called to see me this morning to be excused from his lesson today. There is a political convention at the Junction today and Horace and Herman Dunham left their horse here and went by the train. We took his horse and went to the old place in Pomfret. Made a short visit at Spenser's and came home at just six o'clock. Horace & Herman came a few minutes after. Our visit was pleasant. We had not been there since last spring.

Thursday, July 29

I mowed the door-yard in the morning but soon began work on the meteorological matters. The day was much cooler than for the last few days. I paid Randall two dollars, fifty cents of which was for mending spectacles and the rest on account.

Debits – 2.00

Friday, July 30

Spent much of the day on the railroad work in getting the alignment for the census and it was to be in a month ago, though we had not then received the blanks. Paid Richmond 19 cts for meat.

Debits - .19

Saturday, July 31

In the morning I mowed grass on the westerly side of the line of geraniums. We concluded to go down the line. Mrs. D. went to Taftsville and I went to Quechee and walked from there on the line to Taftsville. I went to look up the curves as they were when the track was laid in 1875. Came home on the train and found Polk and Abbie at our house and was very glad to find them so well. Polk attended the Democratic flag-raising and heard Mr. Pierce's speech at the town hall. Abbie paid me \$1.01 which she says she owed me.

Credits – 1.01

Sunday, August 1

Polk and Abbie remained here through the night and this is her birth day as she is forty years old today. Forty years move along fast and the time does not seem to be but a few years, though if I follow the events of the time there has been much done. I was living on the farm that brother Spenser lives on now,

where we were till the spring of 1847 when I went to the Northern Railroad; and so I could trace the time till now. Polk and Abbie started for home at about eleven o'clock, and probably arrived there before the warmest part of the day. The thermometer rose to 90.4 degrees above zero. We staid at home though there were services at the chapel. Brought forward \$9.93.

Monday, August 2

A warm day, too warm for study, though I spent much of the day at my table. Parmley Billings does not come today for his recitations but goes to the reservoir to a picnic. Mr. Chamberlin called in the afternoon and brought deed, and I paid him fifty cts for recording, and I paid 6 cts postage and sent five dollars to Life Insurance. There was a furious storm of wind, thunder and rain about four o'clock p.m. Paid girl for needles 25 cts.

Debits - .50, 5.00, .25

Tuesday, August 3

Very much cooler this morning. Worked at my table in the forenoon and in the afternoon I went to the Machine Shop in the village to look at the old Bennett Mill property. Mr. Johnson paid me \$1.50 for the work. We did not make any positive surveys but found that his lot embraced the whole mill and factory lot. I do not find any of the old bounds that we can fully rely upon, but some of them are very near the truth. The original deed was in 1788.

Credits – 1.50

Wednesday, August 4

Rainy through the greater part of the night and it continued through the greater part of the day. Mortimer called and brought butter, etc. Mr. McKenzie called and made us a present of a photograph of Gen. Washburn and one of the Dewey chasm showing the bridge, etc. I spent the greater part of the day on the R.R. work. Paid Woodruff 13 cts for meal. Carlie Dunham called at night. Mrs. Bridge called in the afternoon.

Debits - .13

Thursday, August 5

Called at the P.O. and at Mr. White's. Mr. Billings paid me five dollars. Dr. Paddock came in the forenoon and left soon after dinner for Pomfret. Miss Latimer came about one o'clock. I spent all the afternoon on railroad work, determining the curves on the line.

Credits – 5.00

Friday, August 6

In the morning I mowed a part of the grass on Miss Richmond's flat and then went to my room to work at my table on Railroad work. In the afternoon we went to Garvin Hill in Hartland Carlie Dunham going with us. I drew another view of the Green Mountains to show Killington Peak and the Dome or Pico. I wished to show why we called the northerly of the Sherburne mountains the Dome. Paid French one dollar for his team. Came home just before seven o'clock. Paid Richmond for meat.

Debits – 1.00, .13

Saturday, August 7

Finished mowing the grass on the flat. Mailed card to Clar. Company. Paid Paul 35 cts for groceries. Spent much of the time on the hay but went to the depot to find Mr. Porter. Tried to find Mr. Bradley to get the hay into the barn but failed to find him. Emma Dunham called in the evening. Frank Churchill came in the evening to find Kimball Perkins, but I have not seen him for a long time. The evening is very pleasant.

Debits - .35

Sunday, August 8

The night was cool and a good time for rest. I took an observation for the time this morning with very good success, but the sun was obscured by clouds at the time of passing the meridian. Rev. Mr. Crosby preached at the chapel this forenoon. He took for a text the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> verses of the fifth chapter of Acts. This text he applied to the present controversy between the Theologians and the Scientists. He regarded both at work on great and good truths and instead of their being opposed to each other they are parts of the same all blending beautifully together. The subject was a very good one and I wish our people could understand him.

Monday, August 9

Took up the report for the meteorology of July, and we both worked upon it until it was done and mailed. I work, but it ought not to be neglected. Woodstock should keep it up. Soon after noon Mr. Bradley came and drew in the hay from the flat. Mortimer came with a load of wood and other things. Parmley Billings came to speak of his success at St. Johnsbury. Mrs. D. rode with Mr. and Mrs. Russell to Mr. White's near the Beaver meadow.

Tuesday, August 10

Shower at three o'clock in the morning and again at four in the afternoon. Paid Paul 35 cts for tea. Parmley Billings called in the morning to arrange about his studies for one or two weeks. Self spent nearly all the afternoon on census report for railroad and have very nearly finished it. Mrs. Marcy called late in the afternoon and returned in the evening. Christiana Emery and two of her boys called in the afternoon.

Debits - .35

Wednesday, August 11

Finished the census circular and took it to the depot, but did not mail it. Parmley Billings came again to his recitations in algebra. Polk and Abbie came soon after noon and staid through the afternoon, and went home in the evening. Paid woman 10 cts for cake of soap and boy 5 cts for berries and am to pay 5 cts more. Mrs. Bates and her grandson Kimball came by train and went soon to South Pomfret. Paid the boy as above 5 cts.

Debits - .10, .05, .05

Thursday, August 12

Spent some time in the morning looking over lessons. Parmley came at eleven and we had some fine work and very rich talk. In the afternoon we rode with Mr. French to the depot to meet Amelia who came from Franklin at noon. Paid Richmond 20 cts for meat. In the afternoon Parmley Billings called for me to ride with him and we went nearly to Taftsville having a very interesting time. Was caught in a slight shower. There was one very severe clap of thunder that started the horses, but all was safe. Dr. Colton called in the afternoon.

Debits - .20

Friday, August 13

Some cloudy in the morning but the day was nearly clear. Parmley came to his recitations and his lesson was a good one. Mrs. Alden and Joanna came in the forenoon and staid till night.

Saturday, August 14

The day was warm though there was some rain about noon. In the afternoon there was some stir and excitement but I kept from it all. Etta Latimer called and so did Carlie Dunham. Polk and Abbie came down to hear Mr. Horr speak. In the evening I had a call from Mr. Horr, Judge Barrett and C.P. Marsh, and we spent the evening very pleasantly.

Sunday, August 15

Rested rather badly last night for we were both very tired from the excitement of the day. The republican flag was raised in the afternoon. Hon. Roswell G. Horr was the speaker. He is a descendant of Dea. John

Horr of Pomfret who lived in out school district. The line of the family in Pomfret was, first, Elijah, then John then Roswell who early moved to Waitsfield where his son, the present Roswell G. Horr was born. When this son was about three years old the family went to Michigan, where this one now lives. I hope he will enjoy the day in looking over the old home of his grandparents, for I think he can feel the sacredness and worth of such a time.

Monday, August 16

In the morning I went to the depot to meet Mr. Horr before he left for Norwich. He spent much of yesterday in looking over the old house of his grandfather and father and said that he "had a magnificent time." He found much that was very interesting. Mrs. D. and Amelia went to Bridgewater to see Nettie Wiley but failed to see her as she was at Massachusetts. Paid Cushing 45 cts for pictures and Amelia paid me 40 cts. Paid French \$1.25 for team. Amelia went to Horace Dunham's.

Credits - .40

Debits - .45, 1.25

Tuesday, August 17

Went to the P.O. in the morning. Paid Richmond 28 cts for meat and Billings 11 cts. Parmley Billings came to his recitation, and concluded to let those subjects rest and he would read up some works on astronomy. He is now reading a great work on the Heavens. Mrs. D. and Amelia went to Horace Dunham's and came home at 6 o'clock. Mrs. Winslow and Anna called in the evening, also Mrs. Burnham (Lillie Densmore) and Miss Welch.

Debits - .28, .11

Wednesday, August 18

Mrs. D. and Amelia rode in the cars to Taftsville and then the old homestead of the Woods on Hartland Hill. They all had a very pleasant time and Mrs. Marcy brought them home, rather late in the evening, but the evening was pleasant and they enjoyed the ride. I think Amelia has had a pleasant visit, and will go home refreshed.

Thursday, August 19

Strong signs of rain this morning the barometer falling rapidly. Amelia starts for home this morning and we went to the depot to see that she gets her baggage checked all right. She carries a nice basket of flowers and I hope will get home safely. We are all very tired. I mailed a letter to Cassino of Boston. Paid 6 cts postage. Wrote a letter to Polk and Abbie on Cassino business, i.e. the Naturalist's Directory. Have mentioned Polk's name as engaged in Mineralogy and Numismatics.

