



## Hosea Doton's Journal, 1885

Transcribed by Scott Fletcher



## Preface

In the last full year of his life, Hosea Doton lived with his wife Elvira in a home at 34 Pleasant Street in Woodstock, VT that they purchased in 1874. The property extended east to the Ottaquechee River and was large enough for a barn and a sizable garden. The site is now the parking lot for the Ottaquechee Health Center.

During the year, Hosea continued to make meteorological reports for the U.S. Signal Service in Washington, the New England Meteorological Society, and local newspapers. He also continued to provide astronomical data for use in Vermont and New Hampshire almanacs published by the White River Paper Company of White River Junction.

Hosea also did extensive surveying and mapping for Frederick Billings. He drew maps of the Billings' property, computed the acreage of its various plots, helped set boundaries, and laid out new pipes for an aqueduct bringing water to horse and cattle barns.

He noted the inauguration of President Grover Cleveland on March 4, 1885 and the death of President Ulysses Grant on July 23. Many of his entries record unusual changes in the weather from day to day as well as extremes in temperature and rainfall. He marveled at vivid sunrises and sunsets with the hope that scientists would someday discover their origin. He reported the arrival of songbirds in the spring and described brilliant fall foliage.

On Friday, December 4, Hosea wrote that he was "quite unwell" and his wife called Dr. Logan who visited the house twice that day. On Tuesday, December 8, Hosea made his last diary entry. He mentioned cheerfully that he received "remarkably good" letters from his friend Rev. L.H. Tabor of Bryant's Pond, Maine and from his daughter Abba.

On December 9, Elvira Doton recorded a payment of fifty cents to Mr. Dunbar the handyman. She continued to note expenses into the new year but some days are blank. When Hosea died on Sunday, January 17, his diary fell silent.

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.



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



## 1885

Thursday, January 1

A warm morning to begin a new year, the ther. registering +52 degrees, but the sky is nearly obscured by clouds. Received a beautiful present from Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marsh, and I put it to immediate use. - Miss Laura Billings called and presented two calendars for our daily use. It began to snow lightly at 10 a.m., but it could hardly be called a snow storm. About half an inch fell in the evening. Mr. Billings sent the 40 dollars that I called for yesterday. Fifty was what I wished, 10 of which I got about the middle of last month. Herman Dunham came in the afternoon but remained only a short time. He has taken a severe cold as well as myself. Paid 10 cts P.O. box rent and 6 cts for stamps. We received a package from Franklin, N.H. by express. Cash on hand 52.88.

Credits – 40.00

Debits - .16

Friday, January 2

Colder this morning. Ther. only 1 degree above zero. I wrote a letter in reply to our package from Franklin and mailed it this forenoon. Paid 20 dollars to Mr. Hazen towards the lead pipe I got there last fall, and I paid 20 cts to Freeman for soap, and 6 cts postage. Miss Billings called on Mrs. Doton late in the afternoon, and they had a very social visit. She delights in walking about the neighborhood even if it is rather cold. The thermometer is now falling quite rapidly and will be at least 12 or 15 degrees below zero in the morning.

Debits – 20.00, .20, .06

Saturday, January 3

Thermometer -16 degrees and the air is such that it seems very chilly. Herman Dunham called this morning but he is nearly sick with a cold. These sudden changes in the weather are very unhealthy, and colds are very common. – Mr. Chamberlin's team came into the yard and they sent to us some apples and potatoes, which are very necessary things at this time. I paid Mortimer Spear \$15.00 towards wood that he is to draw for me, and I paid Dr. Logan \$25.00 on our account. Received of Burdette 45 cts for N.H. Registers.

Credits - .45

Debits – 15.00, 25.00

Sunday, January 4

A chilly though pleasant morning and I took the forenoon for rest, but we have many chores that must be done on Sundays as well as any other days; and after these were done, and the house was still we rested quietly what we could. Miss Richmond came in the forenoon, and rested a few minutes. Her care for her invalid sister is very hard at this season of the year, for she must keep the house warm which is almost impossible for her. Early in the afternoon I took a short rest, and soon after dinner we were left alone for a short time and Ferris Vaughan called and we had not seen him for a long time. – Early in the evening we had a very pleasant call from Mrs. F.N. Billings and her son Franklin and Misses Laura and Mary Billings, and it was a ray of golden sunshine that fell upon us, for they were, all of them, social and intelligent and the moments were rich with a high-toned merriment, free from all affectation; and it is seldom that we meet with so much of good sound common sense.

Monday, January 5

I spent much of the forenoon in my room on the drawing, and in the afternoon I went with Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Williams to the Library building and I got my certificate of membership or right to take books from it according to the conditions expressed. A very rich and valuable Library will be there in time. This has been a remarkably pleasant day, but late in the evening though the stars were visible, there was a deep haze that bespoke a storm.

Tuesday, January 6

I awoke this morning quite early and found the rain falling copiously, and it must have begun as early as three o'clock and it continued nearly through the day. I spent much of the day on an article for the Standard on the changeableness of the weather through the month of December, and I went with it to the office in the afternoon. I paid Jones 30 cts for yarn and silk.

Debits - .30

Wednesday, January 7

Slightly rainy and very icy and slippery making it dangerous walking. Dunbar came to saw wood. I went to the bank and paid for R.A. Perkins 10 cts of the 60 cts that was still in my hands and renewed his note, reducing it to \$200.00 and paying interest for three months from the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December last, and I still have 50 cts of his in my hands to pay in at the next renewal of his note. The present note is payable March 14-17<sup>th</sup>. I paid Paul 15 cents for crackers. Our friend Rush Barrett called this forenoon, and we had a rich visit, and we are always glad to meet members of Judge Barrett's family, for we lived by them here for about ten years and they were very pleasant and happy years.

Debits - .10, .15

Thursday, January 8

This morning I went to the Post Office and paid 10 cts for stamps and mailed Registers to Norman C. Perkins and one to Prof. Safford of Williams College. I paid 35 cts for sugar. Mr. White succeeded in getting the illustrated copy of "Greenland's Icy Mountains," and it seems to me that it can hardly be exceeded in beauty or in pure spiritual power. There a perihelion of grand-grandeur in that Hymn of Bishop Helen. I rode to Taftsville on the train and had a pleasant visit. We had a pleasant call from Mr. and Mrs. Tillotson and the call was one that we felt much anxiety. I paid Dunbar 1 dollar for sawing wood.

Debits - .10, .35, 1.00

Friday, January 9

I went to Library building and gave my name as guarantor for Ferris R. Vaughan, and he will read some of the best books in the library. I find young Norman Williams to be a worthy son of Norman Williams senior; and how they are doing to elevate the people of Woodstock, especially the young people. I paid 50 cts for lard at Richmond's. Paid 10 cts for stamps. Sent two dollars to Mead & Vickery publishers of the Banner. Sister Joanna came from Pomfret yesterday and remained till this evening when Mortimer Spear came for her. We are here alone this evening.

Debits - .50, .10, 2.00

Saturday, January 10

A cooler morning with rapidly rising Barometer and some light squalls of snow, about half an inch in the whole. Dunbar came to split the wood that he sawed Thursday, and I paid him 25 cts. I went to Dr. Logan's office, but he will call on us soon and perhaps make some changes in his prescriptions. Paid Paul 20 cts for kerosene. I mailed a N.H. Register to Mrs. Sarah Doton Goldsmith of Lowell, Mass. and a Vt Register to Miss E. Latimer of Smithville, Burlington Co., N.J.

Debits - .25, .20

Sunday, January 11

A cool night and cool this morning, and as the weather has been this winter we may expect higher temperatures before tomorrow. What sudden changes and they seem to continue with some increase. I have been at my table the greater part of the forenoon, copying and filling out the meteorological report. We fitted and prepared a book for mailing, and must mail it tomorrow. In the afternoon Fred Chapman called and Ferris Vaughan and were very interesting on the matters of the Williams Library, etc. We are now taking the Banner now published by Mead and Vickery, Augusta, Maine, and we regard it as a very superior paper; a pure and elevating sheet. I wish I could take the Christian Register. In the evening at 7

o'clock it began to rain or snow very lightly. In the evening Mr. Foster called to get me to compute the contents of a pile of wood, which was 11 feet 7 inches long 3 feet 9 inches wide and 2 feet 7 inches high.

Monday, January 12

We mailed the book that we had prepared to send to Miss Billings. The rain was falling very fast in the night and is falling fast this morning, and at 9 o'clock there was 0.56 inch in the gauge and the rain continues. I paid 9 cts postage, and I paid Miss Marcy five dollars for the two weeks work closed this evening. As she is to go away before many weeks, we will look out for someone to take her place. The roads now are covered by a very smooth and compact ice, and it is very dangerous walking about the streets. The afternoon has been growing cooler and it may freeze before tomorrow.

Debits - .09, 5.00

Tuesday, January 13

This morning after putting things in order at home, I went to the post office and the bank. The annual meeting of the stock holders is today, and Wm. English and myself were the inspectors of the election. The old board of Directors were chosen for the year. Received of the bank five dollars. I received a letter and paper from Mrs. Sarah Doton Goldsmith of Lowell, Mass. She is very lame and goes with crutches, and gets about her house but very little. Received the bank dividend of 6 dollars. This afternoon I mailed Register to Rev. R.A. Greene and a letter to Mrs. Sarah Doton Goldsmith of Lowell, Mass. Mrs. Danforth called on Mrs. Doton this evening, a pleasant call to both. I have paid recently 12 cts postage.

Credits - 5.00, 6.00

Debits - .12

Wednesday, January 14

After doing the chores and the work I went to the depot for the time. Mr. Bailey of the train gets it every few days. It is sent from Cambridge. I paid 20 cts for steak at Richmond's. Got a paper from the Standard office to send to Prof. Upton of Providence, R.I. giving the meteorology of December. I received from him the November Meteorological Bulletin. Mailed the article on the sudden changes in the weather the past year and especially at the close or near it. Miss Mellish called this evening. The air was very clear and the stars shone with remarkable brilliancy. Paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar for milk tickets. Prof. Benjamin Silliman died Wednesday eve, January 14 at New Haven, Conn.

Debits - .20, 1.00

Thursday, January 15

Densely cloudy with S.W. wind, and it began to snow at eight o'clock. The storm continued till about four inches of snow had fallen. I spent much of the time in preparing the sheets for transferring the plans that I had spent so much of my time in drawing and perfecting, and I shall try to enlarge the sheets. I have laid out the pages three by five decimeters, increasing the size about two centimeters each way. Paid Chapman 18 cts for soap.

Debits - .18

Friday, January 16

The snow continues very lightly, and I have hardly shoveled it at all. Sent \$10.05 to Insurance Co. to pay assessment. Paid fee and postage 16 cts and 2 cts. Paid Marble for G. flour 1.00 & Corn meal 50 cts. The snow has been falling through the day and is now (9:30 p.m.) almost rain, but if the snow should continue it must make the best of sleighing. Abby sent to me by Mortimer Spear 65 cts to pay George Paul for a wash bowl. I called and paid him for it 60 cts and I now have the balance. We received a letter from Miss Laura Billings, in reply to a book that Mrs. Doton and myself sent her. I carried 3½ dozen eggs to Paul at 20 cts per dozen.

Debits - 10.05, .16, 1.50

Saturday, January 17

Hail, snow and rain through the night and very low barometer this morning. It has fallen three fourths of an inch since 9 o'clock last night. The Sons (of Temperance) Hall was burned about midnight last night, and the air was so still that no fire caught on either side of it. Today the wind has been very high, as the barometer indicated this morning. I have done some shoveling today, but the storm was such that not much was necessary. Mrs. Southgate called this afternoon and has not been here before for a long time. I paid Paul 8 cts for egg glass.

Debits - .08

Sunday, January 18

The morning was clear and cool. Ther. at 7 a.m. but one degree above zero, and it fell to one below zero a little later. I spent the greater part of the forenoon in chores about the house and barn. We were here alone in the forenoon, and again in the afternoon when Miss Marcy went home to South Woodstock and will not probably be at her place there till late in the evening. It is pleasant to be here alone, and if Mrs. D. gets able to do our own necessary work about the house we should be delighted again. Today we have been alone from friendly neighborhood calls, for the walking has been slippery and unsafe.

Monday, January 19

This forenoon the thermometer registered minus 2 degrees though it was but 1 degree below at 7 a.m. Surface wind southwest through the day but the clouds were from the N.W. Mrs. Marcy came on the train from Taftsville and was in the place till the afternoon left for the Junction. She took a card for getting books at the Norman Williams Public Library, and I became guarantor for her. I also became surety for Ferris R. Vaughan. I received a letter from my friend Henry H. Vail and one from the agent of the White River Paper Co. containing a check on the Newbury Bank for twenty five dollars. This I will get cashed tomorrow.

Debits - .25

Tuesday, January 20

Went to the bank with the check from the White River Paper Co. and got \$25.00 as the balance for the almanac computations for 1885. I paid Collins 21 cts for fish and 75 cts that I had taken some days ago. I worked on my drawing table and began to form the margin on the Whatman paper. We were somewhat alone through the day. Mortimer called about noon.

Credits - 25.00

Debits - .21, .75

Wednesday, January 21

A cooler morning. Ther. registered minus 11 degrees which seems very cold after so many warmer days. I paid Richmond 50 cts for the meat left yesterday. Wrote to the White River Paper Company acknowledging the receipt of the check and speaking of the continuance of the Registers for 1886. I also sent a letter to James Vick the florist, in reply to a letter and circular that we received from him a few days ago. I sent 10 cts for the floral guide. This afternoon I received two books from my friend Henry H. Vail of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Debits - .50, .10

Thursday, January 22

Cold! The thermometer registered minus 17 degrees and the wind was high from the West and Southwest and it is called one of the coldest days for being out exposed to the wind and the rough going. It was hard work to keep warm and to keep the house warm. The thermometer was minus 8 at two o'clock, and I do not know of its being any higher during the day. The mean temperature of the day was minus 13.85 degrees, a cold day surely. Mrs. Doton received a present from Miss Laura Billings by express. A rich pair of worsted slippers of her own hand work. I paid 14 cts for stamps and 10 cts at Paul's.



Debits - .24

Friday, January 23

Still colder!! Ther minus 24 degrees and this is cold enough but not as they have it in Dakota and Montana minus 55 and a piercing wind. It has been about all I could do to keep warm, but the wind last evening was from the S.E. and so again early this morning; but it is now strictly N. with clouds from the N.W. I paid F. Smith 75 cts for rubbers that I bought of him early in the winter.

Debits – .75

Saturday, January 24

Snow began at about 3 a.m. and the storm continued till night when full 6½ inches of snow had fallen, making 0.59 of an inch of water. I kept the house till nearly night and then only went to the post office. I paid 20 cts for soap at Freeman's.

Debits - .20

Sunday, January 25

A very soft and mild morning and the wind is southwesterly. Mrs. S.J. Marcy came up from Taftsville to stay with us while he went to church and Mrs. M. and Mrs. D. had a very pleasant time in talking over their pleasant hours, and it does both of them much good to have a good social chat. I finished up the Meteorological Record to last night and find we have had some rain and some cold weather since the month began. We were here alone in the afternoon and had a very pleasant time, as Mrs. D. was feeling some better than usual. In the evening Miss Marcy came back with Emma and Carlie Dunham with her and they made a pleasant evening call. The evening though some cloudy was mild and pleasant.

Monday, January 26

Some cooler; Ther. 11 degrees with barometer low and falling. I arose this morning determined to go on with my work that I have on hand, but one duty after another presented itself, and my work is hardly begun. Mortimer Spear called to renew his note at the bank and I paid him 76 cts as my part of the interest for a renewal of six months. Mrs. Latimer called, and in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Billings, the Marcy folks called. I paid Smith \$1.65 for overshoes, and paid Paul 13 cts for crackers. Paid Miss Marcy 5 dollars for work.

Debits - .76, 1.65, .13, 5.00

Tuesday, January 27

Cool. Thermometer minus 3 degrees, so it keeps a little cool. The wind was N.W. a short time this forenoon but it will hurry to the S.W. – Polk came down to the agricultural meeting, and was here to dinner. He seemed much better than he was a few weeks ago. He had prepared an essay that he read before the meeting this afternoon, but I did not hear it. The subject was Meteorological signs and sayings. The subject was a good one.

Wednesday, January 28

Found eight inches of snow and the storm progressing rapidly. This gives us an opportunity to use our shovels. The storm continued till night when one foot of snow had fallen making 0.76 of water. The storm is a very cold one. Minus 3 in the morning and but little above zero any time in the day. We received "Vick's Floral Guide" from Rochester N.Y., a very fine No. The old firm continues apparently as well as in the days of the father. Paid Freeman 20 cts for door knob, & 10 cts for soda. The day has been rough and the evening some boisterous. The snow must be badly drifted on the hills.

Debits - .30

Thursday, January 29

Cold again. Ther. minus 28 with wind from the N.W. and cold. I spent the greater part of the forenoon shoveling. One foot of snow makes some shoveling, but the snow being drifted makes it much worse. In

the afternoon I went to the Post Office as usual, where I am very apt to meet friends and have a few short chats. The bookstore and the post office are places where we meet intelligent friends. I paid White six cents for a crayon to mark the bulletin board. Mrs. Dunham and Carlie called in the evening, and had not been here for a very long time.

Debits – 0.06

Friday, January 30

Ther. minus 2 degrees very nearly, and we have some few signs of another snow storm, and there was perhaps one inch of snow in the afternoon. I began to prepare a set of pages to compute interest on ten notes for Capt. George B. French, and I suppose they are matters of Gov. Converse's. Mr. Bell and Miss Marcy have gone to a Masonic hall at Hartford. Mrs. L.J.M. Marcy called in the early evening. She had just come from Dr. William's office where she had been to get a set of teeth, that he had been fitting for her.

Saturday, January 31

Ther. minus 9 degrees, and when the wind is in a southerly direction it seems some cold. Mr. Spear brought a load of wood and in the afternoon Mr. Dunbar sawed and split it. I paid him one dollar to get a saw. I paid Colling 24 cts for meat and paid Richmond 43 cts. Zenas Sanders of West Windsor died Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. He was for some time in a litigated case with Nehemiah Parker.

Debits – 1.00, .24, .43

Sunday, February 1

Another snow storm, a light one, is in progress this morning. It continued to snow lightly through the day and at night there had fallen about three and a half inches. I finished up the meteorological record for January and found the mean temperature a little above the mean of the month in the past eighteen years. There have been five storms of rain or snow during the month making about four and a half inches of water and 28.9 inches of snow. I ought to have written three or four letters today, but my friends must wait a short time longer.

Monday, February 2

Candlemas day – and how many couplets and maxims have been made on this day, and some of these can be found in the weather proverbs that have recently been collected by the Signal Service reporters. I spent much of the day on the notes of George B. French. They are some of Governor Converse's property I suppose. These ten of them are covered by indorsements, that is, a few of them are overpaid as it appears. Paid Mr. Hewitt 1 dollar for milk tickets.

Debits – 1.00

Tuesday, February 3

Another cold wave! Ther. minus 38 at about 7 o'clock in the morning, and that is the lowest that it has been since 1878. Beginning with 1872 there were four years in succession where the ther. ran at or below minus 38, that is -41.5, -38, -41, and -39.5. Those were cold times. I worked on the notes again today and find it a long and critical work. Received Report of Chief Signal Office for 1883.

Wednesday, February 4

Another cold morning. Ther. minus 26 degrees. But at 7 o'clock it had risen to minus 7 degrees and it continued to rise till night when it was 10 degrees above zero. I paid Jones for worsted 25 cts and paid Billings \$2.50 for drawers. These very cold mornings are not such as promote good health. We had a visit from Mr. O. Bill as his company was away till about eight o'clock. We had a present of a bushel of very nice potatoes. It began to snow about six p.m. and lasted till nearly midnight when nine tenths of an inch had fallen making eight hundredths of an inch of water.

Debits - .25, 2.50

Thursday, February 5

Warmer but we rested rather badly for the house was shut rather close. I have sawed some wood but Dunbar came and sawed a part of what we have on hand. Mailed letter to Signal Service on receipt of Report of Signal Office for 1883.

Debits - .03

Friday, February 6

A pleasant morning with a prospect of a spring-like day. Mrs. Doton proposes to ride to Mr. Dunham's and I got Mr. French to go with his coach before going to the train at eleven o'clock. She rode very easily with a careful driver, and much more easily than she could with a lighter carriage. I rode out and took dinner with Horace Dunham's folks, and it is more than a year since we were there, and how rapidly time moves. Mrs. D. came home about four o'clock; all very pleasantly done. I paid Woodruff one dollar for feed for the horses.

Debits - 1.00

Saturday, February 7

Cold! Ther. minus 24 degrees. Willie Richmond called and I paid him for James W. Hazen \$4.50 which is the balance for the lead pipe that I got last fall for the old place at Pomfret. I paid Collins for meat, etc. 54 cts. Dunbar finished sawing the load of wood that Spear drew a few days ago, and I paid him 25 cts. Received Langley's Report on the absorption of Solar heat. It came from the Signal Service Department.

Debits - 4.50, .54, .25

Sunday, February 8

Ther. one degree above zero. It began to snow at 6:30 this morning, and at times it seemed as though there was a full storm in prospect, but it continued to snow, very lightly at times, till night when only about an inch had fallen. The rain gauge was fitted to get all the storm so it can be measured. I have prepared the report of the month of January for the Standard, but cannot be very full with it. The weather has seemed to be growing warmer since morning, but is still quite sharp this evening. This has seemed to be a very chilly day for the air has been damp and cool. We have been alone here the greater part of the day; and if Mrs. D. could be well we should enjoy ourselves very much. But she can read but very little, and I have too much of writing and study to attend to make the time pass very merrily.

Monday, February 9

Mailed papers and a letter to the Signal Services, etc. Carried kettle to tin shop and paid Hazen 12 cts. In the afternoon made a survey for Mr. Chapman on Savings Bank land. It began to snow soon after two o'clock and the storm increased till night. Paid Miss Marcy 5 dollars for two weeks work ending tonight. In the evening the storm changed to hail and full three inches fell. I rolled off the house and formed a row like a windrow, a perfect bank of hail.

Debits - .12, 5.00

Tuesday, February 10

There were about three inches of clear hail on the ground and it was almost impossible to shovel it. The storm changed to rain and the amount of rain, melted snow and hail made 1.42 inches of water. I made a mail description for Mr. Porter and he paid me a dollar. Paid Paul 15 cts for kerosene.

Credits - 1.00

Debits - .15

Wednesday, February 11

Our rain and thaw has closed with a freeze and high wind. This very high wind answers the very low barometer of yesterday. It fell nearly three fourths of an inch yesterday morning and it seemed to bespeak

a hard storm and a high wind, and we have had both. I finished the meteorological report and mailed it for Washington. I made a survey bill for Mr. Chapman and he paid me half a dollar, all I would take.

Credits - .50

Thursday, February 12

I spent much of the day on the interest question for Mr. G.B. French and have nearly finished it. It was a long job. Polk came down from Pomfret in the cold, cold for him, and he returned in the afternoon. This is sister Matilda's birth day and she is 77 years old, and I wrote to her a long letter this evening and shall mail it in the morning. Paid postage 7 cts. Mortimer came with a load of wood. Mr. and Mrs. Leach came home from their visit to Massachusetts this afternoon. Paid Paul 15 cts for kerosene.

Debits - .15

Friday, February 13

Dunbar sawed my load of wood this morning. Mailed letter to sister Matilda this morning and papers to Franklin and to Rutland. Mortimer called with a pail of butter. I have just finished the Converse notes and find the amount due much more than others were expecting. I carried the result to Mr. French who has the care of it and it was sent to the man who gave the notes. I paid Paul 36 cts for groceries and paid rare coins 20 cts.

Debits - .36, .20

Saturday, February 14

Ther. minus 17 degrees, but it is not rough or stormy. Paid Collins for meat 89 cts and I lent or overpaid Dunbar 25 cts. Mr. Colston called for Miss Marcy and she is away this afternoon and tonight. I called at N. Paul's office and had a very interesting chat with him on schools and school laws, and on the gores on the south and east of Sherburne. Received a letter from Franklin, N.H. and it is pleasant to hear from Mrs. Doton's sister and all the friends there. I also received the December Weather Review, and a pamphlet from Milwaukee, a bulletin of their Museum. A paper devoted to Natural Science. Carlie Dunham came late in the evening and will remain through the night.

Debits - .89, .25

Sunday, February 15

This is a spring-like morning and is about the first that has shown itself this winter. The air is clear and is sufficiently warm to melt the snow on the south side of the buildings. Carlie Dunham remained through the greater part of the day, and she and her aunt had a remarkably pleasant visit. I kept my pen going the greater part of the time. Much of my writing is keeping copies of the records of surveys and notes on meteorological matters. There is a question whether it is a proper and true way to spend Sunday in writing and what seems intended to improve and instruct, elevate man, for much of my time is spent that way.

Monday, February 16

A very fine storm of snow and it has increased through the day, and at night the storm had become very severe. It became one of the most severe blizzards of the season. I received a letter from Prof. Upton of Providence, and he calls for a set of reports of meteorological observations, and I wish to help build up that New England Society. The storm continues with a good deal of severity, and it makes home seem truly pleasant.

Tuesday, February 17

We are astonished to find nearly a foot of snow fallen in the night and the doors all banked up, so that I could hardly get out of the house. But I had but little trouble making the fires, but the shoveling was the hardest that I have known for a long time. The train was very much obstructed. The storm has caused much delay of teams and mails. A Univ Festival at the Town Hall this evening, and we staid at home cosily and alone. The thermometer is falling rapidly.

Wednesday, February 18

Thermometer minus 10 degrees at 7 a.m. & Reg. minus 19.5. Stratus clouds with south wind, a very rapid fall in the night, but we cannot tell at what time. I went to the Post Office in the forenoon and found the bulletin from Prof. Upton of Providence, R.I. In the afternoon I shoveled snow from the walks and they began to look better. That storm of hail was a very hard one for it froze up so very hard. Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk \$1.00.

Debits – 1.00

Thursday, February 19

Another cold morning. Ther. minus 18 degrees and what a time since January 18<sup>th</sup> when the change of weather came. I paid Billings 88 cts for cotton cloth & crush, and I paid Dunbar 8 cts on his work on the wood and shoveling snow. Mortimer came with a load of wood and I sent a long letter to Abby, one that I wrote this forenoon. Dunbar and his boy came in the afternoon to saw wood, and Mortimer came in the afternoon. Received a letter from Susie Leonard who is now in South Boston.

Debits – .88, .08

Friday, February 20

Very cold. Ther. minus 26 degrees with a keen sharp air that makes it very uncomfortable being out. This is a cold winter! The great lakes are frozen over and roads are blockaded. I did chores about the house and worked on the meteorological reports in my room. Paid Billings \$1.62 for a bag of flour. In the evening I wrote on a letter to Rev. L.H. Tabor of Bryant's Pond Oxford Co. Maine. I received a letter from him about two months ago and have not found time to answer it. Mortimer came with a full load of wood.

Debits – 1.62

Saturday, February 21

Warmer. Ther plus 13 degrees almost 40 degrees higher than it was yesterday, which is another case of changeable weather. Paid Paul 10 cts for Siddall's soap and I paid Dunbar 50 cts for work. Mr. Moore set the town clock this afternoon. It is now 20 seconds faster than my watch. This is a mild Saturday and the people will come in to talk over the business of the day, the cold weather, etc. I received 20 cts of the coin box to pay Dunbar. He has been sawing wood this forenoon. Paid Paul 10 cts for soap.

Credits - .20

Debits - .50, .10

Sunday, February 22

There is now a few days of warmer weather. The thermometer reads plus 13 degrees which feels more comfortable than 25 or 30 degrees below zero. Emma Dunham came here last evening and staid with Emma Marcy through the night, and they went to hear Mr. Tillotson preach a sermon alluding strongly to the birth of Washington, as this is the anniversary of his birth day. That is a good subject for a minister to take to reach the minds and hearts of his hearers. It is often necessary for a speaker to take some such subject in order to make the matter plain to those to whom he speaks. We are alone here this afternoon and I must say that it is very pleasant. The weather is not very cold and we have taken a little time to rest.

Monday, February 23

The cold came down upon us in the night and this morning the ther. registered minus 16 degrees and was just beginning to rise at 7 o'clock. But there was a very sharp air through the day. Mr. Thompson brought two bushels of potatoes and I paid him one dollar for them. Borrowed 1 dollar of Miss Marcy. Paid Miss Marcy 5 dollars for the two weeks work, and we still owe her the 1 dollar. I went to the depot and got the time of Mr. Porter, and found my watch right very nearly.

Credits – 1.00

Debits – 1.00, 5.00

Tuesday, February 24

The cold continues and now minus 21 degrees is reached this morning. I wrote on the almanac for 1886 through the forenoon. This begins my 44<sup>th</sup> Calendar and yet it seems but a short time since I began the first one 44 years ago. In the afternoon I had a visit from my very excellent young friend Dana Bugbee. He taught a school in Orford, N.H. fifteen weeks this winter and with very good success. He is a pure minded young man and I hope he will have good success in keeping his mind and head free and elevated. Keep the thoughts pure and the whole soul will be right.

Wednesday, February 25

A bright and pleasant morning, the ther. being minus 2 degrees, which is much warmer than it has been for a few days past. Mrs. D. concluded to go see her sister Caroline (Mrs. Horace Dunham) We were called for at a quarter before eleven o'clock, that is 10:45, and we had a pleasant ride, and a very pleasant visit. I came home at 2:15 p.m. and they brought Mrs. Doton home soon after four o'clock. I think the visit is well for her, and she does not get so very tired. Took 25 cts from the safe and paid to Dunbar towards his work.

Credits - .25

Debits - .25

Thursday, February 26

A cold morning. Ther. minus 15 degrees and minus 13 at 7 o'clock. Wrote out the article on the eclipses of 1886, and must push the almanac as fast as possible. Mortimer brought another cord of wood that makes about five cords that he has drawn this winter, and I expect he will draw a few more cords. I think Mrs. Doton's visit and the ride yesterday did well for her, and she seems some better than before. This evening Mr. Justin Dartt the State Superintendent of Education speaks at the town hall on the town system of schools.

Friday, February 27

Five degrees below zero in the morning but some warm in the middle of the day. Dunbar sawed wood here. Got 8 cts from the coin box and paid Dunbar 8 cts toward his work. Polk came down from Pomfret with Mr. Mayo; and Abby finished her school in Dist. No. 2 Pomfret for the winter.