Debits - .06

Friday, August 20

A very "muggy" morning, but a fine shower came in the latter part of the night. Mary Vose called in the morning for flowers. I went in the train to Taftsville to see Mr. Hathaway's mill and to make some suggestions about getting more water into the flume. Was too tired to write after I got home. Met Mary and Hattie Chandler in the street. Had not seen either of them for fifteen years, nearly. The evening is very pleasant and seems as though we could rest.

Saturday, August 21

Rain in the morning or latter part of the night, and the day is "muggy" and very warm. Paid Richmond 25 cts for sweet potatoes. Mortimer called in the forenoon; and in the afternoon Mr. Chamberlin and Polk came down to hear Col. Waddell's speech. The democrats are having a good time tonight, and from the reports I think it is so. Both parties are very sanguine of success, but I think only one of them will succeed.

Debits - .25

Sunday, August 22

In the morning the air was close and warm, but before noon the wind blew a fine breeze from the N.W. and the air was fresh and comfortable to breathe. This continued through the day. I took observations for the time with very good success. Besides reading I spent some time on the meteorology for August working the means and found but little difficulty in testing the results. We remained at home alone nearly through the day.

Monday, August 23

Another very warm morning, and the air is clear and the sun-light is remarkably clear and bright. Mailed letter to Franklin. Paid 6 cts postage and 15 ct to Richmond. Mr. McKenzie and company started for Saratoga. Mrs. St. John called with bill for Kimball's board, but I cannot pay his bills that he contracts. Christiana Emery came with berries and got some Siberian apples. Got Weather report for July.

Debits - .06, .15

Tuesday, August 24

An excursion to Enfield Pond is planned for today and a very full company went from this station. A company came down from our neighborhood in Pomfret, and left their horses here. They came home about half past eight o'clock in the evening. The day was very warm, the thermometer reaching full 90 degrees. It was too warm for study. – Sister Joanna concluded to remain here till tomorrow. Called on Dr. Colton in the forenoon. – Lightning in the N.E. in the evening. Gen Albert J. Myer died at Buffalo, NY.

Wednesday, August 25

The night was warm and muggy and not a good one for rest. I spent much of the time on my account with the Claremont Company. And I find some difficulty in finding all the items, that is, the original accounts. – Mortimer called late in the afternoon and Joanna went home with him.

Thursday, August 26

A slight frost this morning, and I arose quite early to take care of the garden. I paid Paul 48 cts for sugar, and Richmond 17 cts for meat and sweet potatoes, and Post Office 5 cts. I took the time in the morning and again in the afternoon, but was not satisfied with the result.

Debits - .48, .17, .05

Friday, August 27

Paid Woodruff for meat 13 cts and Abbie paid me for postage 3 cts. She came here in the forenoon for us to go home with her, but as Spenser was here and was unwell we kept her through the night, or rather, we are to have her stay till tomorrow. Spenser and I walked down to Woodruff's store, and back in the forenoon, but the heat is rather troublesome to him.

Credits - .03

Debits - .13

Saturday, August 28

Paid Paul 35 cts for tea. This is a very warm day, the thermometer rising to 90.4 degrees. It was too warm for me to work in the garden. After supper we all started for Pomfret, but soon met Fred and Spenser went with him and the rest of us went for Mr. Chamberlin's and arrived there a little before eight o'clock.

Debits - .35

Sunday, August 29

We were very tired last night and could hardly rest comfortably, and we did not start very early. Can hardly tell what I read and what I did through the day. Looked all the old town library through, but found but a few volumes of any value. There was one volume of Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations," and on reading a few sentences I found it to be a very strong work. We spent the greater part of the day in the

chamber and some in walking the fields. The day was a little rainy, but not very much fell. Mr. Hale called on the folks in the evening but I was too tired to see him and to talk with him.

Monday, August 30

We are still at Mr. Chamberlin's and Mrs. D. went with Abby to see the place and the school house and to have a short ride. Abby begins her fall term of school today and if her health is sufficient she will have a pleasant term, where I taught so long. In the afternoon we went home to Woodstock where we found all safe. Polk brought us home and Robert rode home with him.

Tuesday, August 31

A very fine morning. Paid Paul 12 cts for potatoes and paid for stamps 3 cts. Wrote a letter to Spenser. I paid barber for hair cutting 20 cts. Received a line from the Claremont Co. and they call for my account and seem to want Woodbury's and R.A. Perkins' account with me, and I must see about how those accounts are and write to them soon. I do not expect that our accounts all round are kept any too well. I know mine is not.

Debits – .12, .03, .20

Wednesday, September 1

Wrote a long letter to Mr. Hathaway on his mill repairs, and I hope they will not attempt to build any more dam. I also wrote a letter to the Claremont company on accounts, and I hope they will get the full matter settled so that I may know just what they can do with me. Mr. Wilson called here just before noon. Paid 5 cts postage. On hand 4.55.

Debits - .05

Thursday, September 2

Received of Mr. Billings eight dollars as Parmley's tuition in July and August. Paid Richmond 20 cts for meat. Sent five dollars to life association. Sent card for specimen Evening Post. Paid 15 cts for stamps. Mrs. Dunham and Carlie came here in the afternoon and left soon after six o'clock. I spent much of the day at my table on the meteorological report, and on my Claremont account. I do not yet get that arranged understandingly.

Credits – 8.00

Debits - .20, 5.00, .15

Friday, September 3

Wrote to the Claremont Co. to have them explain some items of account. Eugene Smith paid me one dollar for Straus that I lent about one year ago. Straus boards with Mrs. Bailey on High Street. Mrs. Emerson was here to dinner with her little boy Wallace. In the afternoon I ran a line for Mrs. Bailey between her house lot and Mr. Barrows' lot. Paid 13 cts for kerosene.

Credits – 1.00

Debits - .13

Saturday, September 4

A warm morning. Sent card to George F. Little of Auburn, Me, on the genealogy of the Littles. Lent 1 dollar to Henry Hutchinson and I borrowed a book of him, "The Scottish Worthies," and I wish I owned it. Mortimer called for us to go to Pomfret but we could not go.

Debits – 1.00

Sunday, September 5

Went to the P.O. at 8 o'clock and had a long talk with Mr. Green on the politics of the times. Soon after getting home Mortimer came for us and we rode to Pomfret. Spent the day there with my sisters and brother Spenser. We only needed our sister Mrs. Page to have all the living members of our father's

family present. She was in the neighborhood but did not know we were there. We remained there till evening and then rode home arriving there a little before nine o'clock. There is some pleasure in roaming about the old place where I first saw the hills and fields.

Monday, September 6

I write this with a mixed ink. Maynard & Noyes and Carter's. The mixture is a very old one, but may grow dark though now very pale. Polk came here in the forenoon and took dinner. He was down on political business. Spenser came down in the afternoon and will remain till after voting tomorrow. He seems to be gaining in health and is much better than when he was here a few weeks ago.

Tuesday, September 7

This is "the first Tuesday in September," the day of our state election, and the voters seem to be getting here in time to vote. Cousin Leland Doten called in the forenoon and it was merry to talk of olden times with him and brother Spenser. We all went to the Town Hall and I voted three times for town representative, when Justin F. McKenzie was elected. Paid Paul 15 cts for groceries, Woodruff 20 cts for graham flour, Richmond 20 cts for meat, Marcy 10 cts and Murdock 5 cts. The returns begin to come in and the look is strongly Republican.

Debits – .35, .20, .15

Wednesday, September 8

The returns this morning do not seem so strongly Republican, but I think the party will hold their own and perhaps some more. I went to the cemetery lot with Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Billings to arrange about laying out the lots on the new part of the ground. Brother Spenser went home today. I began to dig the potatoes on the east side of the garden. The ground is extremely dry.

Thursday, September 9

In the forenoon I went to the High Street to run a line for Mrs. Bailey. There was a picnic at the Quechee chasm today, a general turnout of the Good Templars. Horace and Caroline and Carlie came here and then took the train. I paid Richmond 15 cts for sweet potatoes. Dug potatoes in the garden and find a fair yield. – Received a letter from Mr. George F. Little of Auburn, Maine on the Little family in America and anything that I can give him on the subject he is anxious to get.

Debits - .15

Friday, September 10

It began to rain about ten o'clock last night and the rain has continued through the day. About three quarters of an inch of water has fallen. We finished the weather report and mailed it in the afternoon, and I have been preparing the report for the papers. Received letter and paper from Geo. F. Little of Maine on the genealogy of the Littles. Received a specimen of the N.Y. Evening Post. Paid 5 cts to Richmond & Pinney. Mr. Clarke paid me for railroad work 25 which is credited to the Company.

Credits – 25.00

Debits - .05

Saturday, September 11

In the morning I took observations for the time and had very good success for I varied in four observations only two seconds in one of them. Mortimer came in the forenoon with sister Abigail. In the afternoon we all went to see Mr. Billings' Pacific R.R. car with the produce of the lands along the line. I paid Woodruff two dollars for a bag of flour. Mrs. Simeon Dunham came here in the afternoon and staid a short time and viewed the garden, as the beauty of it is passing by. The evening was pleasant.

Debits – 2.00



Sunday, September 12

This was one of the most beautiful mornings of the year, and I went into the garden with Abby's small hoe and used it till called for breakfast. There were no clouds except some very fine cirrus clouds that formed soon after the middle of the day. Mr. Billings' railroad car is open today and the streets were very well filled with people and carriages going to the exhibition. All through the day the air has been pure and refreshing, and one could hardly bear to be confined in the house.

Monday, September 13

A foggy morning. Miss Wheeler and Miss Laura Billings called in the forenoon about lessons in Geology and Astronomy. Mailed letters to Amelia and to the Claremont Co. I wish the Claremont Co. would express themselves clearly about what they wish to do. I paid Richmond 12 cts and Paul 8. Wrote nearly all the afternoon on the genealogy of the Littles.

Debits - .20

Tuesday, September 14

Mailed letter to Vick and Mrs. D. sent for a few bulbs and I ought to send for a choice lily. My sister Matilda, Mrs. Page, came in the forenoon and Christiana made a short call with Henry one of the twins. I went to Woodruff's and paid 22 cts for meal. Maine election today and politicians are looking with much anxiety. I computed the interest on a note for Mr. Chase from the Savings bank. I spent the evening in copying meteorological reports into my record book.

Debits - .22

Wednesday, September 15

Rainy this morning and it held up a short time and Mortimer came with some wood, etc. I began to fix the Astronomical calendar for the New Hampshire Register.

Thursday, September 16

I have worked but little in the garden but have spent the greater part of the day at my table. I met Mr. A.E. Hathaway in the street. He is pleased with his success at Northampton and perhaps I shall send my watch to him sometime. I paid Richmond 20 cts for meat. White 49 cts for registers & Paul 15 cts for potatoes. Mrs. Page went home tonight. The work now is potting plants and securing roots and flowers for winter.

Debits - .20, .49, .15

Friday, September 17

Rested very well through the night. Mr. Bradford Chase called for his notes and deed on which I have been computing interest. He paid me one dollar and I sent one dollar to the Evening Post. Paid 6 cts postage. Spent much of the day in writing a letter to Geo. F. Little on the genealogy of the Littles and the Voses. Worked in the evening on the almanac.

Credits - 1.00

Debits - 1.00, .06

Saturday, September 18

Mailed letter to Geo. T. Little on the Vose family. Mortimer came in the forenoon with provisions from the old homestead. I paid Paul 59 cts for groceries. Abby came from Pomfret, and was here at supper and then went with Sarah Chamberlin to Pomfret. Christiana Emery came in the afternoon for some flower slips. Judge Barrett's men cleaned out the well, and we expect a better supply of water than we have had for some weeks past. I am very busy on the N.H. calendar.

Debits - .59

Sunday, September 19

A very pleasant morning but we did not start very early to review it. There is to be a meeting at the chapel today as Mr. Crosby begins his term as pastorate of the Universalist Society. I did not go but Mrs. D. went and thought much of the sermon from the X chapter of Acts, part of the 29<sup>th</sup> verse. "I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?" This was a good text for an independent speaker to take for his first or introductory sermon. I think he handled the subject well and took his position independently. Spent the greater part of the day at my table reading and writing. I find some very strong articles in the Princeton Review, and some of them are very good.

Monday, September 20

Paid Windsor County insurance tax of \$5.25 and School Tax of 3.29 on 1880 as assessment & list. – Miss Wheeler called to see whether I could hear Laura Billings' lessons and I consented to hear them. – In the afternoon I went with Mr. Bradley to get some woods earth, that is decayed vegetation for potting plants. After this I worked on the almanac for N.H. Spenser came here in the forenoon and remained till after dinner and seemed to get some rested before he left.

Debits – 8.54

Tuesday, September 21

I worked nearly all day about the garden and garden chores. Lent Mr. Hutchinson 40 cts for a few days. Our package came from Vick this afternoon and I paid 5 cts of the express bill above what Mrs. D. had prepared for.

Debits – .40, .05

Wednesday, September 22

Mailed N.H. calendar to Claremont and paid 6 cts for stamps. Mr. S.L. Farman has taken the publishing business for the old Claremont Company.

Debits - .06

Thursday, September 23

Wrote a long letter to Judge Bradley, who is now at Stowe, on the measurement of Mansfield. He has made a measurement by triangulation from Stowe and has made the Chin 4394 feet high. I made it 4389 feet and Prof. Gugot by a second trial 4386 feet. Paid 6 cts for stamps.

Debits – .06

Friday, September 24

Made a plan of the Parkers Gore that was set to Sherburne, for I have found it some difficult to determine much about the boundaries of that town. Spent some time in the garden on the weeds, to get them all into a pile so as to prevent the seeds getting scattered. Frost.

Saturday, September 25

Spent some time in the garden clearing the surface of weeds, so as to prevent any of them from going to seed. Paid Richmond 37 cts for fish. Corrected the meteorology of the month up to the present time, nearly. Paid Slack for kerosene 25 cts. Our Semi-weekly Evening Post comes now regularly and is the best paper we have seen.

Debits - .37, .25

Sunday, September 26

Dense fog this morning but it soon wasted away and a very pleasant day followed. Mrs. D. went to church and heard Mr. Crosby preach from 2 Tim. II: 5<sup>th</sup>, "And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned except he strive lawfully." The sermon was called a very interesting one and profitable. I remained at home and wrote and studied and thought through the forenoon.

Monday, September 27

Mailed letter to Amelia, and spent nearly all day in writing to Mr. Little of Auburn, Maine on the genealogy of the Little family. I tried to give him a full account of my mother's children and grandchildren and think it is done correctly.

Tuesday, September 28

Rainy through the latter part of the night. Barometer falling rapidly, and signs of wind and rain. The Windsor County fair begins today and a hard day for it. Mailed letters to G.T. Little and to Albert Darling. Paid 6 cts for stamps and 15 cts to Richmond. Horace Dunham came here and assisted in revising the directory for the Register. Mr. Crosby called and Mrs. Russell too. – This has been a very hard day for fair.

Debits - .06, .15

Wednesday, September 29

Spenser called in the forenoon and brought a box of honey. Fred comes with his steers to the fair. Mortimer came and we took his horse and rode to Pomfret and staid till nearly four o'clock and had a pleasant time. Polk and Abby came very soon after we left home and staid till after we came home. Paid Miss Bass 10 cts for tin.

Debits - .10

Thursday, September 30

This morning Miss Billings begins a series of recitations in Geology and Astronomy. She came at eleven o'clock and gave her first recitation. The first is very favorable and I hope they will prove so hereafter. She certainly commits a lesson very readily and perhaps will retain the truths and facts as well. Paid Paul for groceries 8 cts.

Debits - .08

Friday, October 1

In the forenoon I heard Miss Billings lessons in Geology and Astronomy. In scholarship she is different from her brother Parmley, but perhaps equally valuable as a scholar. In the afternoon I went to see Swan Dana for Spenser but did not find him. Called on Mr. White to see if his books had been sent for, and found they would come tomorrow. Spenser called in the morning with errands to Mr. Richmond's. On hand \$17.04.

Saturday, October 2

Went to the office this morning and paid 25 cts quarterly postage, and I paid Fuller for meat 22 cts, and paid Slack 10 cts for vinegar. So I have paid out 57 cts today. In the forenoon I had a long talk with Mr. H.S. Dana for Spenser and have found things very satisfactory at least they seem so. In the afternoon I called on Mr. Randall and Mr. White. Found two books that Mr. White got by mail for me. Mrs. Nathaniel Randall died this afternoon. I received a letter from Mr. George T. Little on the subject of the genealogy of the Littles in America.

Debits – .25, .22, .10

Sunday, October 3

Rested well through the night and am feeling very well this morning. The masses of reading, study and thinking that I see before me is almost troublesome, but I must not shrink from it while health permits me to do it. I began a set of miscellaneous reading in the morning and kept it up nearly through the forenoon. Mrs. D. has gone to church. She returned at 12 o'clock and had a somewhat doctrinal sermon from Mat. VII: 11. But though somewhat doctrinal it was a good discourse. The day was pleasant but our pleasant days wear much of the appearance of autumn. The autumn colors are very bright and have ripened instead of being browned by frost. They have not yet reached their brightest colors and will not for some days to come.

Monday, October 4

The barometer fell rapidly in the forenoon and we had rather high winds as the result. Mortimer came in the forenoon. Miss B's lessons begin very well this week. Brother Spenser called in the afternoon, and he seems to be much better than he was early in the summer. I paid Slack 30 cts for sugar.

Debits – .30

Tuesday, October 5

Have concluded that we can go to Franklin next Friday and we will make suitable arrangements. Called on Mr. Porter and got a ticket for Concord and Franklin. Miss Billings' lessons are going well and she is much interested in them.

Wednesday, October 6

I spent the morning preparing for the recitations that follow. Polk came in the forenoon and was in the place till night. He has a case to be heard in the Probate Court. In the afternoon I finished the meteorological report and mailed it. Also mailed a postal card to Franklin. Paid 3 cts for cards. A high or strong wind in the afternoon and the leaves are falling fast, though the colors are not yet the brightest.

Debits - .03

Thursday, October 7

Spent some time in chores about the house and door-yard. Miss Billings came to her recitations at ten o'clock. Miss Latimer called in the morning and then went to see Mrs. Dunham. They came here soon after noon and were here till past four talking about the Russ estate. I do not think they can make any arrangement that will take the business out of Mr. Miller's hands that will be satisfactory all round.

Friday, October 8

Spent much of the forenoon in getting ready to go to Franklin and we walked to the depot at half past eleven, and started at 11:40. Found Charles Fitch in the cars, and on leaving him at the Junction we received from him a very valuable present. By this we could see his kindness and feel the power of his friendship. Received 10 dollars. We took the Northern R.R train for Franklin and arrived there about three o'clock, and found Mrs. G. at the depot. Found Mr. G. much better than we expected, though some troubled in breathing.