Credits - .08

Debits - .08

Saturday, February 28

The weather is warmer and at six a.m. it began to snow slightly, but there was not enough to measure. The rest of the day was cloudy but warm, and it has seemed like spring. Paid Miss Marcy \$1.00 borrowed last Monday. Paid Dunbar \$1.00 towards his work and Collins 45 cts for meat. Mrs. Farnam and Miss Cobb called in the afternoon.

Debits – 1.00, 1.00, .45

Sunday, March 1

A slight storm of snow or rain this forenoon, but it broke away in the middle of the day, though it was so warm that the snow melted on the roof of the house and the water ran into the lower rooms rather freely. We hope the thaw will melt away these barriers of ice that turn the water into the shingles or under them. We were here alone the greater part of the day till late in the evening. Cash brought forward 6.05.

Monday, March 2

The weather still continues to be warm, but the water does not now run into the lower rooms of the house. In the morning I went to the block and paid Freeman 25 cts for box of pills for Abby, and 5 cts for postage stamps. This forenoon I received 25 dollars of Mr. Billings, and I must turn my thoughts more to his maps. Spent much of my time on the weather reports. Sent one to Prof. Upton of Providence. Received a letter from Robert Perkins. Sent weather report to him for the Herald.

Credits – 25.00  
Debits - .25, .05

Tuesday, March 3

Sent \$10.05 to Life Insurance office. Paid post fee 10 cts. This is Town Meeting day but I may not go. – I went to see the Town Hall and to the P.O. and received a letter from Franklin, N.H. Paid Freeman for soda 10 cts. The vote on the town system of schools is expected to call out some feeling, for there are a few that are very anxious for it, but I hope the districts will fit themselves for supporting the district system with credit to themselves and to the advantage of the children. The vote in this town does not show the town system much favor. About 28 in favor and 248 against it. These are not the exact numbers.

Debits – 10.05, .10, .10

Wednesday, March 4

A very light snow early this morning and it has continued through the day. Temperature warm but not yet enough so to rain. I wrote a long letter to Prof. Upton of Providence, R.I. on meteorological matters and instruments, and have mailed it this afternoon. I paid 20 cts for postage stamps. President Cleveland is inaugurated today and as he is elected I hope he will be a peoples president and not the president of a party.

Debits - .20

Thursday, March 5

A warm and cloudy morning with very light snow. Paid Billings 10 cts for thread. Paid Paul 10 cts for table salt. Paid Dunbar one dollar for work. In the afternoon I worked on the drawing sheets and must keep at it till the maps are done. Must get some inks from Philadelphia to make the different subjects more distinct.

Debits – .10, .10, 1.00

Friday, March 6

Could hardly get myself comfortable this morning, and did not try to work much in the forenoon except chores. Received a paper from Robert, the Rutland Herald. He is now concerned in the management of it. I have seldom seen a copy of that paper, but I believe it to be a very good paper. Have had a very uncomfortable day, but am some better this afternoon.

Saturday, March 7

Thermometer only 5 degrees above zero and was 8 degrees above at 7 o'clock. I am much better than I was yesterday, but can hardly find time to enter into any very deep study. Paid Collins for meat 50 cents. Paid Mr. Hewitt 1 dollar for milk and for an orange for Abigail 5 cts. In the morning I paid Mr. Hewitt 1 dollar for milk tickets. I met Mr. G.B. French and had a talk with him about the interest I computed for Governor Converse, and I think he will see that it is paid.

Debits - .50, 1.00, .05, 1.00

Sunday, March 8

Sister Joanna is spending the day with us and it seems very pleasant to have her here with us. It seems a long time since she was here before. The day is rather cool with N.W. wind, and there was a slight storm this morning leaving nearly one inch of snow on the surface of the roads and walks. So far I have read but little but have been writing a letter to our cousin Mrs. Goldsmith of Lowell, Mass. Mr. Tillotson preached a sermon on revivals this forenoon from the III Chapter of Habakkuk 1<sup>st</sup> verse. "Oh Lord, revive thy work." I did not hear the sermon and we have not been to church for the last year, for I have not been able and Mrs. Doton could not leave her room long enough to hear a single church service. In the evening, Misses Carlie & Emma Dunham called to see sister Joanna. The weather is now growing colder and I think will be below zero in the morning.

Monday, March 9

Cold: Ther. minus 13 degrees. Reg. minus 15 degrees. We did not begin the week very favorably, for I was too unwell to add many smiling cheers to the household and we were all too unwell to make a cold day very pleasant. Sister Joanna went home in the afternoon. I went up street and did errands at Paul's. Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Southgate called and so did Miss Richmond who has a severe time of it to care for her sick sister at home.

Tuesday, March 10

Thermometer 20 degrees above zero this morning, 33 degrees higher than it was 24 hours ago. Spent some time on the meteorological work to work out the proofs. I paid Miss Marcy the five dollars for the last two weeks work. Wrote a long letter to Mrs. Page in reply to one received from her a few days ago, and I wrote a long one to sister Joanna. Have felt some better than for the past few days.

Debits – 5.00

Wednesday, March 11

Cold again. Ther. minus 4 degrees, which is 24 degrees lower than it was yesterday morning. After doing the necessary chores about the house I began to work on the plans and surveys for Mr. Billings, and only stopped to rest a short time after dinner. I lent one dollar to Dunbar and will set it down for he may not return it fully.

Debits – 1.00

Thursday, March 12

Warmer again with very light snow. Self some unwell, but after improving my wearing apparatus got much more comfortable. Dunbar returned 50 cts of what I lent him yesterday. Spent the day on the drawing and have arranged the first three plates.

Credits – .50

Friday, March 13

Cold! Ther. registered minus 27 and had risen full 2 degrees before 7 o'clock. This is the lowest in March in the eighteen years except one. In 1869, it was minus 28 on the 1<sup>st</sup> day. In 1883, it fell to minus 26.5 in the month. These are the coldest March days that I have seen. I went to Billings' and got a knife for sister Page. Paid 65 cts and I paid White 5 cts for pens. The day is very clear and bright. Paid Dunbar 25 cts towards his work. Mortimer Spear brought my papers from Pomfret and my Life Insurance receipts are with them. Paid Mr. Russell for hoop on washtub 15 cts. Miss Marcy went to South Woodstock.

Debits - .65, .25, .15

Saturday, March 14

Thermometer plus 13 degrees at 7 o'clock this morning, that is 40 degrees in 24 hours. After getting the breakfast and eating I went to work on the plans. Soon after Mr. Collins called and I paid him 45 cts for last Wednesday & 30 cts for today. Mortimer brought another cord of wood which makes 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  cords. Mr. Leach and sister Electa came here and she staid here till he went to Taftsville. Received a letter from Edward Doton with directions on his bank business. Paid Dunbar one dollar on his work account.

Debits - .75, 1.00

Sunday, March 15

Arose quite early and found the weather not extremely cold, thermometer reading plus 13 and wind south. It began to snow at six a.m. and the storm became very severe and increasing. Eight inches of snow had fallen before three o'clock p.m. Mrs. Doton was some unwell through the night and did not get up through the day, or till nearly night when she rested herself by sitting in her chair for an hour or more, and I think she is better for it this evening. Ferris Vaughan called in the evening and it seemed very pleasant for he appears so much as Robert did when he lived at their old place.



Monday, March 16

I overslept myself and did not get up till very nearly seven o'clock, and was disappointed to find the temperature 2 degrees below zero. It registered so, but at 7 o'clock was nearly 3 degrees above zero. A very rich eclipse of the Sun took place today, and was all that it was predicted to be. We were on the southerly side of the central line and that left the moon on the north side of the Sun's center. Mrs. Doton has not been so well for a few days, and we called Dr. Logan. He came about six o'clock.

Tuesday, March 17

Cold again! Ther registered minus 15 degrees which is some cold for March. This winter is very peculiar. Mr. and Mrs. Horace Dunham came here on a visit so that the two sisters have spent the day together, and such is always pleasant, and more so when the three sisters are together as they were last Thanksgiving time. I paid 6 cts for soap and 1 ct postage.

Debits - .07

Wednesday, March 18

Ther. minus 25 degrees. Is this not cold weather for March? It was a little too cold for comfort and one could not feel as well on such days. I could not work in my room so rapidly. Brother Spencer was here to attend to some of his matters with the bank, the same that Edward wrote about last Saturday. Brother S. arranged it with the bank this forenoon and went home in the afternoon. Received \$15. of J.B. French on the account of computing interest on Gov. Converse's notes. I paid Richmond 49 cts and 3 cts equals 52 for lard and a lemon.

Credits - 15.00

Debits - .52

Thursday, March 19

Ther minus 24.5 degrees, which is the 9<sup>th</sup> day that it has fallen below zero since the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Mr. Greene called early to get these facts for the last week for his paper that comes out today, and he used what he got. If this weather continues it will be a very hard record for the month. Mr. McKenzie called with two letters from Edward H. Williams and left them for us to read. Mr. Williams is in South America and at last was on the western coast of Valparaiso. His descriptions of plains and scenes are all that any one could ask for. One of the first touches of spring was seen today; the boys playing marbles on the side-walks. A pleasant and cheerful sight, for they are so earnest and attentive to their work.

Friday, March 20

Ther minus 10 degrees, but the air is much filled with frost and fine snow. Horace Dunham called to speak about Mrs. Thompson's map of Woodstock that was drawn in pencil by her husband H.B. Thompson. Perhaps Mr. Dunham may conclude to finish and publish it. I wrote a letter to Herman Dunham but failed to mail it and must re-write it and mail it at some future time. In the afternoon I worked on the plans and laid out the work on the fifth pair of them, and I arranged my work so as to keep the almanac and the meteorological work along together.

Saturday, March 21

Ther. minus 1 degree and about plus 2 at 7 o'clock. After doing the chores about the house I went to work on the almanac and concluded to spend the forenoon on the almanac and the afternoon on the drawing. I paid Dunbar 50 cts and paid Freeman 10 cts for soap & paid 2 cts postage. There has been a strong W. or N.W. wind through the day, and it has almost been a perfect blizzard all through the day. Carlie Dunham came here late in the afternoon and will remain through the night. I worked in the evening copying meteorological observations.

Debits - .50, .12

Sunday, March 22

Another cold morning. Ther. minus 14 degrees. This extremely cold March is one of the remarkable things in this latitude. The mean temperature of the month of March should be about 26 degrees or nearly that

amount, but the mean of the twelve days from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> was but little more than 8 degrees. At this rate the mean of the month must be very low. The lowest that we have had in the last seventeen years was 16.8 degrees in 1872. The present indications are that it will be lower than that this year. Carlie Dunham remained here through the night and went to church in the forenoon and has just now (12 noon) left for home. We were left alone through the afternoon, for Miss M. went to Quechee and did not return till past 9 o'clock.

Monday, March 23

Five degrees below zero this morning but 5 above at 7 a.m. Sent to Cassino a money order for \$2.50. Paid for it \$2.50 & 8 cts fee & 2 cts postage. Addison and Duane Darling called here this forenoon and we had a few minutes of pleasant talk of days long ago. Those little chubby boys are now old and gray-headed men. The funeral of Elwin White was held at the brick church this afternoon the Rev. Mr. Kidder conducting it. Paid Dunbar 50 cents. Paid Richmond for dried beef 15 cts. Paid Miss Marcy for the two weeks work five dollars.

Debits – 2.60, .50, .15, 5.00

Tuesday, March 24

Ther. minus 22 degrees and a very chilly time. Dunbar came to finish sawing the wood, which he did before he went to dinner. I paid him two dollars and he paid Woodruff what I was holden to pay for him, that is 32 cts, or I paid it and paid Dunbar \$1.68. I must pay Dunbar one dollar more. Received of Mr. Billings 12 dollars on what I will call for on April 1<sup>st</sup>. I received the 2d assessment on the Mut. Benefit Life Co. which calls for 12.06 to be paid on or before April 23. Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets 1 dollar. Abba came down from Pomfret to do errands.

Credits 12.00

Debits – 2.00, 1.00

Wednesday, March 25

Warmer. Ther plus 22 degrees, which makes the day seem like spring and it is pleasant after so cold and long a winter. Mr. McKenzie called to get some notes of the weather for 1884 and 1885 so far. He copied such notes as he wished. Mr. Greene called and took notes for his paper, and regards the weather as remarkable since the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month. I worked at my drawing table the greater part of the day.

Thursday, March 26

The thermometer registered 2 degrees above zero this morning, but the air seems more spring-like. A part of the clouds were cirro-cumulus which indicates fair and warm weather. I paid H.S. Dana \$18.00 interest on notes that he holds against me, and I think we shall exchange notes so that I shall pay the three notes that he now holds, and he will have my name alone. Received a letter from Robert Perkins with business to the Bank, and I am glad to attend to it for I shall be satisfied when that business is closed up.

Debits – 18.00

Friday, March 27

How we rejoice to find it so much warmer. Ther. plus 37 degrees at 7 o'clock this morning and plus 52 degrees at 2 p.m. I went to the Bank and renewed Robert's note and found them well pleased at his success in Rutland. Mrs. Doton has just received a rich letter from her friend Laura Barrett who is now in Rutland. Her letter is most truly rich in kind regards and is from a heart freighted with true friendship and affection.

Saturday, March 28

Warm through the night and the water was running from the roofs. This is spring weather and the snow is going very fast. I spent the forenoon on the almanac; have copied the moon's place on the calendar pages and the sheets now begin to look more like an almanac. The day is nearly clear; the air warm and the snow is wasting away rapidly. Paid four cents postage stamps. The walking is as bad as I ever knew it

to be at this season of the year. I called on Mrs. Welch and she will come next Tuesday to begin her work. Mrs. Russell called in the evening. We are here alone, the rest of the folks are away to the "division."

Debits - .04

Sunday, March 29

About one inch of fine snow fell this morning beginning probably at three o'clock. At 7 o'clock there had fallen just one inch, and it still was falling. It stopped about eight o'clock and the full measure was 1.20 inches and the melted snow was 0.12, the water being just one tenth as much as the measure of the snow. It usually takes about 12 inches of snow when melted to make one inch of water. After getting the chores done, I began to copy the meteorological observations, and copied up to the present time. Polk sent down for some drawing instruments, as he is to make a drawing of Albro's corn planter, and I think he can make a good drawing of it. The day has been some cooler than yesterday and will freeze some before tomorrow. Late in the afternoon Misses Emma and Carlie Dunham called and made a pleasant time for an hour or more.

Monday, March 30

Some cooler this morning. Called on Mr. Billings and got one dollar. Paid Chapman 25 cts for box of pills for Abba and I sent them to her by mail; 1 ct postage. Paid Dunbar 25 cts on account. A stranger called to get the minimum readings of the ther. for each day the past week. These he copied in full. I received from the Signal Office a large bundle of their publications and they contain much valuable matter. I paid Miss Marcy \$2.50 for the week's work. She expects to go to Manchester, N.H. tomorrow, and Mrs. Welch will take her place here.

Credits – 1.00

Debits - .25, .01, .25, 2.50

Tuesday, March 31

This is the last day of March and is the day for School Meetings through the state of Vermont. I mailed a letter to the Chief Signal Office of the War Department to acknowledge the receipt of books and publications sent to me. Soon after ten o'clock, Miss Marcy started for the depot to take the train for Manchester, and about eleven Mrs. Welch came and began her work and she makes a very favorable impression she is so quiet, still and ready about her work. Such is the first impression.

Wednesday, April 1

I spent some time in the forenoon finishing the computations for the month of March, and balanced my cash book and found it right with only \$2.59 on hand. The walking or the going any way is about as bad as it can be with snow, water and mud; the snow is melting away fast with a west wind. I did not go to the Post Office till nearly night and then found only a few advertising circulars. Mr. Billings sent me balance of the \$50.00 that I called for, which is \$37.00. Mrs. Welch gets here with difficulty on account of the water in the side-walks. On hand \$2.59.

Credits – 37.00

Thursday, April 2

I went to the Savings Bank and paid 15.45 for Mortimer Spear, which is the interest on the Ware place note to October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1884. I paid also 40 cts to George Paul for broom & starch. The weather was clear at 7 a.m. and the clouds gathered very soon after, and there has been some slight rain since. I paid A. Dunbar 50 cts for work. Dense clouds this evening and a strong breeze from the S.W.

Debits – 15.45, .40, .50

Friday, April 3

Fast Day. – Which is a little earlier than it is usually set, and especially it seems so this year for the season is so late. I picked my way twice to the Post Office today, paid the box rent 10 cts as the quarterly

Box rent. I wrote the greater part of the day on weather reports. Received a letter from Prof. Upton of Providence, R.I. on the subject of rain-gauges, a measurement of mine I sent to him about the first of March. He tested it by a different method but found all right. The first wheel carriages seen in the streets this spring.

Debits – .10

Saturday, April 4

Some rainy this morning, and the appearance is favorable for a rainy day. After doing the chores I went to my room and wrote out the weather report for the Standard and for the War Department and will mail the last one for Washington. Sent to A. Dunbar 50 cts. Some hail and snow early in the afternoon, so that we are having one of those storms of snow, hail and rain, such as are so dismal in the spring. Herman Dunham came home this forenoon and called here this afternoon. He seems to be in tolerably good health though he is having some cold.

Debits – .50

Sunday, April 5

We are alone this morning and shall be alone Sundays, for Mrs. Welch wishes to be at home. She is getting into our work very well indeed. This is "Easter Sunday" and a sermon on the occasion was preached at the chapel, but I have not noticed the Episcopal bells today. But Easter is usually a noted day with them. I have hardly done any thing but chores about the house today, though I have done a little promiscuous reading. There is an excellent sermon in the last Banner written by the Rev. Fletcher, and it is truly above the ordinary Easter sermons. Carlie Dunham called here this afternoon and spent a very pleasant hour with her aunt, and her father was here a short time after. It began to rain at about four o'clock or a little after, and is raining this evening as I write. But this rain did not continue long for it could not be called much rainy at 9 p.m.

Monday, April 6

Coach to the depot on wheels this morning and stage to Bridgewater this afternoon. Weather much warmer; ther. was 39 degrees at 7 a.m. The wind has been moving from the southwest toward the northwest and the weather has been growing cooler. Mailed my meteorological report to Washington and an abstract from it I carried to the Standard. Paid Freeman 10 cts for soap. I spent some time on the maps that I have had on hand for so long a time. Herman Dunham called this forenoon, but he has a hard time to get about for the roads are very bad, and the sidewalks "bader." I have never known them worse. Carlie Dunham saw a robin late this afternoon in the park.

Debits – .10

Tuesday, April 7

The robins have made an appearance this morning, and they bring a new element of spring, and the day opens like spring. The "sap runs" very freely and in some places the drops fall so rapidly that they can hardly keep separate. Mrs. Doton has concluded to go to make her sister Caroline a visit, and I got Mr. French to drive his team out there. We rode there and after dinner I walked home and Mr. French had Mrs. D. brought home about five o'clock. I have been very busy on the Sun's declination for the almanac for 1886. It began to rain at 7 o'clock in the evening. Song sparrows heard.

Wednesday, April 8

It rained slightly in the night and there was 0.04 of an inch of water in the rain gauge this morning. Paid Billings 5 cts for needles and 1 ct postage. Received one dollar for time of Full Moons in 1886. It was sent by N.W. White of Hartford for the masons. Blue-birds heard in full numbers this morning. I have spent half the day on the drawing. Got letter from Prof. Upton calling for more matter for his "bulletin." Herman Dunham called here in the afternoon, and made us a good visit.

Credits – 1.00

Debits – .06

Thursday, April 9

A cool morning. Ther. 15 degrees which is the coldest we have had for some days. After doing the chores about the house, I went to my table and spent much of the time on the plans. Am now at work on the 9<sup>th</sup> thick sheet. Paid Freeman 12 cts for Cream tartar.

Debits - .12

Friday, April 10

A fine cloudy but clearing morning; pleasant and nearly clear before noon. The walking has been improving for a few days, and I can now get to the Post Office with rubbers without wetting my feet. Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets \$1.00. Paid 6 cts for postage stamps. This evening I tested the cash account and found the balance on hand \$22.30 correct.

Debits – 1.00, .06

Saturday, April 11

Weather clear and some cool. The warming brings nearly the same amount of chores that last till breakfast time. I then went to the work on the almanac. Mr. Dutton called in the morning. I worked on the Almanac in the forenoon and on the drawing in the afternoon. We paid Mrs. Welch 2.50 cts towards her work the past two weeks.

Debits – 2.50

Sunday, April 12

A fine cloudy Sabbath morning with some signs of storm. We are here alone and it is truly pleasant to be able to remain alone through the whole of a long spring day. Though Mrs. Doton is not very comfortable today, we enjoy being alone and at home. In the forenoon I wrote a full letter to cousin Sarah Doton Goldsmith of Lowell, and in the afternoon I wrote a reply to a long letter that I received in December last from Rev. L.H. Tabor of Maine, a man of nearly my own age that I met nearly twenty years ago at Montpelier, Vermont. We were members of the Vermont State Senate in 1865, and have never met since. Some time last year I learned that he was at Bryant's Pond, Oxford Co. Maine and I wrote to him and soon after received a very excellent letter from him in reply. That letter I have just now replied to, and hope I can get another letter from him as good as the last one. It began to rain at three o'clock in the afternoon but very lightly.

Monday, April 13

Rested very well and arose soon after five o'clock and kept moving till breakfast time. Finished a long letter to Rev. L.H. Tabor of Bryant's Pond, Me. He is a very fine man of about my own age. Mailed a letter to him and one to cousin Sarah Doton Goldsmith of Lowell, Mass. Paid Richmond 30 cts for beef. Paid Woodruff 65 cts for corn. Paid Mrs. Welch the balance for two weeks work. Tested my cash account and found the balance \$18.60 all right. There has been a slight rain since yesterday afternoon.

Debits - .30, .65, .25

Tuesday, April 14

A comfortable morning with a little snow about 8 a.m. but it soon cleared away fully. Brother Spencer called this morning and I paid him 2 dollars. I worked through the forenoon on the almanac. Have now got the Sun's declination and the Equation of time, and the Sun's southing. Herman Dunham called in the afternoon and will leave for College Hill in the morning. We shall see him in the morning I expect.

Debits – 2.00

Wednesday, April 15

Wrote to Mutual Benefit Life Co. of Hartford, Ct. and sent a money order for \$12.06, being the amount of the second assessment of 1885 on our two certificates, Nos. 3592 & 3593. Paid Post Office for order \$12.06, Fees .10 and postage 4 cts. = 14 cts. Herman Dunham started for College Hill. Called here in the

forenoon. Dr. Logan called in the afternoon with his battery and we shall use it five minutes each day. Paid Richmond 17 cts for meat.

Debits – 12.06, .14, .17

Thursday, April 16

A beautiful spring morning with a cool N.W. wind. The robins begin their early morning songs and it is not easy to keep in bed after they begin. Spent the greater part of the day on the almanac. Received of Bank \$17.50 for coupon. Paid Savings Bank \$15.12. Paid Paul for oatmeal. Emma Marcy came home to Woodstock this afternoon. She came to Dewey's Mills last Monday and staid there till this afternoon when she came here on the train.

Credits – 17.50

Debits – 15.12, .25

Friday, April 17

The weather seems now more like having spring, or bare ground and warmer weather. That dry N.W. wind is more fresh today and cuts the snow very fast. I have worked on the almanac the greater part of the day. I have received or paid out no money today, but I received a most valuable letter from my friend the Rev. L.H. Tabor of Bryants Pond, Maine. This correspondence has become extremely valuable and I must answer this last valuable letter.

Saturday, April 18

The weather is remarkably spring-like, cool in the morning with N.W. wind rising soon after nine o'clock. I spent some time on the almanac and weather notes, and in the afternoon at my drawing table. I found that the black drawing ink improves by age and it now runs very well. We paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for work.

Debits – 2.00

Sunday, April 19

A lovely spring morning; air clear and cool, and the birds are filling the world with their music. There are, however, only three kinds heard here now, the robin, blue bird and song sparrow. These three kinds are enough to make the air melodious, but there are many more to come. I have read or worked but little today, though the air has been pleasant and very good, and we tried to rest. Ferris Vaughan called in the afternoon, and it seemed very much like Robert's calls when he lived in the brick house below the church. Carlie Dunham called late in the afternoon, and she appeared to be very tired. She works very much too hard.

Monday, April 20

A warm, clear and pleasant morning with S.W. wind. I took hold of my drawing work and drove it through the day, but I do not have perfect ink. I must try Higgins' fluid Inks. This has been the warmest day of the season. Ther. at the highest was 74 degrees. Yesterday it was 69 degrees. It had only reached 57 degrees before, and we are now looking for warmer weather.

Tuesday, April 21

Warm and clear again with the wind southwesterly or westerly though there was a surface wind from the N.E. I took hold of the almanac this forenoon, and have kept about it till late in the afternoon. I went to Simeon Dunham's in the afternoon and found the South branch very high, for the snow has gone rapidly for the past two days. Paid Richmond & Taylor 15 cts for meat.

Debits - .15

Wednesday, April 22

I drove myself on the almanac through the forenoon, and in the afternoon I went up street and called at Wentworth's and had my hair cut, for the weather is so warm that winter dress is uncomfortable. Paid

Wentworth 20 cts for barbers work. Paid Simmons 8 cts for lemons. Came home and took the outside windows from the house. This is a warm day for April, and it has been three or four degrees warmer than I had ever seen it before in April in the last eighteen years. It was nearly 85 degrees in the hottest part of the day. Frogs heard.

Debits - .20, .08

Thursday, April 23

Another very warm day. The air began very early to be oppressive, but I went to work on my almanac and I finished the column of aspects soon after noon, and now have stopped a moment to put down these notes that I have omitted since Tuesday night. This is the warmest April day that I have known and I have the records of the past 18 years. The thermometer ran to 85 degrees fully.

Friday, April 24

Still warm. What a contrast with the weather from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of March, when the mean temperature was only 5 degrees and that of today is 61.9 degrees. The last day that the ther. was below was the 24<sup>th</sup> of March when the minimum reading was minus 22 degrees, and today the maximum reading was 86 degrees, making a range of 108 degrees. I worked through the day on the plans and am now putting on the rivers, have nearly finished the one on the smallest plan.

Saturday, April 25

The air is some cooler this morning, wind N.W. but nearly clear. I spent a few minutes on the meteorology of the past eight days so that we are now on the last week of the month. I went to work on the plans again, am putting the river on to the small plan. This afternoon Erastus Pelton called to show an ingenious arrangement for a calendar that will give every day for a thousand years. Mrs. Emery called in the forenoon and sister Joanna came in the afternoon and staid till nearly five o'clock.

Sunday, April 26

A storm began at 9 o'clock, snow at first but rain began soon to come with the snow, and it continued to rain and snow through the day. We had the day alone excepting a call from Miss Richmond late in the afternoon. It has been a cozy day, cool and very pleasant in the house. I have more than a thousand figures on my papers before me that I have made on meteorological matters. What a contrast in these days! Last Friday the thermometer reaching 85 degrees and today a snow storm with the thermometer at 30 degrees or 55 degrees lower than on Friday.

Monday, April 27

The storm ended in the night, probably about eleven or twelve o'clock, and we had one inch of snow and with the snow 0.58 of an inch of water. I went upstreet and mailed letter to Abba and one to the signal service. Dunbar came and raked the door yard in part, but the wind prevented his finishing it. I did very little except chores on the dooryard and barn. There was a cool wind nearly through the day. The Pomfret hills were covered with snow in the morning but it all was melted before night. Paid one cent for evening paper.

Debits - .01

Tuesday, April 28

Must take up the drawing today for my work in the house falls behind. I am at work on the river and the north branch, but am some pestered with the inks, especially the black. Mrs. Dunham called in the forenoon, and in the afternoon called on Miss Hazen. She appeared to be as well as I have seen her for a long time. The two sisters had a very nice time, and only needed their sister, Mrs. Gookin, to have the trio of sisters complete. I went to Mr. Chapman's and paid 6 cts for half an ounce of bisulphate of mercury for the battery. Cloudy with prospect of storm. Paid four cts for stamps.

Debits - .06, .04

Wednesday, April 29

The night was stormy. It began to rain a little before eleven o'clock last night and continued to rain and snow through the night. There was probably half an inch of snow and the rain and snow measured 0.45 of an inch this morning. There is a cold N.W. wind today. Looked over my Signal Service Books and found that I had all or nearly all of their publications, and I wrote to Prof. Upton of Providence, R.I. to that effect. The afternoon was not stormy, but was gloomy, inclining one to melancholy. Paid Richmond \$1.00 for meat and lard.

Debits – 1.00

Thursday, April 30

This is the closing day of April and the month has been a very singular one as far as the weather is concerned. Some of it has been cold, and other parts extremely warm. I have spent the day on Mr. B.'s plans and shall find work on them for a long time to come.

Friday, May 1

May-day and Arbor-day; and I hope the people will use the day in planting trees by the thousands. The day is cool. There is a cold wind from the north. I spent much of the day on Meteorological matters and mailed report to Prof. Upton of Providence, R.I. Brought forward \$2.82.

Saturday, May 2

Slight rain this morning. Got very tired this morning but took time to rest. Brother Spencer called this morning. He seems to be very well this spring. I received fifty dollars of Mr. Billings, and paid Mrs. Welch five dollars, which a half week in advance. There has been a strong N.W. wind through the middle of the day. Miss Lorinda Richmond, sister to Orlando & Calista Richmond died this morning.

Credits – 50.00

Debits – 5.00

Sunday, May 3

We are now having those dry N.W. winds, so peculiar in the spring of the year, winds that need to have a particular name but have none that I have ever heard. They are from the N.W. at this season as we can see by looking at the Signal Service Weather Reviews for March, April and May. Earlier than that they can be found on the coast of Pennsylvania, and so on farther north as the season advances. The day is remarkably clear and is cool for the season, the thermometer scarcely getting above forty degrees in the warmest part of the day. We have been here entirely alone today except from a few minutes call from Mrs. Fairbanks, but have rested some and read but little, and the reading was not the best for weak nerves. We met Judge Nesmith's article in the Webster Memorial, the first No. of a paper published at Franklin, N.H. in support of the Orphan's Home at the Webster place. The Judge gives an account of a visit in June 1851 at the Webster birth place with Daniel Webster himself and the article brings up many touching scenes, and such as we often meet in life.