Credits – 10.00

Saturday, October 9

Another beautiful morning but foggy till late in the morning. I took a walk to the cemetery while Mrs. D. went with Mrs. G. and Amelia to the Falls village. Paid 92 cts for stockings and trinkets. The day is one of the most beautiful known at this delightful season of the year. The forests are at their highest beauty and it is one of the most favorable years for such beauty. I went over the lot east of the cemetery lot but found no place where I could look over the Falls village. Went back to the house some tired. Dennis Chamberlin died last night. The foliage still keep bright. I record this as the brightest day.

Debits - .92

Sunday, October 10

I am sure that the day of brightest colors of the forest foliage is past for the leaves begin to show a touch of brown, though the foliage on the mountains is very beautiful. Amelia, Mrs. D. and myself took a walk on the hill west of the village. The day was delightful. The summit of the hill is nearly three hundred feet above the principal street or three hundred and fifty feet above the bed of the river. The Sanbornton ridge of mountains is in full view, and it appears as it did in 1848 when I was running the line for the track of the Bristol railroad. At that time there was no village on the east side of the Pemigewasset River, while now the greater part of village and business is there. Nearly the whole of both villages was in view from the hill where we were and the greater part of the streets traced out. We came down from the hill soon after two o'clock some tired by walking through the bushes of briars and fern.

Monday, October 11

Did not start very early this morning but soon began to make ourselves ready to start for home. Mrs. D. went with Mrs. Gookin to see Mrs. and Miss Rowell, and they had a very pleasant call. I started for the depot at a quarter before eleven and the train came at 11:10, its proper time. Had a pleasant ride home, where we arrived about three o'clock, being a little less than four hours on the road. Paid 5 cts for a paper.

Debits - .05

Tuesday, October 12

Election in Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia and the prospect is favorable for a fair day, but a sudden fall in the barometer bespoke rain and wind, both of which followed. The returns are watched with the most intense anxiety by all parties, but I do not allow myself to get interested in the elections nor in politics at all. Miss Billings renews her recitations again.

Wednesday, October 13

Some cool this morning but the wind blew some through the night and geraniums did not freeze after being protected by carpeting. I spent nearly two hours on Miss B.'s lessons and hope she understands the subjects, and I think she does. Mr. Miller called in the afternoon to arrange a settlement about some matters in the Russ estate. He left some papers for Mrs. Gookin, Mrs. Marcy, Miss Etta Latimer and Miss Angela Latimer.

Thursday, October 14

This morning I wrote a letter to the friends at Franklin, but failed to mail it in the morning so they cannot get it till tomorrow. Heard Miss B.'s lessons in the forenoon. Paid Mr. Richmond 50 cts for meat and Paul 11 cts for soap and a stamp. Horace Dunham called in the afternoon.

Debits - .50, .11

Friday, October 15

A very beautiful rainbow early this morning as it began to rain about the time of sun rising and continued till 9 o'clock or later. Worked in my room till noon, and at two o'clock Miss Billings came to her recitations and had very good lessons. In the afternoon we worked in the garden removing geraniums to the cellar and arranging them for winter. The weather was very pleasant. Paid Woodruff 13 cts for meal.

Debits - .13

Saturday, October 16

The morning was some foggy and cloudy but it soon cleared away and the forenoon was pleasant. It began to rain about noon and continued till past four o'clock. We got a horse and buggy of Mr. French and rode to Mr. Chamberlin's. We selected a box of Polk's minerals to assist Miss Billings in her geology. We started for home soon after four o'clock and came back by way of Mr. Bridge's to see Lizzie about her work at Mr. Chamberlin's and arrived home soon after six o'clock when we went to Mr. Billings' store to do errands for Abbie.

Sunday, October 17

Falling barometer with strong signs of rain this morning. It began to rain at eight o'clock this forenoon and it continued till night, and we can hardly say it has ceased since it began to rain yesterday noon. We remained in the house all day, for we found the front door locked late in the evening. I have been writing nearly all day and we have been alone except a call from Mrs. Maxham. These stormy October days are such as make home seem pleasant and cozy.

Monday, October 18

A cool October morning, and we must expect such now. Mrs. Latimer and Angela called this morning on the Mrs. Russ estate dividend. Miss Billings did not come to her recitations. Spent the forenoon at my table and the afternoon in the garden. In the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Marcy and Etta Latimer came on the

business of the Russ estate. Our geraniums are now all in the cellar for winter except what are in pots for house plants for winter blooming. Paid 15 cts for stamps.

Debits - .15

Tuesday, October 19

A very cool morning. Miss Billings was able to come to her recitations this morning. Joanna came here this morning and I hope will stay a few days for her presence seems some home like to both of us.

Wednesday, October 20

A cool morning, but I went out but little, and only made arrangement for Miss Billings' lessons. She came at ten o'clock. Received on R.R. coupon 17.50 and of Mrs. D. \$125.00 and I paid interest to Savings Bank \$18.15 and 100 of the principal on the Thompson note. Paid Paul 77 cts and George French 1 dollar for horse hire, and paid Todd for handkerchief 10 cts. Have paid at the Post Office 12 cts. Spenser called at noon. Mrs. Latimer, Miss Latimer, Mrs. Allen called in the afternoon and Mrs. Russell in the evening.

Credits – 17.50, 125.00

Debits – 118.15, .77, 1.00, .10, .12

Thursday, October 21

A very cool morning and it reminds us of winter. Went to the P.O. early and found card from Miss Latimer with directions to print note left yesterday. Miss B. came to her recitations, and is becoming much interested in them. Wrote to the Life Insurance Co. at Brattleboro. Sent six dollars as Annual dues. In the afternoon I worked in the garden cleaning the beds, etc. Mortimer came with a load of wood in the evening.

Debits - 6.00

Friday, October 22

Went to the Express office and sent cane to Mr. Gookin at Franklin and paid 25 cts express bill. Got parchment paper of Woodbury, and had it cut to fit envelopes. Mrs. D. and Joanna went to Mr. Billings' to see green house plants. In the evening I moved leaves from the road into the yard. Mrs. Bates came from South Pomfret. Hiram Vose and wife and daughter called here in the evening. Paid \$1.75 for pair slips.

Debits - .25, 1.75

Saturday, October 23

Went early up street and paid Richmond 45 cts for meat, and paid Billings 80 cts for six rolls of paper. Mr. Miller called in the afternoon to see Mrs. Bates on the business of the Russ estate. Mrs. Bates went to Horace Dunham's in the evening. Thirty seven years ago, that is Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1843, snow fell on Woodstock Green six inches deep and deeper on the hills. Much of that snow remained on the ground till the next spring. [The weather now seems like snow, i.e. like having a storm of snow.]

Debits - .45, .80

Sunday, October 24

There was a slight storm of snow at six o'clock in the morning, and it reminds us of the storm of the 23<sup>rd</sup> in 1843. There was only about one fourth of an inch of snow here but on the hills it appears as though there was one inch or more. It continued to grow cold through the day as the thermometer rose but little in the warmest part of the day. I wrote a long letter to my friend J.B. Crooker of Calmus, Clinton County, Iowa, and I read a good article on Evolution, and some in Agassiz' work on "America the Old World." His style most truly valuable, for it is simple, clear and concise, very unlike some of our modern writers. The day has been quiet and pleasant here at home for there were but few calls. Sister Joanna remained here through the day, and Mrs. Bates came in the evening.

Monday, October 25

A cool morning. Mrs. Bates remained here through the night. Miss Latimer called here in the forenoon. Mailed letter to J.B. Crooker, and sent note to N.C. Baker declining to go to Bridgewater to do surveying. Miss Billings came to her recitations with well got lessons. Mrs. Bates went home to West Fairlee and does not expect to be in Pomfret very much more at present. Joanna went home late in the afternoon, so we are alone here this evening.

Tuesday, October 26

Called on Owen Marsh to get him to assist us about papering a room. Miss Billings came to her recitation in time and her lessons are always well committed. She understands them well. I wish she had a more thorough work in her astronomy. Tenney's Geology is a good work. In the afternoon I worked on the meteorological report, and hope to have the report for October ready soon after the end of the month. The day has been some stormy and rough.

Wednesday, October 27

Went to the P.O. in the morning and tried to find Dr. Chandler, but failed to do so. Paid two cts for stove wire and fixed the pipes in the chamber to make them more safe. Miss B.'s lessons went off remarkably well. After fixing the stove pipe I worked about the door yard gathering leaves, etc.

Debits – .02

Thursday, October 28

Mr. Thompson called in the forenoon to see the description of Mr. Bragg's land taken for the railroad. – Miss Billings' lesson was in part interrupted by the business with Mr. Thompson. This morning we received postal cards from Franklin bearing the intelligence of the death of our friend D.C. Gookin. He died yesterday morning at half past six o'clock. In the afternoon Horace Dunham assisted me in setting up the line of the avenue near the Billings monument at the cemetery.

Friday, October 29

In the forenoon, Mr. Owen Marsh came to paper the kitchen, which he did very rapidly. Paid him one dollar and I paid Billings 72 cts for paper. Spencer called and spoke of his matters in the Wood estate. I lent him five dollars for a short time. Paid Fuller 25 cts for meat. Yesterday paid Slack for kerosene \$.25.

Debits – 1.00, .72, 5.00, .25, .25

Saturday, October 30

A rainy morning and the air is thick and almost foggy. Abbie came down from Pomfret. She paid me 13 cts for pencil and \$2.00 to pay to White for bill for books that will come next Wednesday. Paid 8 cts for sweet potatoes. She was here at dinner and left soon after two o'clock. Her health is very good now and her teaching seems much better for her than other kinds of work. Rainy towards night and the clouds are low and very thick and the evening must be dark.

Credits - .13

Debits - .08

Sunday, October 31

A rainy night and it continues to rain very freely this morning. I began early to correct the record of the barometer and thermometer, as this is the last day of the month, and I wish to have the report sent early. My reading has been somewhat promiscuous. I read Patterson's Roxbury sermon on the settlement and rise of Boston, and I read some of Agassiz Geological Sketches, and I think there are but very few writers or scholars that can write more forcibly or more deeply.

Monday, November 1

Finished the last sheets of the meteorology for October. Miss Billings came to her lesson in time. Mortimer came with wood. Mrs. Emery called at noon, and there were some other calls soon after. Cousin

Leland Doten called in the afternoon, and seems quite well for one of his age. He was seventy six the 30<sup>th</sup> day of last May. Brought forward \$30.20.

Tuesday, November 2

Presidential Election. – A pleasant morning. Paid for vinegar 7 cts. The day passed off very quietly though there were over seven hundred votes cast. Brother Spencer came here from Pomfret and was here to dinner, and to vote for electors of President. Got a business letter from Abby for books and other things.

Debits - .07

Wednesday, November 3

The night was very quiet though it was the night after the election. This is Mrs. Doton's birth day and she goes to Horace Dunham's to see her sister Caroline, and it is one of the most pleasant days of the season. Miss Billings' recitations were somewhat interesting as the subjects are more so. Brother Spencer went home in the afternoon with Mortimer who came with wood. In the evening there was a torch-light procession in honor of the result of the election. A very splendid affair.

Thursday, November 4

Rested very well through the night. Horace Dunham called this morning on town line matters. I sent a proof sheet of the Woodstock Directory to the publisher of the Vt. Register. Paid Richmond and Pinney 45 cts for fish, and 1 ct postage. Miss Billings called soon after ten o'clock wishing to be excused from her recitation today. Polk came from Pomfret and was here to dinner. Mr. Chamberlin came and I had a talk with him about Bank stock., etc. Began to bank the east side of the house in the afternoon.

Debits - .46

Friday, November 5

It began to rain near midnight and continued through the day. Rested some but not as well as I should like, as I was too tired last night. Miss Billings came to her recitations with good lessons. After finishing her lessons I began on the meteorology and found the means, and the winds and storms. Worked a short time fixing the stairs to the barn and arranged them more to my mind. Robert called in the evening. The rain continues.

Saturday, November 6

Two tenths of an inch of rain fell last night. Horace Dunham called in the morning for papers to send to Montpelier. Finished and mailed the meteorological report for October. Paid postage 3 cts, Paul 51 cts and Slack for sugar and lamp fixings 53 cts. Carlie Dunham came here at noon. Spent a part of the afternoon in writing on town line survey. Mortimer called in the afternoon and Robert in the evening.

Debits – .54, .53

Sunday, November 7

The wind began to blow soon after midnight, and some rain fell before that time. Soon after eight o'clock, I went to the Brick Church to see the process of winding the clock. Have spent much of the time at my writing table, but have tried to rest through the day. Horace Dunham called in the evening for papers to send to Mr. Paul or Mr. McKenzie at Montpelier. Mrs. Russell called in the evening. We did not attend church for the day was windy and rough. I have not yet heard Mr. Crosby but Mrs. D. has heard him frequently. I hope he will find the society an agreeable one for him and for his family, when he has one, as I think he intends to have one early in December.

Monday, November 8

The strong wind continues this morning, but at 9 o'clock it became very pleasant, and it continued so through the day and evening. Miss Billings came promptly with good lessons. Self worked about the house and garden. Put on our false windows though the day is extremely pleasant. Polk and Abby came down towards night, and will remain through the night. In the evening they worked on their lyceum paper that is to be read tomorrow evening. Paid Woodruff eleven cts for meal. Paid 10 cts for figs.



Debits – .11, .10

Tuesday, November 9

Polk and Abby left for home about ten o'clock and Miss Billings came to her recitations. I expected to go to Hartland and got myself in readiness, but was not called for, but am to go Thursday. I spent the greater part of the day in banking the house and in clearing the door yard. Robert came in the evening with his prepared leaves. Miss Latimer called with flowers from Mrs. Billings. This afternoon I trimmed the jasmine and found it had been neglected too long. Many of the branches had died out and the whole is very much reduced.

Wednesday, November 10

A still morning and a remarkably pleasant day. Paid five cts for paper and fifteen cts to Richmond for meat. Miss Billings came to her recitations and they were very clearly expressed. In the afternoon I worked around the house banking the cistern and gathering in the leaves. Miss Latimer called in the afternoon, and Carlie called in the evening. Mr. Chamberlin called and Robert in the evening. The sky is now (9 p.m.) obscured by clouds and there are strong signs of storm.

Debits - .05, .15

Thursday, November 11

Rainy this morning, and I cannot expect to be called for to go to Hartland. The day was very rainy and we hope that wells and springs may be filled. Mrs. D.'s work today is house-cleaning and preparing her apple sauce, and the work is very hard but she has so far had good success.

Friday, November 12

Partially clear early this morning and Mr. Bement came at 9 o'clock to go to Hartland to survey the Cutts road. Some rainy while we were on the road, but it soon broke away and the day was not very rough. We made the survey without any assistance and finished it before three o'clock. Our ride home was rather rough as the wind blew fearfully. Am some tired, but have stood the work very well. The great violinist Edouard Remenyi is at the town hall this evening. Polk and Abby have come to hear him. Mrs. D. went with them by invitation.

Saturday, November 13

Went to the Probate or County Clerk's office to find copy of the road survey made long ago near Judge Cutts' place in Hartland, but failed to find it. Polk and Abby staid here till late in the afternoon. Miss Latimer came in the afternoon and again in the evening. Finished clearing the leaves from the east door-yard. Received for sage 10 cts of Abby. Paid Billings \$2.50 for undershirts, and Prior \$1.40 for felt shoes. Robert called in the evening and Miss Latimer for the night. Ora Paul called in the evening.

Credits – .10

Debits – 2.50, 1.40

Sunday, November 14

A cool morning but very clear and the day seems very beautiful for so late in November. Miss Latimer staid here last night and went to church in the forenoon. We remained at home as usual and tried to rest. In the afternoon I wrote some on the surveys that I must send to Ludlow in the morning. I went to the post office early in the morning but found no one there. The evening is not cold but is pleasant, yet not very clear. I came home and finished out this diary for the day.

Monday, November 15

Cool, the ground some frozen. I went to Paul's office to see him on the subject of the road survey, and then, mailed it to Mr. Walker of Ludlow. Also mailed letter to Mr. Blood of Windsor and one to Amelia at Franklin. Paid 9 cts postage and paid Richmond and Pinney 17 cts for potatoes and 25 cts for meat. Had a conversation with Mr. Clarke about making a report of the condition of the railroad track.

Debits - .09, .17, .25

Tuesday, November 16

Mr. Porter called on railroad matters and I must go down the line and see the track as it is, especially where they have been filling the spaces where the trestle work is put in and still used. Miss Billings came earnestly to her recitation. Miss Wilder of Hartland called in the afternoon. I paid Woodruff eleven cts for rye meal. Tried to write in the afternoon but made slow progress.

Debits - .11

Wednesday, November 17

A chilly November morning with those heavy clouds that are frequent at this season of the year. Miss Billings came to her recitations. Miss Latimer about noon and Mrs. D. went to South Pomfret with her in the afternoon to assist her in getting her things together in readiness to start for Atlantic City.

Thursday, November 18

Sudden fall of the barometer and strong signs of rain or snow. Horace called to go down the line of the railroad. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Clarke called on the subject of the Champion road crossing that was fixed in 1868 and agreed upon by the selectmen of Hartford. Miss Billings was here though we were some interrupted. Miss Latimer started at 4 o'clock for Atlantic City, N.J. – Elmer Emery and a Mr. Wyman called to have a writing made on a trade that they had made. I paid Richmond 15 cts and Paul 35 cts for potatoes and tea. Emery paid me 25 cts for the writing.

Credits - .25

Debits – .50

Friday, November 19

Horace Dunham called in the morning, and soon returned and Mrs. Dunham came soon after and staid through the afternoon, and Carlie called in the evening. – Polk and Abby came some before noon and they left about four o'clock. I received the Naturalists Directory from Cassino, a very beautiful copy. Miss Billings did not come to her recitation, but I saw her mother who said she was not able to come. Saw Mr. Henry Hewitt. Orland Thompson paid me 25 cts for fixing line.

Saturday, November 20

Was called for to go to the Fuller place to run a line but could not go. It began to snow about eight o'clock in the forenoon and the storm increased till night. I spent much of the time in copying meteorological matters into a book for preservation. In the afternoon I went to the office and to the groceries and paid Slack 25 cts for kerosene and Wilson 10 cts. The snow storm ended about eight o'clock in the evening when 9.3 inches had fallen, and it made 0.62 inches of water.