Monday, May 4

A very cool morning. Ice formed on small vessels of water one fourth of an inch thick and the ground was frozen in the garden an inch and a half thick. I spent the greater part of the day on the plans that I have worked on so long. There are 18 of those plans and there is much work on each one. I paid Freeman 20 cts for soap. We received a letter from our friends at Franklin, and wrote one in reply to mail in the morning.

Debits – .20

Tuesday, May 5

Cool, but not so cold as yesterday. Mailed letter to Franklin, N.H. and paid postage and stamps 6 cts. Paid Mr. Hewitt 1 dollar for milk tickets. Paid brother Spencer 13 dollars to be indorsed on note. I made plan for Mr. McKenzie, a plan of the Messer lot that I surveyed sometime in 1876, I think. Paid Freeman 8 cts for carpet tacks.



Debits - .06, 1.00, 13.00, .08

Wednesday, May 6

Some rain in the night. It measured 0.06 of an inch. I began to fix the work for getting the moon's southing and the rising and setting of it at the same time. I find that I can get the rest of the almanac work quite easily. I had two calls from South Woodstock, the one a call for surveying, and the other Astronomical. The cloudy weather continues through the day but with very little rain. I paid Paul 33 cts for sugar and 4 cts for peas for the garden.

Debits - .37

Thursday, May 7

The weather is some more like spring, though I have done nothing to my garden. I spent the greater part of the day on a plan for Mr. McKenzie, a plan of his Messer lot, so called. We have had but few calls today. I went to the Block and paid 50 cts to F.N. Billings for Graham flour. Miss Fairbanks called and Miss Richmond. Mrs. Doton had a very severe headache.

Debits - .50

Friday, May 8

Some rainy through the night. Dr. Logan called this morning with rubbers for his machine. I paid him fifteen dollars on acct. Mr. Marble's team came with Graham flour and I paid him 75 cts. This gives us a very good supply for a short time. I finished Mr. McKenzie's plan and then wrote on the Standard article on the weather. The rain has been falling nearly through the day, but I have not measured what is in the gauge.

Debits - 15.00, .75

Saturday, May 9

This morning I measured the rain that fell Thursday and Friday and found 0.76 of an inch, and though cloudy it soon became perfectly clear, but it became cloudy again in the afternoon and began to rain slightly before night. I wrote the Standard article on the April weather, and in the afternoon I did chores about the house. Sister Joanna called here in the afternoon.

Sunday, May 10

There was a slight frost early this morning in the easterly part of the village, and the weather was bright and clear. A strong S.W. wind arose in the middle of the day and the sky was soon overcast with clouds. I wrote a long letter to Miss Gardner who is now at Houghton, Lake Superior, which is Houghton County, Michigan. She wrote to us last July and we have never had a spare moment to answer it. We remained alone through the day till evening when Carlie Dunham called, and in a short time her father called and spent the evening.

Monday, May 11

Cool and cloudy. Mailed letter to Miss Gardner. Left weather article at the Standard office and learned that Mr. McMaster will have possession of the Post Office very soon. Paid Mr. Ludlum 40 cts for whitewashing. A cool afternoon and evening. Horace and Carlie Dunham came in the evening for the Transit, etc. I worked at my drawing table in the afternoon and find that I can do it somewhat easily.

Debits - .40

Tuesday, May 12

Frost. This is rather cool weather for May planting. Paid Paul 20 cts for rice. Watched for the time at the sun's transit and think my watch is 36 seconds slow and the town clock nearly two minutes slow. Murdock's regulator is nearly right though from 6 to 10 seconds slow. I worked on the almanac in the afternoon on the moon southing.

Debits - .20

Wednesday, May 13

Called at Murdock's and Moore's to see as to their time. The Town clock is some more than two minutes slow, and I hope Mr. Moore will set it today. I got a box of Grafenberg's Pills for Abba and mailed them to her at Pomfret paying 25 plus 1 cents & 6 cts for cards. I received another letter from Abba containing some errands.

Debits - .32

Thursday, May 14

The air is rather cool and the swallows seem to enjoy it. These are the first that I have seen this spring, though they have been seen a few days past. I paid Dunbar 50 cts toward his work. I paid Collins 76 cts his account in full. I paid Chapman 5 cts & postage 4.

Debits - .50, .76, .09

Friday, May 15

Went to Billings Store and did errand for Abba. Met Mr. Marsh and found him in poor health, but we had a long pleasant chat. He is one year and a half older than I am. Spoke to Henry Greene to assist me about the almanac. Paid Chapman 13 cts for Cream tartar. Paid postage 3 cts & received 2 cts of Mrs. Fairbanks. Paid Smith for shoes 55 cts. Received of Mr. Woodbury \$5.00 on old account. Spent a part of the day on the drawing and a part on the almanac.

Credits - .02, 5.00

Debits - .13, .03, .55

Saturday May 16

A pleasant and summer-like morning. I went into the garden till it was too warm to work. This shows that the summer is coming. The forests begin to show the blossoms and the foliage begins to be in sight. Paid Mrs. Welch five dollars that pays for one week in advance. Received a letter from Abby, and the papers from the Signal Service and the papers from the N.E. Met. Society.

Debits - 5.00

Sunday, May 17

A beautiful Sunday morning with easterly wind. We are alone through the night and we remain alone Sundays, which is pleasant at this season of the year when the weather is warm and the air clear and balmy, and the birds alive and filling the surrounding space with their music; though we think the birds are not so plenty as they have been at many seasons. The winter was too severe for the smaller kinds of birds and many of them must have perished. Our milk tickets run out this morning and I paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar for forty more.

Debits - 1.00

Monday, May 18

I have spent some of the time in the last few days on the almanac and I hope to get it done before the first of June, but the publishers will not need it before the 15<sup>th</sup>. I have worked on the plans and maps for one half the day or more and must do so hereafter. The weather seems more summer like and the gardens begin to call.

Tuesday, May 19

Went to Mr. Billings' store with errands for Abba. Carried cloth to Damon for Polk. In the afternoon I got a note from Abba and I went to Dr. Boynton's with an errand from her. We had a pleasant call from Mrs. Dr. Colton who is living with her mother at Northfield.

Wednesday, May 20

Arose quite early and went about the chores. Became some tired, but in time got rested and went into the garden and finished planting the lettuce bed. It was a busy day with Mrs. Doton. Miss F. Darling called and was followed by Miss Richmond and Mrs. Fairbanks, then Mary Ann Marcy and her sister Mrs. Jordan, and after a short call from Mrs. Southgate, Mrs. Dunham and Carlie called; all pleasant calls but Mrs. D. became very tired.

Thursday, May 21

A beautiful summer morning. Went to Woodruff's and got half a hundred of corn feed and half a hundred of shorts paying \$1.28 cts, and paid Richmond & Taylor 33 cts for meat. Spent the greater part of the day at the drawing table and put the plan of the river on the best plan of the meadow. Henry Green called towards night and I spent some time on the Moon rising and setting and became very tired.

Debits – 1.28, .33

Friday, May 22

Was very tired from the work of yesterday and was too lame to work. I tried the garden, but could do but little. Paid Billings 20 cts for a ruhe, and paid 6 cts for soap. The ground is now very dry, but there is some appearance of rain and let us hope it will come.

Debits .20, .06

Saturday, May 23

About as early as two o'clock we were greeted with the sound of the falling rain and it increased till morning. And continued till nearly noon when 0.63 of an inch had fallen. It was one of the best rains that we have had this season and is spreading a beauty on all the vegetable life within its reach. Mr. H.S. Dana called to speak of his town history and he spoke of Miss Esther Dana to assist me about the Almanac that is not quite finished.

Sunday, May 24

This is a lovely spring Sabbath morning and we can but feel as well as health and strength will allow. We have made this a day of rest and I read or write but little. We are sure that Mrs. Doton's health is improving and at times she feels quite comfortable.

Monday, May 25

Another pleasant summer morning and an aquatic thrush has made an appearance but did not start his song, his peculiarly flowery warble, till nearly evening. I went out into the garden and about eight o'clock Dunbar came to assist and has cleared the yards and the out building and he began to plant potatoes on the west side of the alley. He worked till 11 a.m. and then left for the day. Miss Esther Dana called in the afternoon and looked over the almanac work and will assist me to finish the calendar for 1886.

Tuesday, May 26

I spent some time in the garden in the forenoon but have done but little in it so far. In the afternoon I carried some books and papers to Mr. Dana's for Esther to examine in order to be able to use the almanac and tables easily and correctly.

Wednesday, May 27

Mrs. Doton went to see her sister Mrs. Horace Dunham. She rode in the stage about half past ten o'clock and returned about four in the afternoon. She usually has a good visit with her when they meet, and especially so when three sisters meet. I worked in my room much of the day, but taking time to rest about two o'clock. Mr. Kent plowed the garden, which is a little late for such work.

Thursday, May 28

Slight frost reported in the neighborhood but none seen here. I went to the post office and mailed a card to Abba for I have neglected to send the specimens of dress goods. Paid Richmond 20 cts for meat and paid for team 25 cts and Dunbar 25 cts for work. I also paid Mr. Kent one dollar for plowing and potatoes.

Paid express bill 60 cts. Miss Allen called in the afternoon, and Miss Esther Dana called and got the necessary papers for computing the Almanac for 1886 and will now go on with the computations.

Debits - .20, .25, .25, 1.00, .60

Friday, May 29

Another light frost but not enough to injure vegetation. Mr. Watkins came in the morning and planted the N.E. part of the garden and I finished sowing peas and we are getting the garden nearly planted. I paid Mr. Watkins 10 cts for potatoes as a balance on the shares for planting. Miss Dana called to get Almanac and tables for moon rising & setting last night and will be at work on that part of the work. Sister Joanna came from Pomfret and did errands for Abba who has no time now to come. Paid Chapman 7 cts for bisulphate of Mercury, and Paul 15 cts for kerosene.

Debits - .10, .07, .15

Saturday, May 30

Mr. Dunbar and his boy came and planted potatoes on the east side of the alley near the barn, and I paid him \$1.75 that overpays him 10 cts. Paid Mrs. Welch \$2.00 for the week's work. Worked in the garden in the forenoon. Mrs. Brewster called in the forenoon. Decoration Day and the usual service were attended at Taftsville in the forenoon and here in the afternoon. It began to rain at 6 p.m. and rained lightly in the evening.

Debits - 1.75, 2.00

Sunday, May 31

It rained some through the night and the morning was very dark and gloomy, and this continued through the day. Sister Joanna was here through the day and that served in some degree to drive away the gloom and loneliness.

Monday, June 1

In the morning I called on Mr. Boyce at the store and made a bid for forty dollars of Mr. Billings and it was sent to me before night. The first thunder heard here this season was at noon today, a slight shower passing from a little north of west to the north east. The rain was very slight. Mr. Leach called for Joanna and she went home about ten o'clock forenoon. There were some slight showers in the afternoon, the whole measuring 0.04 in. Brought forward 7.56.

Credits - 40.00

Tuesday, June 2

A cool cloudy morning. Sent \$10.05 to Hartford Mut. Benefit Life Co. Paid fees and postage 21 cts at post office. Paid Collins 45 cts on account. Henry Green called with his work on the almanac and I have concluded to do much of the work myself, as Esther Dana will do the Moon rising & setting.

Debits - 10.05, .21, .45

Wednesday, June 3

This morning I paid Mr. Hewitt 20 cts for potatoes and I paid Paul 25 cts for crackers. I have hurried on the Almanac today and find that I can do it very rapidly. Mrs. Doton goes into the garden daily and today she had many calls, about a dozen of her friends called today, they are all so glad to see her again in the flower garden. Miss Dana called to speak of the work on the almanac that she is doing for the 1886 calendar. Mrs. Fred Marsh and Miss Lucy Fairbanks called, a pleasant call for Mrs. D.

Debits - .20, .25

Thursday, June 4

Worked in the garden in the morning but at my table in the afternoon on the Sun rising & setting. I am now driving this part of the work.

Friday, June 5

Slight rain through the night and rainy through the greater part of the day. I sent a letter to Abba yesterday and got a reply from her this afternoon. A very good letter. She might feel discouraged but does not seem to be so. The rain ceased about four o'clock in the afternoon and there had fallen an inch and a half during the storm.

Saturday, June 6

Some frost this morning and in some places plantain leaves now frozen, though the thermometer fell only to 37 degrees. I paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar, and paid Woodruff 20 cts for meat, and Billings \$1.63 cts for flour, and Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for the weeks work. This morning we had a call from Miss Wheeler and Laura and Molly Billings, and Mrs. Hart came in the forenoon. She is Mrs. Welch's sister. Paid White 34 cts for the June Century.

Debits – 1.00, .20, 1.63, 2.00, .34

Sunday, June 7

A quiet day and no frost in the morning as we had been fearing. We are feeling some better and I think Mrs. Doton's health is improving as much as could be expected. After getting rested from the chores in the morning, I went to my writing table and spent a part of the time in copying the work for the Signal Service and for the New England Meteorological Society. There is some work in supplying the wants of these two societies. I have tried to rest and have rested very much since I got up this morning.

Monday, June 8

Miss Wheeler called this morning to see about having Erick Billings go with us when we go about the surveying on Mr. Billings' land. I was at work in the garden when she came and spent much of the forenoon there. I mailed the weather report to the Signal Service Office at Washington. I paid Paul 45 cts for sugar, Dunbar's boy helped me nearly two hours.

Debits – .45

Tuesday, June 9

The weather is rather cold for the season, but there is no frost this morning. I paid Collins for meat 40 cts and paid Dunbar's boy 25 cts for his work yesterday. In the afternoon I made a survey for Mrs. Frank Simmons on Linden Street and from that survey a description for a deed. There is some sign of frost and we must watch till evening. In the evening I covered up some of the more choice of the flowers to protect from the frost.

Debits - .40, .25

Wednesday, June 10

The thermometer registered 36 degrees this morning, and we are sure to hear of frost in the neighborhood. Payson Pierce saw it plainly on his place which is the former Seers place. Mrs. Doton was invited to take a ride with Misses Laura & Molly Billings, and they rode to Taftsville and back on the north side of the river. A very pleasant ride! I paid Paul 40 cts for hoe and garden seeds. The weather seems warmer so that no frost need be feared. Asa Fuller called and paid me twelve dollars for Abbie, it being the balance for her teaching last winter.

Debits - .40

Thursday, June 11

Mrs. Doton had a present from Miss Billings, a beautiful present for this season of the year, and rare as well as beautiful. This morning I found that our garden sweet corn had failed to come up. It decayed in the ground.

Friday, June 12

Wrote a full letter to Abba and sent 10 dollars of her money to her and kept the balance two dollars to pay Mr. Damon for making a pair of pants for Polk by Abba's direction. Sent the letter to Abba by Mabel and Anna Vaughan. In the forenoon I went with Mr. Chapman to begin the survey of the roads for Mr. Billings. We began on the east line of the Howe farm and ran by the buildings to intersect the Pogue Hole road.

Saturday, June 13

Sowed beets, etc. this morning and find the ground warm and dry enough for that purpose, but the two frosts this month have made gardening somewhat discouraging. I went with Mr. Chapman and ran the line from the N.E. corner of the Howe farm to the summit of the highest or north peak of Mount Tom. This was for a road line and it goes as far east as the great rock and it incloses the summit of the mountain.