Debits - .35

Sunday, November 21

This morning we began the work of shoveling snow and clearing the roofs. The snow is very light and the wind is stirring it about some. It is really the first winter day and is a foretaste of what is to come. I here try a steel 352 Gillott's pen, for no pen seems to suit me this morning. There were squalls of snow soon after noon, and the day is very rough for the first winter day. The wind came to the Northwest and the temperature fell rapidly. The evening is rough with bleak wind. Robert called in the early part of the evening and Mrs. D. called on Miss Richmond. We have closed all the blinds this evening and the house is warm and pleasant. I have been writing the greater part of the evening.

Monday, November 22

A rough night and a very cold morning, though not like mid-winter, nor so cold as we have often had in the month. Miss Billings came to her recitations. Mortimer came with wood and took a part of his load of provender left here a few days ago. In the afternoon I went to the P.O. Sent \$1.50 to S.E. Cassino of Boston for Not. Directory. Postage and order 16 cts. Paid Fuller 41 cts for meat. The evening is cold and still, but I hope not so cold as last evening.

Debits – 1.50, .16, .41

Tuesday, November 23

Cold! Ther. minus 16.3 at 7 in the morning. Paid Slack 20 cts for sugar, and I took of Abby's wallet \$1.40 and paid Miss McCollum 1.40. Spencer called in the afternoon and Mortimer came with wood. The sleighing is good for light travel and light loads, but the strong and harsh winds make the being out some unpleasant. Mrs. D. went to Miss McCollum's and to Mr. Billings' in the early evening and found the weather very cold.

Credits – 1.40

Debits - .20, 1.40

Wednesday, November 24

Another cold morning and the change of wind indicates another storm. Henry Greene called to get the meteorology for the week and I gave him the coldest days in November for the last thirteen years. Miss Billings came promptly to her recitations. Polk and Abby came in the forenoon and remained till late in the afternoon. The evening is some warmer. Robert came in and spoke of the prospect of the building of the Railroad to Rutland.

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving day in the United States and in many of the states. The morning is pleasant. Ther. 20 above zero. Had a very pleasant call in the morning from my young friend Parmley Billings who is a member of the Freshman class of Williams College, Williamstown, Mass. Mortimer called for us at eleven o'clock and we rode to Pomfret, and remained there till evening when he took us home where we found everything safe but the house cold. Found a card from Miss Latimer who is now at Atlantic City in New Jersey.

Friday, November 26

A cool night but a pleasant morning. We rested well through the night yet are some tired and jaded from our ride to Pomfret yesterday. Received a bundle of books from Dr. Paddock who is now at Bethel and I suppose is teaching. He seems to have been some disturbed at some of Abby's letters. Miss Billings did not come to her lessons this afternoon. In the afternoon Mortimer came with a load of wood, and the shed seems to be filling up some.

Saturday, November 27

Another cold morning. Ther. minus 15.5 degrees. Sent letter to Edward Doten, and an order to Claremont for 200 Vt Registers, and 10 N.H. copies. I went to the post office and called at White's and in the street had a long chat with Dr. Chandler. Spent much of the day at my table on meteorological records. Called on Mr. Randall and tried his new pens, Mabie, Todd & Co. make. They are superior pens. Mortimer came with another load of wood. Paid Chapman 25 cts for Sulphite of Lime and I put about one third of a package in a 20 gallon cask of cider.

Debits - .25

Sunday, November 28

The morning is not so cold, yet the thermometer stands only seven degrees above zero. We staid at home through the day and tried to rest yet read and wrote nearly all the time possible. I read a biographical note of Andrews Norton and also one of Prof. John Farrar. These men lived about the same time and were both connected with Harvard University but how different were they in their temperaments and lives. The day has been cool and cloudy and having all the appearance of an approaching storm. I have written some on meteorological matters, and must fix up something for Dr. Chandler. We have been alone through the day and no one has called upon us, and we can realize that our home is a pleasant one.

Monday, November 29

This is my "birth day" and am seventy one years old, and the day has been very pleasant, and so has been my pleasant home. We have been alone nearly through the day. Miss Billings came to her

recitations and she improves in her capacity in comprehending and judging of the depth and worth of the subject of her lessons. Lizzie Bridge called in the afternoon with errands for Abbie, who is to begin her winter term of school today in the Dana or Hewitt district where I taught so long.

Tuesday, November 30

Cloudy but not stormy, yet there would be strong signs of storm if the barometer was not rising very steadily. Miss B. came to her recitations and the subject was truly elevating and good. I made my account against Mr. Billings and left it at the store. It was \$2.50 for work on the cemetery and \$17.50 for tuition. Mrs. D. went to Billings' store and paid 8.66 for goods. I received a letter from Edward and he needs some help about his ice house and filling it.

Debits – 8.66

Wednesday, December 1

It began to snow this morning as early as 4 o'clock and has continued through the day. Eight and a half inches of snow had fallen before night, and may still continue. Miss Billings came to her recitations as usual and finishes her Geology, and perhaps will take up Philosophy. In the afternoon I worked on the snow breaking the paths and clearing the roofs. Robert called in the evening to get the rainfall for the last ten years. Brought forward 12.19.

Thursday, December 2

The morning was some warmer and the storm ended before seven o'clock. I shoveled snow till breakfast time and then rested till time for Miss B.'s lessons that came just before ten o'clock. She has just begun to examine sidereal astronomy; and it is truly refreshing to go over these subjects again, and it carries me back to my former school and teaching days. The day has been clear and beautiful, yet cold. Mortimer came in the afternoon. We paid 85 cts to the Misses McCollum.

Debits - .85

Friday, December 3

A very beautiful morning with a cool north wind. Miss Billings came to her recitation and has now but one, and that is astronomy, and is getting the constellations. Received of Mr. Billings 20 dollars and paid John S. Eaton \$3.95 for Kimball Perkins. Spencer paid me 5 dollars that he borrowed of me Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. Sister Electa came here in the afternoon. We tried to take an observation for the time but the wind was too strong. I paid Abby's wallet 1.40 for borrowed Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Received a letter from Henry Vail. Paid Woodruff 2 dollars for flour.

Credits – 20.00, 5.00

Debits – 3.95, 1.40, 2.00

Saturday, December 4

Went to the P.O. in the morning and called on Judge Barrett and H.S. Dana for Spencer. Paid George Paul 40 cts for groceries. Electa staid through the night and Spencer came this forenoon and Polk and Abby about the same time, and they remained till towards night, though Spencer left soon after noon. I do not receive the books spoken of in Henry Vail's letter, but perhaps all is right and safe.

Debits – .40

Sunday, December 5

A storm of rain, hail and snow began about 7 o'clock and is a very chilly storm from the southwest, and it continued through the day changing to rain in the middle of the day. I have read but very little today though I have tried but cannot arouse much energy about it.

Monday, December 6

Finished the meteorological report and mailed it soon after noon. Miss B. came to her recitation, and is now on the constellations. Polk came to attend court that sits tomorrow. Paid 20 cts for stamps. Received a bundle of books from my friend Henry Vail who is now in the Van Antwerp book firm in Cincinnati.

Debits - .20

Tuesday, December 7

This is very fine winter weather for the season. The County Court sits today, but there is no chief Judge and Judge Pingrey presides. Miss Billings does not come to her recitation. Joanna and Mortimer came in the forenoon, and were here till past two o'clock. Brother Spencer came here in the afternoon and will stay with us a few days. The middle of the day was some warm but the night was colder.

Wednesday, December 8

This is a cool morning, ther. minus 7.2 degrees. We get along nicely with court matters, etc. Miss B. came to her recitations. The court makes hard work getting along without a chief Judge as no one has come, and those here have adjourned over to Monday. Polk went home this afternoon, and I received a letter from Abby soon after. Robert has been in this evening. The evening was colder and the thermometer fell rapidly.

Thursday, December 9

Cold! Ther. minus 19. Mrs. Latimer called in the forenoon, also Arthur Kueans of Hartland. Miss B. came with the closing lesson on the constellations. Brother Spencer took money and sent to Edward in Springfield, Mass. To apply to a note that he holds against us.

Friday, December 10

The weather seems very chilly, but the thermometer does not get very low. Miss B.'s lessons on double stars, etc. Her lessons now are very rich and interesting. Brother S. is here and I gave him a note to show his advance to Edward. Horace and Mrs. Dunham came here in the afternoon to meet Judge Miller on the Russ estate. I got paper for Abbie of Townsend. The evening is severely sharp and cold.

Saturday, December 11

Thermometer 19 degrees below zero. Brother S. paid me \$2.50 and I indorsed five dollars on his note. So we now are equal as to the money hired at the bank. I gave him a note of \$150 to be paid in three months, which goes to the bank at that time. I have paid Slack 43 cts and Richmond 18 cts and Fuller 5 cts. The weather is some warmer this evening and the night I hope will be some more comfortable. I mailed a letter to Amelia at Franklin, and we had not heard from her or the folks for two weeks.

Credits - 2.50

Debits - .43, .23

Sunday, December 12

Cloudy with the appearance of storm. It is some time since I tried this ink, and I wish to give it a fair chance. Brother S. is here now and is getting along very well, at least he appears so. I have tried to rest me some through the day and have read or written but little. I must send a letter to the Universalist Quarterly and pay for the present volume, which is the thirty seventh I think, and I have taken it from the first. Mr. Streeter recommended it to me and I have taken it till now, but I have some thought of stopping it at the end of the year. I wish to take the American Journal of Science, but it costs about six dollars a year, and that is some for these times. I shall put this aside and try to get rested for the lessons and the work tomorrow.