Sunday, June 14

We are here alone through Sundays and if not too tired have a very pleasant time. Dr. Logan called this morning to find how we are getting along. This morning we tried the electric battery on the spine but we think the day unfavorable for electrical work as the battery did not produce fully the desired effect. This is and has been a very peculiar day; falling barometer, high S.W. wind, and high temperature. The wind has at times been as high as 4 on a scale of ten. It blew down a large branch on one of the large elms on Mr. Billings' lawn, and fractured some of the trees in the village.

Monday, June 15

I went again to the mountain with Mr. Chapman to make a survey of the road from the junction of the Pogue Hole road through the north wood lot. This road was one projected by Mr. Dana, and was partly worked by his men. Paid 5 cts for figs, and we paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for last weeks work and I paid Chapman 8 cts for Bisulphate of Mercury. Mr. Hall called and we had a long talk on historical and scientific matters. I paid barber 25 cts.

Debits - .05, 2.00, .08, .25

Tuesday, June 16

We concluded not to go out today to our surveying for the weather is too warm. The maximum thermometer reads 91 at 2 p.m. Mr. Bradley is cutting the grass in our door yard. Miss Esther Dana came with the work on the moon rising and setting for 1886, and I paid her 5 dollars for her work. Paid Collins 44 cts for meat. Mailed note to White River Paper Company, and received the reply directing me to send almanac by Mr. Porter.

Debits - 5.00, .44

Wednesday, June 17

In the forenoon I went with Mr. Chapman to make an exploration of a route for a road to reach his mountain roads more easily from the Pogue hole road near the Rogers corner. I spent all the afternoon in adjusting my level. Mr. Bradley got the hay from the door yard and lot. I lent Dunbar fifty cents but did not put it in the cash account. This morning I went to the depot to send the almanac to the Junction by Mr. Porter, and gave him the distance from the depot to the post office 179 rods.

Thursday, June 18

I went with Mr. Chapman to run a line of levels from the Pogue hole road to the junction of the mountain roads near the N.E. corner of the Howe farm. Dunbar paid the fifty cts lent to him yesterday. In the afternoon we carried posts to be marked by Mr. Archibald, but shall change the marking somewhat.

Friday, June 19

Went to the hill to measure the north line of the Dana lot as far west as the Thompson farm went and to divide the distance for the fence. The walking in the woods was very hard on the dry leaves. In the afternoon I went to Mr. Damon's; got Chamberlin's pants and paid him \$2.50, two dollars of which was left by Abba and 50 cts I paid from my own, and I set it down.

Debits - .50

Saturday, June 20

This morning I paid Collins 32 cts for meat and I paid Freeman 30 cts for soap. Mailed a letter to Abba this morning and in the afternoon one to H.G. Jesup, the chairman of the Forestry Commission of N.H. He sent me the report of that commission. The day has been very warm.

Debits - .32, .30

Sunday, June 21

The night was warm and the air very good for rest, and we used it as such. I arose, however, at five o'clock which was Dr. Franklin's hour if we would thrive. We are here alone through the day on Sunday, and generally it is a quiet cozy day if the thermometer does not get too high for comfort. This afternoon it was 84 degrees at two o'clock. The surface of the ground is dry and vegetation suffers for the want of rain. This afternoon there is a fresh breeze from the south and the clouds bespeak rain. It is now nearly half past six o'clock afternoon and no rain appears nor any more signs of rain; but the air is much cooler as though there had been showers not very far off. I have rested much today and am feeling better in many respects than I did one year ago when I was at Franklin, N.H.

Monday, June 22

The barometer is falling and fell two tenths of an inch during the night; and at 6:30 a.m. we were cheered with a light shower of large rain drops. The wind is somewhat strong from the south. Paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for last weeks work. Paid Chapman 13 cts for cream tartar. Paid Billings 15 cts for netting. The wind changed to west in the forenoon and the rain did not amount to enough to wet the gardens, though it measures 0.12 of an inch. In the afternoon cool with westerly wind.

Debits - 2.00, .13, .15

Tuesday, June 23

The minimum ther. measured 46 this morning, so there could be no frost. Have known of frost in the neighborhood when it registered 41 and when 37 we feel sure to hear of frost in places near. I worked on the road that we surveyed on the Howe and Dana farms, but the line that we ran on the north mountain we must examine again. We had a short call from Mrs. Emerson of Rutland and soon after Mrs. Marshal Conant called, wishing to hear from or see Mrs. Latimer. Mrs. C. is now nearly 79 years old and is as sprightly as she was at twenty, and looks as fair. Mortimer Spear came from Pomfret with errands from home.

Wednesday, June 24

A cool morning; ther registered 43 degrees. Carlie Dunham called this morning and Mrs. Doton will go out there today. Got Richmond's stage team to carry her out and will bring her back at night. I have copied the rainfall in the last 17 years in a table. I worked in the garden till nearly noon and after getting some rested I walked out to Horace Dunham's and staid a few minutes. Met sisters Electa and Joanna in the street, and they came to our house and made a pleasant call.

Thursday, June 25

There has been a remarkably good air through the night and it has been a good night for rest and sleep. Paid Collins 33 cts for meat, and I paid Kidder 10 cts for bread. Miss Billings brought Mrs. Doton a fine bouquet of roses. We had a pleasant call from one of my early scholars, who forty years ago was Emily Hewitt Bugbee. She went west with her father's family about thirty years ago to Brownsville, Minnesota. She is now Mrs. Leland but I did not know it when she was here.

Debits - .33, .10

Friday, June 26

A cloudy morning with some signs of rain. There has been no rain since the 8<sup>th</sup> except a slight shower on the 22d. and the ground is now very dry. This is the closing day of the High School for the year, the School Year. Polk came down from Pomfret to get printing done for their 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. I went to the depot with the records of award of the R.R. Commissioners report or award on the A.L. Pierce farm, and the deed of conveyance. I searched the town records and found the record of the deed Benj. Burtch to Charles Marsh in 1803. Paid 15 cts to the baker. Paid at the stable 25 cts.

Debits – .15, .25

Saturday, June 27

This has been a warm day. Max. ther. 93. There was a slight thunder shower about five o'clock or between four and five in the afternoon. In the forenoon I met Mr. H.S. Dana who questioned me about the old court house, the old school house and the John Darling family. I met Mr. Dana again in the afternoon and I gave him a copy of R.A. Perkins' article on the burning of Royalton by the Indians in 1780, October 16th. I paid Collins 15 cts, and I paid Paul 24 cts for sugar, and I paid Chapman 18 cts for bisulphate of mercury.

Debits - .24, .18

Sunday, June 28

A warm but densely cloudy morning; wind south west and very muggy atmosphere. There was some appearance of rain, and about one o'clock there was a few rain drops fell that could be seen on the plank walks, but not enough to be seen on the ground. Mr. and Mrs. Marcy from Taftsville called on their way home from church. This is the "children's Sunday" and there were some children baptized. There is to be some exercises by the children at the church this evening. I have been some busy in copying my meteorological matters getting them in readiness to send to the Signal Service at Washington and to the New England Meteorological Society whose secretary is at Providence, R.I. I paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar.

Debits – 1.00

Monday, June 29

Very warm, especially in the forenoon. We went to the Dana lot near the Rogers corner to test the road line and to find the place of the junction of the roads in the survey. There were strong signs of showers, and there were showers about us with strong signs of electrical disturbance. I spent all the afternoon on the transit in adjusting it. I paid Mrs. Welch two dollars for last weeks work, and I paid the baker 20 cts for bread and bunnis.

Debits – 2.00, .20

Tuesday, June 30

I spent all the forenoon in searching the town records to determine the position of the west line of the Marsh farm, or that part of it that he bought from Dr. Rogers. There is some uncertainty about that line. Paid Collins 13 cts for meat and now owe him 12 cts.

Debits - .13

Wednesday, July 1

Furnished a deed for Mr. Cox and Mr. Billings and it was executed this afternoon. We went in the forenoon and set the marked stone post at the N.W. corner of the original purchase of Charles Marsh from Dr. John Rogers? That is still a question not easily settled. But we have set the post marked on three sides. On the east, "Rogers to Marsh:" on the west "N.W. corner," and on the North "1800." Bought a box of strawberries of a young man from Plymouth five corners. They were the Sharpless variety raised by James Brown. Paid him 20 cts. Paid 10 cts at the P.O. box and paid 8 cts for vinegar and 10 for soap.



Debits - .30, .18

Thursday, July 2

A beautiful morning, and it appears to have rained about six hundredths in the early part of the night. Paid Dunbar 25 cts, and postage 2 cts, which was on the meteorological report for the N.E. Society, Prof. Winslow Upton Secretary, or rather director.

Debits - .27

Friday, July 3

Went this morning to Archibald's and found the stones for the corner all cut, and they are ready to be set. We went to the mountain to find a plan for a road to the summit from the Pogue hole road. Thunder near at 11:40 a.m. and the thunder was heard frequently till about 3 p.m. and later there was a light shower. 0.06 inches of rain fell. I paid Smith 25 cts for mending boots. I received of Mr. Billings forty dollars. Paid White 10 cts for register for Mrs. Conant.

Credits - 40.00

Debits - .25, .10

Saturday, July 4

We rested well through the night as the boys failed of making their usual demonstrations. Almost half past ten o'clock, Mrs. Marcy of Taftsville called to carry Mrs. Doton to Mrs. Latimer's of Hartland. They had a pleasant ride as the air was beautiful and they were not in a hurry. Paid Collins 28 cts for meat. I remained at home alone the greater part of the time. I paid Chapman 75 cts for a new truss pad. Mrs. D. returned about 8 o'clock, having been detained by two showers. They had a very quiet and pleasant day, away from the noise of the village. Seventeen years ago this evening we rode to Pomfret and spent the night in our old chamber among the books and among the friends, very quietly.

Debits - .28, .75

Sunday, July 5

Foggy but not quite down to the surface. The showers yesterday left the ground very moist and the gardens showed the effects of the rain. I sat down quite early to my table and began to finish the meteorological reports for the department. Mrs. Doton is getting rested from the effects of her ride to Mrs. Latimer's yesterday, and I hope she will not receive any injury from it. Mr. Marcy called today to see her. A thunder shower gathered in the west and moved to the N.E. soon after 1 o'clock and that was followed by others. At nine o'clock in the evening there was very sharp lightning low in the south west, but it passed off so that it did not come here. The thunder showers have been peculiar this season. They have gathered in the west and northwest and moved north of us to the northeast, and others have gathered in the south or southwest and have moved south of us to the southeast or east, but none of the thunder showers have been felt here. The two showers of yesterday afternoon were the only ones that have been felt here since the beginning of June.

Monday, July 6

Mailed reports to the Signal Service, two of them on recent thunder showers. I paid 10 cts for strawberries, and I paid two dollars to Mrs. Welch for last weeks work. One of the reports mailed this morning was the monthly of the month of June and the others were the six thunder showers that have occurred since the beginning of June. There was thunder again today at half past twelve at noon, and it has been heard since a few times this afternoon. We paid 15 cts to the baker.

Tuesday, July 7

A warm and densely cloudy morning, barometer falling slightly; wind south and strong signs of rain. Paid Collins 45 cts for meat. There were slight sprinkles of rain in the forenoon, but none to measure till one p.m. The evening was very rainy but it ended about ten o'clock. 0.54 of rain fell.

Debits - .45

Wednesday, July 8

In the forenoon I went with Mr. Chapman to finish the road line through the woods from the Pogue hole road to the mountain. In the afternoon I went to the Town Clerk's office and searched records for some of the older deeds of the Charles Marsh farm.

Thursday, July 9

In the forenoon I got Benjmn. Southgate to go with Mr. Chapman to measure the line from the ash tree on the Chandler line to the large white rock on the summit of Mt. Tom north peak and get its direction. I spent the forenoon at the town clerk's office tracing the deeds of the Howe farm from Oliver Willard to Mr. Billings through seven or eight different owners. The men had very good success on the mountain making the distance nearly 26 rods and the course North 27 degrees East nearly. At nine o'clock there was strong lightning low in the northeast. I paid 1 ct postage. Herman Dunham called.

Debits - .01

Friday, July 10

A light thunder shower at about three o'clock this morning. 0.12 of rain. Thunder first heard at 3 a.m. and last 3:30. The rain was a short time after. But the rain has continued at short intervals through the day. We went to set some posts at the corners of the lots on Mr. Billings' land. Mr. Billings and family came home from a long journey to the Pacific coasts, and we are glad his place looks so well now for I never knew it to look half as well before. I paid Paul 32 cts for sugar and paid Brown for strawberries 15 cts. Paid school tax to Mr. Hewitt \$1.50.

Debits - .32, .15, 1.50

Saturday, July 11

A cool and beautiful morning. I worked in the garden the greater part of the forenoon, and then went to my table. I do not find the plan of Woodstock that I made some time ago, but I have found the outline plan of it and will draw another from that. Paid Collins 36 cts for meat and I paid 20 cts to the baker, and I paid Mrs. Welch \$2.00 for the weeks work. I have had the ill luck to have my Waterman spirit thermometer broken this morning. I had lent it to Mr. Standish to test one that he had. Herman Dunham was here this forenoon. I hope we shall see him often.

Debits - .36, .20, 2.00

Sunday, July 12

The night was cool, the thermometer falling to 44 degrees which is within three degrees of the possible frost. I have known a frost when the thermometer registers 41 degrees, but the air must be some different from the present. The forenoon has been very fine, the air clear and pure. I watched the time for the sun southing, and found my watch so nearly right that I should not know which way to move it. Soon after noon I went to the post office but found an empty box and we thought as Mrs. Fitch used to say, "No news is good news," and so we find it best to regard it. I met sister Joanna as I was walking out and was glad to find out that she could get out to church. She came here and we hope will stay through the day and night.

Monday, July 13

Cool, though a little warmer than yesterday. I spent much of the day on a town plan for the history of the town of Woodstock. Paid Murdock 75 cts for glasses, 14 inch. Paid Billings for thread 5 cts. Sister Joanna staid here through the night and today called on the dentist and had her front teeth extracted. She remained here till night and went home in the evening. I spent a part of the afternoon with H.S. Dana talking upon the plan and history of Woodstock, and I got some facts about the "Leslie tract."

Debits - .75, .05

Tuesday, July 14

Strong signs of rain early in the morning and it began to rain about 9:30 this forenoon though not a hard rain but afterward it increased to an easy steady rainstorm. I wrote a long letter to Abba for we have not seen her for a long time. I paid 25 cts for postage stamps. I paid Woodruff \$1.20 for feed for the hens. Sent \$12.06 Mut. Benefit Life Co. as assessment, and paid 10 cts postage fee. – Spent much of the afternoon on the records for Mr. Woodruff. Eighty-five hundredths of an inch of rain fell and the storm closed late in the evening.

Debits - .25, 1.20, 12.06, .10

Wednesday, July 15

Clear, with prospect of a warm day. Paid an extra 2 cts for milk. Received one dollar of Woodruff. Paid J.W. Hazen balance of acct. \$1.15. Paid the baker 20 cts. Paid Paul for salt 10 cts. I worked much of the day on the plan of the map of Woodstock, laying out the several early allotments made long before the beginning of the present century. In the afternoon I called on Mr. H.S. Dana and found some valuable facts about the Leslie tract.