Monday, December 13

Some snow this morning, and it must have begun by three o'clock or before. Miss Billings came to her lesson in time and it was an interesting lesson. Her views of the stellar worlds are remarkably good and rich for one of her age. Fred called, and Mortimer called in the evening. Paid 30 cts for sugar at Paul's. Polk came down from Pomfret to attend court, though there is no chief Judge yet.

Debits - .30

Tuesday, December 14

Weather some warmer. Mr. Porter called to have me take notes for a report of the railroad work and earnings. Miss B. came to her recitations. Brother S. and self received letters from Edward at Springfield, Mass., and it seems that he is going ahead with his ice building and business. – I paid barber 20 cts for hair cutting. Very strong signs of rain this afternoon. Paid \$3.00 to the Universalist Quarterly.

Debits – .20, 3.00

Wednesday, December 15

Nearly six inches of snow this morning and it takes some shoveling for the snow is very heavy. Miss Billings came to her recitations. Mrs. D. went in the afternoon to the funeral of Mrs. Middleton. It is at the chapel and Mr. Simmons the Spiritualist will speak. Mortimer came with meat, etc. Fred came with his colt that he got for his steers by paying some dollars difference.

Thursday, December 16

The court has adjourned till the 28<sup>th</sup>. They then hope to have a chief Judge. Miss Billings has today finished her two subjects, Astronomy and Geology, and I am to give her a certificate that she has finished those studies according to the required course at Andover. In the afternoon, Judge Taft came to continue the court, but it was adjourned to the 28<sup>th</sup>. I paid Geo. Paul 35 cts for tea.

Debits - .35

Friday, December 17

The weather is some cooler but it does not seem like an increasing cold. I hope our cold waves will be favorable though a Vt. Winter may be expected. Miss Billings' lessons have closed and it seems like a closed term of school. Polk finished his business at court and left for home this afternoon. After the train came in I went to the depot to copy some facts from the accounts of the company, so as to make a report for the directors.

Saturday, December 18

Spent some of the forenoon in fixing lamp and shade. Paid Jones 35 cts for a shade, and I think it will work well. The village seems to be full of people from the surrounding country preparing for Christmas. Paid Paul 10 cts for lamp frame and Townsend 10 cts for Carter's Record ink. Mr. F.N. Billings wished me to write to Jean Jaques Rousseau Randall of Rutland to get a copy of the Rutland and Woodstock R.R. Survey, and I hope something will revive that line.

Debits - .35, .10, .10

Sunday, December 19

I have spent the day in my room and have hardly been out of the house. Brother Spencer has been here with us and the day has gone pleasantly. Mrs. D. went to church in the forenoon and heard Mr. Crosby from John VIII: 7<sup>th</sup> "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." The sermon was pronounced to be a good one and the speaker is making a very good impression on his hearers. I have tried to write to Henry Vail in answer to his of the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. I spent some time on the school books that he has sent me. It makes almost a decent Library to arrange them together. The day has been chilly, seeming to be cold but the thermometer does not indicate it.

Monday, December 20

A very chilly day but the thermometer does not get very low. Brother Spencer is here yet but he may leave tomorrow as his folks may come home at that time. They have now been gone nearly two weeks and the time seems long to him and Fred. It is now Christmas week and the people are looking out for Christmas presents for the needy and their own friends. How the festival is heeded more than formerly.

Tuesday, December 21

Mailed a letter to our friends at Franklin, N.H. and tried to do some writing on other matters but could not write easily. Fred called in the forenoon and expects his wife in the afternoon. Spencer has now been here two weeks and I think he is as well as when he came here. He left ten cts to pay postage should I wish to write to him on matters resting with Judge Barrett. Mary came in the cars and Fred met her and all went home. I have been alone writing some this evening, but we are quite pleasantly situated.

Debits – .10

Wednesday, December 22

The morning is clear and the wind is still in the north though there are some appearances of its changing to S.W. but it did not change but it became a little cooler towards night. It seemed quite strange to us for we were here alone through the day except a call from Lizzie Bridge in the afternoon. We received a letter from Amelia at Franklin and wrote a reply to send tomorrow. I am at work on a report on the railroad to be printed early in January or before new years.

Thursday, December 23

In the morning I made an addition to our letter to Amelia and concluded to mail it early this forenoon as she is to be married this evening. Mrs. Marcy rode up in the cars from Taftsville, and concluded to look over the "Christmas gifts and play-things, Dry raisins, figs and such," and go back at four o'clock this afternoon. Polk came down from Pomfret and was here till towards night. I have not written very much on my report. This forenoon I got the Weather report for November. Paid Billings for clock 1.60.

Debits – 1.60

Friday, December 24

Cloudy and chilly. Ther. minus 9. Called on Mr. Porter at the depot on the report of the R.R. directors. Called at the post office paid 9 cts for stamps and paid Paul for groceries 42 cts. I have spent some time in planning the railroad report for the directors, but shall hardly get a very good one, for there is not much to report. The road has been managed about as usual, and the business has increased slowly. We are here at home alone this evening. We did not wish to attend any of the Christmas gatherings this evening.

Debits - .09, .42

Saturday, December 25

Mrs. Maxham called in the morning to have me write to A.E. Perkins for the money bequeathed to her mother. Laura Barrett called to speak of her Christmas presents. Abbie came from Pomfret and staid here till past three o'clock in the afternoon. Mortimer came from the old homestead. We staid at home through the day and I worked on reports, etc. – Paid Paul for groceries 57 cts. – Miss Marcy called in the afternoon.

Debits - .57

Sunday, December 26

The cloudy weather continues and it is not extremely cold. The temperature is up some but the barometer is falling slowly, seeming to be preparing for a storm. I took a good breakfast and soon after seated myself at my table for writing. Mrs. D. went to church and heard Mr. Crosby from John I: 4. "In him was life; and the life was the light of men." This was a Christmas sermon and was a very good one. I have written much of the day and some of it was business writing. The day has not been very cool, and the wind has been from the northeast. – Robert called a few minutes in the evening and it is the only call we have had through the day.

Monday, December 27

Not very cold but wind north or nearly so. I began early to work on the R.R. report but did but little writing till afternoon. Paid Paul 23 cts for soap. – Mr. Porter called in the evening to leave a railroad report of the

expenses and income of the road. He also spoke of the report I am making out and gave some assurance of the correctness of the numbers that I had given.

Debits – .23

Tuesday, December 28

Saw Mr. Porter again this morning on the subject of the railroad report. Paid Slack 25 cts for kerosene, and I paid stranger 5 cts for silver earth. I wrote much of the time through the day, and have felt very well. Lent scale and protractor to Mr. Davis of Windsor.

Debits – .25, .05

Wednesday, December 29

Mr. Pratt came and made suggestions about the R.R. report and was here till about noon. Polk came in the forenoon and left for home in the evening. The registers came from Claremont in the afternoon and I carried 25 to each of the bookstores. I continued the work on the report but progressed but slowly. In the evening I worked on the Registers fixing the fly or single leaf. Mrs. Russell and her sister Mrs. Howe called here in the evening.

Thursday, December 30

Cold, this morning. I immediately carried 75 more Registers to Townsend and 25 more to White. I paid 30 cts as express bill on registers, and White paid me 15 cts as share of express, and I paid him 34 cts for Nov. Princeton Review. In the afternoon, Mr. Pratt called again to talk on report. I called at the depot to get numbers from Mr. Porter's report of the income of the road. Polk came down in the afternoon and is here in the evening. Mr. Tabor called in the evening to show books, etc. Mr. French paid 15 cts for register.

Credits - .15, .15

Debits - .30, .34

Friday, December 31

This morning I finished the railroad report and sent it to Mr. Dewey after comparing it with some of Mr. Porter's records. Gave four registers to Mr. Billings. Gave two to Gov. Converse and two to Swan Dana, and sent one to sister Abigail. I was out this forenoon and met Mr. Crosby in the street. I was very glad to meet him and find him so much improved, but still his health is not fully restored. Cousin Leland Doton called here this afternoon. I received a note from our aunt Sarah H.M. Vaughan of Spring Prairie, Wisconsin. Polk Chamberlin is here and Robert Perkins called in the evening.



## People

Frank Noble Billings was a dealer in groceries and dry goods. He operated the Jones & Billings store in Woodstock from 1854 until it was destroyed by fire in 1860. He opened a new store in the Woodstock's Phoenix Block and operated it until 1894. His son Franklin S. Billings was governor of Vermont from 1925-1927.

Frederick H. Billings was a lawyer and financier who first became successful in California at the time of the gold rush. Billings was a millionaire by age thirty through legal fees, business investments, and real estate. In 1869, Billings bought the former home of Charles Marsh in Woodstock and implemented new methods of farming and conservation. He was a major investor in the Northern Pacific Railway and served on the board when the railroad completed its line from Minnesota to Seattle, WA in 1883. Billings was involved in civic and charitable activities until suffering a stroke in 1889. He died the following year.

Norman Bridge lived on Cloudland Road near the Doton homestead. He was a gifted but sickly young man who studied science and music though confined to bed. Hosea often called on him on Sundays to check on his health and to write for him. Norman composed several poems that Hosea submitted to publishers. He died in 1860 at age thirty eight.

James Knox Polk Chamberlin was a student of Hosea Doton and married his daughter, Abbie, in 1867. He was an attorney with an office in the Phoenix Block in Woodstock.

Captain Seth Conant was a neighbor of Hosea Doton on Cloudland Road in Pomfret.

Rev. O.K. Crosby was the preacher for the Woodstock Universalist Society in 1880. He was the father of Ward Crosby who was a student of Hosea Doton prior to being hired as a surveyor by the Eastern Railroad in 1880.

Henry Swan Dana was born in Woodstock in 1828. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1849 and became a teacher. He published an account of Woodstock's first meeting house in the *Vermont Standard* and was encouraged to write a history of the town by his schoolmate Frederick Billings. Dana's *History of Woodstock, Vermont* was published in 1888 with funding from Mr. Billings.

Abigail Everts Doten was a sister of Hosea Doton. She was born in 1817 and died on October 5, 1900.

Electa Doten was a sister of Hosea Doton. She was born in Pomfret in 1813. She married Henry Leach on January 23, 1873. She died on September 21, 1898 and was buried in North Bridgewater, VT.

Joanna Doten was a sister of Hosea Doton. She was born in Pomfret, in 1823 and died in 1908.

Louisa Doten was a sister of Hosea Doton. She was born in Pomfret, on October 19, 1819. She married Henry Leach on September 5, 1865. She died February 28, 1871 and was buried in North Bridgewater, VT.

Sorell, Franklin, and Orlando Doten were sons of Isaac and Rosilla Doten of Barnard, and cousins of Hosea Doton.

Abbie Doton was the daughter of Hosea Doton and his first wife, Lois Paddock Doton. She married James Knox Polk Chamberlin. Abbie was a teacher who became the first librarian at the Abbott Memorial Library in Pomfret. Hosea sometimes spells her name Abby and this diary preserves both spellings.

Julia Elvira Doton was the third wife of Hosea Doton. She was born in Hartland, VT in 1840 and died in Woodstock in 1910. Her sister, Caroline Dunham, was married to Horace F. Dunham. Caroline was ill during her last three years and died in 1903 at her sister's home.

Spenser Doten was Hosea Doton's brother. He was born in Pomfret in 1811 and died there in 1891. Spenser spelled his name Doten as did Hosea Doton's sisters. Hosea sometimes spells his name Spencer and this diary preserves both spellings.

Horace F. Dunham was the brother of Simeon C. Dunham and the husband of Elvira Doton's sister Caroline. He was a surveyor who worked with Hosea Doton on the Woodstock Railroad.

Simeon C. Dunham was the brother of Horace F. Dunham. He was a businessman and community leader in Woodstock.

Amelia Gookin was the daughter of Elvira Doton's sister Abby Dennison Wood and her husband David Carter Gookin. Amelia lived with Hosea Doton and his wife Elvira during the 1872 school year and graduated from Woodstock High School in 1874.

William Henry Harrison, known as "Old Tip" became President of the United States on March 4, 1841. He died thirty-one days after his inauguration.

Zerviah Harvey was the wife of Nathan Harvey and sister of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois.

Frank Hatch was president of the Windsor County Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Felicia Hemans was an English poet. Hosea Doton bought books of her poems for his daughter Abba, and Hosea framed a portrait of Mrs. Hemans done by Caroline Wyatt, which was presented to the Abbott Library in Pomfret in 1909.

Delia Hewitt was the daughter of William R. Hewitt. She was a longtime teacher in Woodstock.

Elisha Hewitt was born in Pomfret, VT in 1805. He passed his early life on a farm and went to Plymouth, MA to read theology in 1827. He was ordained in the Universalist Church in Plymouth, and preached in Hanson, MA until 1870 when he was elected to the Massachusetts Legislature. In 1872, he accepted a call to Woodstock where he preached for seven years before retiring in Massachusetts. He preached frequently in Vermont before his death in 1897.

Etta Latimer (1851-1914) was a frequent visitor of Hosea and Elvira Doton. She married William E. Jordan in 1881.

She was a lecturer and writer who published *Life and Thought; or Cherished Memorials of the late Julia A. Parker Dyson* in 1857, *Idyls of Gettysburg* in 1872, and *The Beautiful* in 1885. She conducted the Young Ladies Literary Institute in Woodstock in 1859 and 1860. She was the sister of Mrs. Marcy of Taftsville who was also a friend of Hosea and Elvira Doton.

Henry W. Leach married Hosea Doton's sister Louisa in 1865 after his first wife died. Louisa died in February 1871 and Henry married Electa Doten, sister of Louisa and Hosea, on September 5, 1873. Henry, Louisa, and Electa are buried in North Bridgewater Cemetery.

F.D. Maurice was an English theologian, professor, and proponent of Christian socialism. He wrote nearly forty books with a focus on the poor and working classes.

John Paddock was the father of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois Paddock.

John Paddock Jr. was the brother of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois Paddock. He was a peddler who sold goods from a wagon. Hosea made coffins for two of his children who died in 1842.

Lucy Vaughan Paddock was the mother of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois Paddock. Hosea refers to her as Mother Paddock.

Henry L. Page was the husband of Hosea Doton's sister, Sarah.

Kimball Perkins was the son of Nelson Perkins and Lucy Paddock Perkins. He was the nephew of Hosea Doton who served as his guardian after Kimball was declared non compos mentis.

Patience Paddock Perkins was the wife of Alva. C. Perkins and sister of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois. Her son Robert A. Perkins founded the Woodstock Post in 1872.

Lucy Paddock Perkins was the wife of Nelson Perkins and sister of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois Paddock Doton.

Nelson Perkins was the husband of Lucy Paddock, sister of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois. He was the brother of Alva. C. Perkins.

Norman C. Perkins, son of A.C. Perkins, was a student of Hosea Doton who attended Yale and became editor of the Yale Review, which is America's oldest literary magazine. Norman and Hosea corresponded for years.

Robert A. Perkins, son of A.C. Perkins, founded the Otta-Quechee Post in 1871 and served as editor and publisher. The name was changed to the Woodstock Post in 1872 and it was published until 1875.

Lewis Pratt Jr. owned a bookstore in Woodstock where Hosea Doton had an office for surveying and engineering. He founded the Vermont Temperance Standard in 1853 and managed it until 1854. The name was changed to the Vermont Standard in 1857.

O.L. Richmond was a dealer in beef, pork, lard, mutton, poultry, tripe, sausages, candles and all kinds of provisions usually kept in a country market. Old Stand, Central Street, Woodstock.

Mortimer Spears was a farmer in Pomfret who was unmarried, enjoyed reading, and became a friend of the Doton family. When Joanna Doton died in 1908, she passed the family homestead on Cloudland Road to Mortimer in her will.

Samuel Thomson was a proponent of herbal medical practices in the early 1800s. Joseph Vose was the brother of Hosea Doton's mother, Elizabeth Doton.

Otis Winn was the father of Spenser Doton's wife Charlotte. He sometimes worked for Spenser and Hosea Doton.

H.L. Williams M.D. operated Williams Dental Rooms in the Stone Block on Elm Street in Woodstock.

## Glossary

Azimuth – One of two coordinates, in addition to altitude, used by an observer to chart the position of a celestial object in relation to a fixed position, usually true north. Hosea Doton calculated the azimuth of the North Star, which varies from 002° to 358° during the year.

Bay rum – a mixture of bay leaves and rum used as a cologne or after shave.

Bemired – Covered with mud.

Book slates – Two pieces of slate that can be written on and erased, hinged with a cloth binding.

Boot gore – A lining inserted into boots to make them more comfortable.

Cambric – A light cotton fabric.

Chaise – A carriage for one or two people, sometimes with a folding top.

Cock – A stack of hay or grain.

Court plaster – An adhesive plaster used to cover small blemishes and scrapes. Sometimes made of silk and coated with glycerine.

Cutter – a light sleigh with a single seat and usually pulled by a single horse.

Declamation – An artistic form of speaking or recitation.

Dock root – Yellow dock is an herb used to improve digestion.

Equation of time - The equation of time describes the discrepancy between apparent solar time and mean solar time. The equation of time values for each day of the year were often reported in almanacs.

Firkin – Container of something such as butter that holds about nine imperial gallons,

Froward – Willful or disobedient.

Grapery – An area or building where grapes are grown.

Helve – The handle of an ax or hammer.

Ladies Repository – A monthly publication of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the nineteenth century devoted to literature, art, and religion.

Mensuration – The use of geometry to measure areas or volumes.

Parhelion - An atmospheric optical phenomenon that consists of a bright spot to one or both sides of the Sun.

Parley's Magazine – A publication for children and youth issued from 1833 to 1844.

Pent road – A road that may be closed by a gate or bar.

Quire – A measurement for sheets of handmade paper. Formerly twenty-four sheets.

Salerates – Bicarbonate of soda used to help bread and cakes rise.

Sector – A tool used for measurements and calculations. Sometimes called a *proportional compass*.

Sere – Withered, as in sere leaves.

Shoat – A young pig, especially one that is newly weaned.

Sled rave – Runner for a logging sled.

Southing of the moon – When the moon appears to the south of an observer.

Swill – Liquid food for animals.

Taking the time – In the 1800s, towns would set clocks at noon when the sun reached its highest point in the sky.

Thill – Either of the pair of shafts from the front of a carriage or sleigh between which a draft animal is harnessed.

Thralldom – State of bondage or slavery.

Transit – A telescope with a level used by surveyors to lay out roads and building foundations.

Vendue – A public sale or auction.

White lead – A mineral that was mixed with water for use as paint.

Winnow – To remove chaff from a grain or other crop.