Credits – 1.00

Debits - .02, 1.15, .20, .10

Thursday, July 16

Cumulus clouds low in the northwest and there was a shower in the latter part of the night, about 0.03 of an inch, and it fell probably about three o'clock in the morning. I lent 50 cts to Dunbar. In the afternoon Jason Dunham called and we were very glad to meet him, for he is trying to rise in the world and his talent leads him to music, and he appears to put his money to good use. Mrs. Bell [Emma Marcy] called also in the afternoon. Paid Paul 36 cts for crackers & provisions. Paid for milk and tickets 1.02.

Debits – .50, .36, 1.02

Friday, July 17

Warm and cloudy; ther. 69 degrees at 7 a.m. and at 2 o'clock p.m. 92 degrees and that is too warm for work. I paid for berries 12 cts to young Brown of Plymouth.

Debits - .12

Saturday, July 18

Received a letter from R.A. Perkins of the Rutland Herald with check for renewal of the old note that he has reduced to \$160.00, and if he keeps along he will get it paid up in time. I am truly glad to hear from him and hope he will soon get here for a pleasant visit. I tested the level this forenoon and in the afternoon we ran the line from the Pogue hole spring to the first road crossing east of it, and found our first line right for laying an aqueduct. Paid baker 10 cts, Hewitt 2 cts, young Brown 12 cts = 24 cts. Received of Robert as change on money sent. Rev. Samuel Pierce died at Manchester, Vt. at a quarter before one o'clock p.m.

Credits - .52

Debits - .24

Sunday, July 19

The night was cool and this shows another of the rapid changes that have been going on for a long time. Friday night was very warm, too warm for good and healthy rest, but last night we could rest comfortably and sweetly. I think the day will be clear and fine. And so it has been for it is now about four o'clock and the day is still and quiet. Dr. Logan was here a few minutes this forenoon and that is all the company we have had.

Monday, July 20

Mailed a letter to R.A. Perkins of the Rutland Herald, and I hope he will call upon us before many weeks. The morning was very pleasant, the air pure and healthy; at least it seems so. But the afternoon was very warm. Yesterday morning I paid 2 cts extra for milk and 2 this morning and I paid Mrs. Welch \$2 for last weeks work.

Debits - .04, 2.00

Tuesday, July 21

A very warm night but some cooler this morning and cloudy. It began to rain at 6:12 and 0.25 of water fell in a few minutes. There was another slight shower about 7 p.m. This morning I paid Collins 25 cts and 2 cts to Mr. Hewitt for extra milk. Sister Abigail came from Pomfret in the morning.

Debits - .27

Wednesday, July 22

Paid five cts for thread and ten cts to Brown for berries. Called on Isaac Fisher and I got him to cut a glass for use in reading and copying thermometer readings with pencil. Polk came from Pomfret with Charles Vaughan and I called on them at Paul's in the afternoon. Franklin Doten called here just before night, and will remain through the night, as he called on Mr. Pember and made a short visit with him. He brought a catalogue of his father's family and of his grandfather Clapp's family for me to copy.

Debits - .15

Thursday, July 23

Cousin Franklin Doten remained here through the night and we had a very interesting visit. He is a full Doten in his attachment to friends and relatives. He left his old bible with his family record for me to copy. He left about ten o'clock for his home, and I hope we can make him as good a visit. Paid 20 cts to the baker for bread and bunnis, and 2 cts extra for milk. Distant lightning was seen about nine o'clock this evening, but could not determine its direction. Gen. Grant died at Mt. McGregor, N.Y. at 8 o'clock a.m.

Debits - .20, .02

Friday, July 24

A slight shower between midnight and one o'clock this morning and one tenth of an inch of rain fell. Made plot of the road from Taftsville up the north side of the river to the junction of roads at the Cushing place and up the Pomfret road to the town line by the "Elm tree" named in the early deeds. It rained early this morning and it began again at one p.m. and there were light showers through the afternoon. I paid 4 cts for stamps for Mrs. Fairbanks.

Debits - .04

Saturday, July 25

Cloudy and slightly rainy. Paid Collins 25 cts for meat and I paid Chapman 13 cts for cream tartar. I spent much of the day in copying the road line plotted yesterday, and have now sketched it on the town map. Mr. Thompson called this forenoon on the subject of protecting the bridge at the gulf at Dewey's Mills from the stormy winds that at times blow in that place.

Debits - .25, .13

Sunday, July 26

The night was very warm and so is the morning, and every one seemed almost wilted down, but early in the day the wind changed to north and before noon the air was cool and the day from that time has been cool and comfortable. I rested much through the middle of the day, not so much by sleep as by quiet rest. Late in the afternoon Mortimer Spear came from Pomfret and sister Abigail went home with him. Carlie

Dunham called here in the evening. Her folks had hardly been here for two weeks, but they have been busy. Herman is just beginning a course of Law studies with French and Southgate, as I understand.

Monday, July 27

I paid Mr. Hewitt 12 cts for a peck of potatoes. Old potatoes will soon run by for new ones are coming very soon. I could work easily for a short time in the forenoon but the day was too warm and too sultry to allow us to work easily for any great length of time. The nights are rather cool. This morning the minimum thermometer registered only 49 degrees.

Debits - .12

Tuesday, July 28

The night was cool, the min. therm. registered only 50 degrees. I received of the bank six dollars as the July dividend and Mrs. Fairbanks as postage 4 cts. Paid Wm. S. Hewitt for coat \$2.50. Paid Mrs. Welch for last weeks work 2.00.

Credits – 6.00, .04

Debits – 2.50, 2.00

Wednesday, July 29

Lightning was seen at about three o'clock this morning and thunder was heard in the northwest at 5:10 a.m. and it began to rain at 6:12 a.m. with the prospect of a rainy or showery day. The showers continued through the forenoon and from the appearance we think there will be some hard rain before night. Mr. Billings called to see how his maps were moving along, and to get the price of his Thompson lot, or rather the contents of it, and I made a more critical computation of it, and sent it to him. I paid Chapman 12 cts for bisulphate of mercury. The amount of rain today is 0.43 of an inch.

Debits - .12

Thursday, July 30

Rested well, though the air was rather muggy or humid. I paid Collins 28 cts for meat, and Mortimer Spear called and I paid him one dollar to pay my share of interest on the note at the bank. I spent nearly all day on the plan of the roads on the mountain.

Debits – .28, 1.00

Friday, July 31

A foggy morning and nearly clear above the fog. Before 10 o'clock the pure cumulus clouds began to rise up in the west and thunder showers are almost sure to follow. Thunder was first heard at 12 minutes past noon and last heard at 3 p.m. Rain began at 15 minutes past 1 and ended at half past 3 p.m. The amount of rain was slight, only 0.05. I sent letter to Abba this morning. Paid 8 cts for buns. I took a walk this forenoon to get some dates about Volney Smith who was one of my early friends.

Debits - .08

Saturday, August 1

A good shower at 4:45 that lasted some more than half an hour. There was a thunder shower that began at a quarter before 12 o'clock noon, but the light rain continued till 8 p.m. and the low muttering thunder continued through the latter part of the afternoon. I have been some unwell through the day but have kept about the house and yard. We received a long full letter from Abba in which she speaks of the Swedenborgia books, and of some that we ought to get. I received \$40 from Mr. Billings. Paid extra 3 cts for milk.

Credits – 40.00

Debits - .03

Sunday, August 2

The night was a pleasant one for rest though I was not so well on Saturday. I think my long walk on Friday was a little too much, and I must have taken some cold. Sister Joanna came down to church and attended at the brick house as she was some too late to go to the chapel. Dr. Hazen called soon after and we had a very pleasant and interesting talk on scientific matters. Sister J. staid here till nearly night and then she took Mrs. Doton to ride a short distance, or as far as the upper bridge. We had a very pleasant call from our old friend James C. Barrett. I say old friend, for he was fully our friend when he lived with his father here in Woodstock.

Monday, August 3

The night was some cooler and I rested very well. There are some signs of rain. I paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar for milk tickets and 2 cts extra for more in quantity. The wind was strong in the S.E. at times today. A boy called to see if it would rain and was told that all the signs indicated rain, and he left thinking that he should lose his ride in the afternoon. It began to rain about 3 p.m. and increased slowly till midnight.

Debits – 1.00, .02

Tuesday, August 4

The rain fell in torrents about two o'clock a.m. and in showers till half past 8 o'clock or 9 a.m. The thunder began about 3 o'clock a.m. and at 5 a.m. there was severe shock and only one heard here. I called Dr. Logan about noon today, for I am having a threat of dysentery. Our friend Joseph W. Page came upon us very unexpectedly this afternoon, and we must try to make him comfortable through the night for we have not seen him for full twenty years. Another thunder shower came this evening, a real thunder shower. It began to thunder at 7:45 p.m. and ended at half past 8, but the rain began at 8 p.m. and ended at half past 8 p.m.

Wednesday, August 5

Our friend Joseph Page remained till past 10 o'clock a.m. and then started in the cars for home. Dr. Logan called and pronounced my medicine doing all right, though I have got some tired today. We had a remarkably pleasant call from Allen and Macy Barrett, it does seem so home like and social to meet those friends that have been with us or near us so long.

Thursday, August 6

We rested very well last night, and this morning Mrs. Doton concluded to take the use of the electrical battery in the morning. This morning I paid brother Spencer 5 dollars and I indorsed it on a note.

Debits – 5.00

Friday, August 7

A very pleasant morning and we rested well last night. I took a walk on the last day of July in the heated air, and it was a little too much for my strength and brought on some difficulty or some derangement of the stomach & bowels and, though getting along well, I do not fully recover from it. I paid Billings 65 cts for groceries. Abba called in the afternoon and we had not seen her for months. Spear paid me 25 cts as a balance on what I paid him July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Credits - .25

Debits – .65

Saturday, August 8

We rested well through the night. I paid Mrs. Welch four dollars for her work the two weeks closing today. Paid Collins 58 cts for meat. Mrs. Conant called this forenoon and will leave for Bridgewater, Mass. next week. She has been in that town for a long time as her husband, Marshal Conant, was a teacher there in the normal school.

Debits – 4.00, .58

Sunday, August 9

A beautiful morning, though the wind is southeast. The day was pleasant and clear or nearly so till towards night when the clouds began to gather, and at nine o'clock it began to rain. Mrs. Winslow, the mother of Alice and Ella Winslow, and Charlie who is out west in the railroad work, called about noon and it was a pleasant call. Her health seems to be much better than when she lived here. Horace and Carlie Dunham called about the same time, and their call was cheerful and pleasant.

Monday, August 10

It began to rain last night at nine o'clock and there was a slight rain in the night. There was 0.09 in. of rain in the gauge this morning, 0.04 of which I set to yesterday. I sent the corrected almanac to the White River Paper Co. this morning, and a letter to Abba, and the weather report for July to Washington. Of the 0.09 of the rain this morning I set 0.05 to today and there was 0.44 more fell today. The day was muggy and hot and we were both feeling very unwell. (Mortimer and Joanna came here and Joanna staid to cheer up our drooping spirits and to brace up our ill healths. We called Dr. Logan for a word or two of counsel.)

Tuesday, August 11

That part of yesterday's article that is inclosed in parentheses should have been written today, the result of neglecting to write each day. Sister Joanna remained here a few hours and she and Mrs. D. resolved to send for the Dr. and he came just before night. He changed the form of taking the medicine that he had prescribed.

Wednesday, August 12

We rested well through the night and the air may be some better today. Our fine rest last night and the Dr.'s change in the prescription appear to work well, and though the weather is very warm, we get along comfortably. We had but little company through the day. Herman Dunham called late in the afternoon and was in a very pleasant and social mood, and such calls are such as rest the tired nerves. Dr. Logan called in the evening to see how his change in the form of taking his prescription answered the purpose. There were two thunder showers in the evening. Thunder began at 8 p.m. in the West and this passed to the East. The next began at about half past ten in the evening and was in the south east. The rain ended about midnight. Amount 0.32 inches.

Thursday, August 13

The morning is warm and the air muggy and seemingly unhealthy, and there has been some slight rainfall. Mrs. Hutchinson is moving into Miss Richmond's house, and she will not now be alone. Thunder was heard again in the south at half past eleven a.m. and we have had one of the good old thunder showers. At 2 p.m. 2.20 in. of rain had fallen, and the thunder continues. At 7 p.m. there had fallen 0.34 of an inch more, and thunder continued till 8 p.m., the rain still falling. I read the instruments a few minutes before nine o'clock and what a dark and gloomy night! – About ten o'clock the bell rang and Mrs. Doton went to the door and called to know who was there, and the reply was, "Mattie and her grandmother." So they came in and were made comfortable for the time.

Friday, August 14

The thunder shower that began just before noon (11:30 p.m.) yesterday ended early this morning, and the rainfall in the time was 3.63 inches, the greatest rain in the time since Oct. 4, 1869, but it raised the streams but very little. There was a slight shower at one o'clock today, and after that the wind came to the N.W. or N. 0.05 of rain fell. Mattie Emery had good success in getting conveyance home so they all left before noon. I was some better in the afternoon and began to work on the plans. The calls have been frequent to know the amount of rainfall since the shower began at 11:30 yesterday. Paid 50 cts for fish.

Debits - .50

Saturday, August 15

Nearly half the month of August has passed, and how quickly! The air is now pure and good, and has been thoroughly washed by the late heavy rain. Wind North and fresh. Paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for the week. We hardly had a call from any one this afternoon, though I think Herman Dunham was here for a

short time. In the evening we took a very pleasant snooze, and perhaps it fitted us for a good rest through the night.

Debits – 2.00

Sunday, August 16

The night was almost cool enough for a frost, the thermometer falling to 42 degrees. We are very sure of frost when it falls to 37 degrees, and very slight frosts have been seen when it fell to 41 degrees. We rested remarkably well through the night, for the air was pure and cool enough for comfort. Mortimer Spear called on his way to church this morning, with sister Joanna and Miss Barber, and we some expected they would call at noon but they did not. Sister Electa called after the forenoon service at the Brick Church and was here nearly half an hour. She looks to be some tired, but otherwise seems to be well. Abba sent down from Pomfret some apples to Mrs. Southgate and a letter to us telling us that Polk is sick and she could not come down yesterday or today. Mr. and Mrs. Marcy from Taftsville called in the evening, a pleasant visit.

Monday, August 17

A fine and cool morning, and a very pleasant day. We rested very well through the night and feel more like work today. Have copied the plan of the Meadow farm house and the gas pipes to and from the Mason house.

Tuesday, August 18

Rested well through the night and got up about half past 5 o'clock. Paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar for tickets. I spent the greater part of the day on the plans. In the forenoon we had a pleasant and interesting call from Mr. Crosby who now lives in North Orange, Mass. He has in part gained his health and can now preach one sermon each Sunday, and can read and write some. We had a call about the same time from Misses Laura and Lizzie Billings whom we had not seen for some weeks.

Debits – 1.00

Wednesday, August 19

A foggy morning, and seems like the fall of the year. I spent the forenoon on the plans of the roads on the mountains. Thunder was heard at 2:35 p.m. and a shower seems to be approaching from the west. Rain began about 3 p.m. but was very light. 0.04. and ended about 3:30. Received a letter from Mrs. Albert Darling of Aurora, Ill. And we will reply to it soon.

Thursday, August 20

A cool morning. Wind N.W. with pure and refreshing air. The night was a good one for sleep and rest. We had a short call from Mr. Crosby whom I regard as one of the best and most spiritual minded of men. I can well keep some of his sermons in mind that he preached here six years ago. His series of sermons on the prodigal son were truly deep and interesting.

Friday, August 21

A cool morning and we shall hear of frosts in exposed places. The minimum thermometer registered 41 this morning and the reading at 7 o'clock was but little higher. A good time for work at my table and I improved it. Worked on the small plans of the gas at the Mason house and the farm on the meadow and the Thompson barns. Paid Woodruff 55 cts for oats. There was a light shower at 3 p.m. and a hard thunder shower that began at 10:30 and rain at 11 p.m. The thunder continued till after midnight.

Debits - .55

Saturday, August 22

The thunder shower continued, the thunder till 3 a.m. and the rain till about 4 a.m., and the full amount was 0.76 inches. I went to the post office and to druggists and paid 48 cents and have not been there for three weeks I think. I spent much of the day on the plans, but I must get the amount of land included within the outline of the surveys.



Debits - .48

Sunday, August 23

A pleasant morning after a good night's rest, and we have not attempted to drive the day by rising too early. Mrs. Doton did the house work in very good order and it is pleasant to have her about the house again in better health. The Sunlight was very fine in the forenoon and we went into the garden for a Sun-bath. The afternoon was cloudy but the air was warm and pleasant, and we again went into the garden. The flower beds are in good condition and seem like a small sea of varied flowers. We have been alone today except having a short call from Carlie. It is now nearly night and we are still alone.

Monday, August 24

Wrote and mailed a letter to our friends at Franklin. Paid 13 cts for stamps. Paid Paul 24 cts for sugar. It began to rain quietly at 9 a.m. Paid Mrs. Welch 2.00 for last weeks work. This forenoon I took up the computation of the area of Mr. Billings' meadow and the fair ground. It began to rain about 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 0.34 inches had fallen at about 5 p.m. and 0.01 fell afterwards.

Debits - .13, .24, 2.00

Tuesday, August 25

A rainy morning with nearly a north wind or N.N.W. wind, and there is a chill in the air that makes it hard to breathe. I have spent the day on the computations of the contents of the meadow and there will be nearly ninety acres of the whole including the fair ground. I paid Collins 25 cts for meat.

Debits - .25

Wednesday, August 26

This is the coolest morning that we have had this season. Ther. registered 39 degrees this morning, but I have not heard of frost. We received a letter from Franklin this morning and find them all well, and have not yet been washed away by the freshet. Abba sent a team down with apples, some of them for Mrs. Southgate and some for others but they do not sell readily. Early apples are plenty. Sent \$12.06 to Life Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn, and paid post office for the money order that I sent. Fee 10 cts. Paid Paul for pepper 10 cts.

Debits - 12.06, .10, .10

Thursday, August 27

Another cool morning, the temperature nearly the same as yesterday, but much more cloudy. I took a walk to see Woodruff and found him at George Day's shop. Mrs. Doton went to Horace Dunham's for a short visit. She went at ten in the forenoon and returned at five in the afternoon, and had an excellent visit with her sister and the family. We received a letter from Abba.

Friday, August 28

Frost. Ther registered 34.5 degrees and this will insure a frost, but will only reach some of the more tender plants. Sent a business letter to Abba and she will probably be down here tomorrow.

Saturday, August 29

A pleasant morning but the air feels more like October than August. Abba came from Pomfret and brought apples and pears to a few of her friends and customers. I spent the day on the plans and computations. Mrs. Charles Vaughan came with Abba from Pomfret. Mr. Lockwood came in the forenoon to get some measures about the aqueduct from the spring on the Howe farm to the reservoir on Mr. Billings' land.

Sunday, August 30

Awoke this morning and heard the patter of the rain on the buildings. We did not get up till after six o'clock, but soon got our chores in order and had breakfast in good time though we are alone. A rainy day. Carlie called in the forenoon and Mrs. Russell a few minutes towards night. The rain falls very easily

and if it continues long the August rains will be very heavy. Eight inches or more have already fallen, which is the greatest amount that has fallen in any one month excepting October 1869 when nearly thirteen inches fell.

Monday, August 31

This is the last day of the month and we have had a peculiarly rainy month. Neary eight and a half inches of rain has fallen and yet it is still raining. I have spent the day on the computation of the Thompson farm. Abba came down from Pomfret with things to us and to others. She appears to be very well.

Tuesday, September 1

The heat of the summer has past and the latter part of August was cool. This morning I fitted the meteorological reports for the N.E. Society and must mail them today. Paid 9 cts for postage stamps. Brought forward 33.20.

Debits – .09

Wednesday, September 2

Strong westerly wind inclining to the N.W. I received from the Smithsonian Institution their report for 1883. I paid Woodruff 25 cts for horse hire and paid Slack 12 cts for sweet potatoes. We can already begin to notice the change in the forest foliage, and if it should continue as rapidly as the present indicates, we shall have an early and a brilliant glow of autumn colors. The season has been very favorable for a rich display and we hope it may come.

Debits - .25, .12

Thursday, September 3

A cool morning and frost is reported in the neighborhood though a slight fog prevented any particular damage. I paid Collins 25 cts for meat. I paid \$12.28 taxes to F. Southgate, treasurer. I paid White 75 cts for Harper's Old Testament for Abba. Dr. Logan called with his mother in the afternoon, a very pleasant call.

Debits - .25, 12.28, .75

Friday, September 4

Weather much warmer. I paid Mrs. Welch 4 dollars for last week & this one. I paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets 1 dollar. Herman Dunham called with my account of guardianship that he had been computing. I worked through the day on the computation of Mr. Billings' sugar place lot and the mountain lot and find some work in correcting the old surveys.

Debits – 4.00, 1.00

Saturday, September 5

I began early on the surveys and I find much difficulty reconciling the old surveys with the new. I spent the greater part of the day on that part of the work, but did not finish it satisfactorily to myself. Abba came down in the afternoon and was about here for some time.

Sunday, September 6

A clear and beautiful morning, but we find some frost in the garden. Yet it is now the season of the year when we may expect to find cool nights and frosty mornings. I finished the meteorological article for the Standard and the report for the Signal Service Office in Washington. I have hardly taken time to rest today and of course have felt some tired. Sister Joanna came in about noon as she came from the forenoon service at the Chapel and has remained here through the afternoon. She took us almost by surprise though we had been hoping that she would come down today. Horace Dunham called late in the afternoon for a pleasant chat. The day has been somewhat cool though clear and pleasant, and the autumn colors are becoming quite rich, and are coming out rapidly.

Monday, September 7

A thick fog this morning and it has probably prevented a frost. Paid 60 cts to Prior for brandy. Paid Billings' 50 cts for Graham flour. Paid Woodruff 10 cts for meal. I have been busy on the surveys and have completed the balance of the large field east of the Rogers tract. Have twice been upstreet of errands. Mortimer called and sister Joanna went home having made us a very pleasant little visit. Herman Dunham called in the afternoon, and is at work on "My Guardian" account. Miss Mary Chandler, one of my former pupils, died in Pomfret at Mr. J.D. Hewitt's of typhoid fever today. She was 44 years old.

Debits - .60, .50, .10

Tuesday, September 8

These dense fogs are a favor in cool nights for they tend to prevent frosts. The Connecticut River fogs have for a long time been noted and they spread a broad distance up the valleys on each side. I have been busy on the computations of the areas of Mr. Billings' lands. I find that the sugar place and the mountain lot contain more than two hundred acres. I paid Paul 40 cts for groceries.

Debits - .40

Wednesday, September 9

Some rain through the night and signs of more rain for the barometer fell full three tenths of an inch since the 9 o'clock reading last night. I have given the probability of a rainy day, and it proves so as the day passes along. I have worked on the computation of areas through the day and find that there will prove to be nearly or quite six hundred and fifty acres in the Marsh farm and its connections.

Thursday, September 10

The rain continued through the night and this morning there was three tenths of water in the gauge, making about an inch and three fourths of rain this month; or more exactly 1.76 inches this month making 10.24 inches since the first of August. I paid Collins 25 cts for meat this morning. I continued the computation of the north mountain lot, and have computed the Anderson piece and the Moss piece, making about 220 acres in the north mountain.

Debits - .25

Friday, September 11

A cool and very foggy morning, the fog preventing a frost, for the temperature is cold enough to have a hard frost. Today I am computing the contents of the Dana wood lot and the Pogue hole piece. I went to the Post Office and called on my friend H.S. Dana.

Saturday, September 12

Another cold foggy morning, the thermometer registering about 35.5 degrees, and is only about 40 degrees at 7 a.m. Today I have finished the computation of Mr. Billings' lands, that is those that are in one body though I was too tired to work easily. Miss Etta Adams called just before noon and is to dine at Dr. Chandler's with Mrs. Dr. McCollum and her four children. Abba came down from Pomfret with some errands about in this part of the village. She left for home about four o'clock. Miss Mary Simmons called soon after and about the same time Herman Dunham. Miss Simmons called to learn more about the poet H.D. Thoreau as she wishes to call up such things in the classes when she is teaching.

Sunday, September 13

Another foggy morning and no frost. We were hardly awake at six this morning and did not get up till nearly 7 o'clock. The weather was damp and cool and it seemed as though no one hurried at all. The fog soon cleared away and it was followed by a most beautiful day. Thermometer full 72 degrees at two o'clock. We expected some one from Pomfret and before one o'clock Mr. Leach and his sister and sister Electa called in on their way home from church. A pleasant call for the day was fine and all things were pleasant. We have just come from the garden and have cut some flowers to send to Miss Gardner at Houghton, Houghton Co., Michigan. Dr. Logan called a few minutes ago (3 p.m.) and is nearly sick himself with hay fever. I have just finished and sealed a letter to Miss Gardner and have had very good

luck in inclosing the flowers, I can but think she will be pleased with them. Time has passed rapidly since she was with us at the Fitch place thirteen years ago, and she is now nearly eighty years old. We hope she can live many pleasant and happy years yet in this world.

Monday, September 14

Mailed a letter with flowers to Miss Gardner. There were light showers early this morning but it cleared away and the day was pleasant. Have been some unwell with what the doctors call hay fever, and have not worked easily. My pens and the ink do not work well together, and I must try to find a better kind. I spoiled all my inks by trying to use Carter's Combined inks, which is too thick and has too heavy a body.

Tuesday, September 15

A pleasant morning. Mr. Watkins is digging the potatoes in a piece that he planted in our garden, and I put half of them in our cellar. I paid Paul 37 cts for groceries and paid Murdock 50 cts for glasses and Mrs. Welch two dollars for last week's work. I have turned back with Stevens ink and will fill a few lines with it for it is too good and pure an ink not to use when these blank lines are waiting to be filled. Paid Collins 8 cts for meal.

Debits - .37, .50, 2.00, .08

Wednesday, September 16

Herman Dunham called this morning as he starts today for College Hill where he begins his last year in college. I hope his health will hold out and enable him to continue his studies to a good old age. I called on the barber and paid him twenty cents.

Debits - .20

Thursday, September 17

I turn back with Stephens Ink and it flows very freely. I spent the greater part of the forenoon in chores about the house. In the afternoon I worked on the plan of the Thompson farm, and tried to letter it but the ink did not work well.

Friday, September 18

I begin again to work with Stevens Ink and have written with mixtures of other inks through the summer. I spoiled my inks by trying to use copying inks. I have sent today two papers to Judge Bradley of the Supreme Court, who is now at Stowe. And I have just written a long letter to Albert Darling of Aurora, Ill. In the afternoon I tried my hand some to the drawing but it was not a good day for this work. Mrs. Marcy came to the village from Taftsville, and brought Miss Latimer. Mrs. M. took Mrs. Doton on a short ride out, and Miss L. came while they were gone.

Saturday, September 19

A pleasant morning and I went to the post office and mailed letter to Albert Darling and one for Mrs. Welch. Paid Woodruff 1.20 for feed for the horse and paid Hazen 25 cts for small tea pot, and Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for this weeks work. Soon after the train came in we were greeted by a call from our old friend Robert Perkins. It was a surprise to us for we did not expect him till next Monday. His presence makes the afternoon smile, for he has been away for a year or more. But he will now be at Rutland for a time and we shall probably see him more often. The sunsets are truly glowing this fall, and are very brilliant this evening. The leading color is a beautiful shade of orange. Paid Paul for potatoes.

Debits - 1.20, .25, 2.00

Sunday, September 20

We rested well through the night for the air was clear and cool, just cool enough to allow people to rest easily. We expected to see our friend Robert again this morning but he probably left early for Pomfret and he will probably be about here for one week or more. I have spent a little time today in getting my meteorological work into some shape. My pens do not work well today yet I cannot think my ink is too thick nor too heavy. The day has been one of the most beautiful of the season, and what brilliant sunsets!

There is a beautiful halo that surrounds the sun through the day, and it is seen best soon after sunset. We have been alone here through the day as no one has called. We have expected some of Horace's folks, and we had thought of Robert's calling again before he went to Pomfret, but no one has been here. Though the day has been so fine and so pleasant the evening is cool and the thermometer reading only 40 degrees, and we may expect a dense frost in the morning. The brilliant sunsets are more marked than I have seen before, and this evening there was a shade of pink that I had not noticed before, and it was most truly glowing extending from S.W. to N.W.

Monday, September 21

A cool and very foggy morning. The min. ther. registered 33 degrees and it is the lowest that we have noticed this fall. The weather seems like fall though the forest foliage has not reached its highest glow of colors. I have hardly found it possible to work half the time today on the drawing. Abba came down from Pomfret and as usual with a good supply of errands. She is as the old saying is, "Man, boy and dog," and she does all the errands too. That beautiful sunset was as usual tonight and with the moon in the east at the same time the display is rather fine and pleasant to view. Paid Collins 50 cts and it is set on the 30<sup>th</sup> and accounted for 50 cts.

Debits – .50

Tuesday, September 22

Not so cool but some foggy with a strong breeze from the S. or S.W. This is the first day of the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the Windsor County Fair, and we are indebted to Hon. Ora Paul for a complimentary ticket to continue through the Fair. I paid Geo. W. Paul 32 cts for sugar and 15 cts for kerosene, and I paid Billings \$1.62 for a bag of flour. The barometer is falling rapidly and we may make ready for a strong wind and rain. A bad time for the Windsor County Fair.

Debits – .32, .15, 1.62

Wednesday, September 23

The wind and the rain that I spoke of yesterday came in the night. At two o'clock or a little before the wind awoke us and soon after that it began to rain and it still (12 a.m. or 0 p.m. of today) rains and the wind blows. I have just now received a letter from Prof. Pickering of Cambridge College on my leveling of Mansfield and Killington. Snow fell freely in the forenoon and it gathered so as to be measured on the hills in the neighborhood. About four inches deep in Barnard.

Thursday, September 24

There is no rain this morning but the clouds and the wind are rather strong. But the weather is improving so the fair may go off some better than was feared yesterday. The afternoon is more pleasant than the morning. Addison Darling called this forenoon and will call again tomorrow. I paid a lady peddler 15 cts for medicine, and I received 20 dollars of Mr. Billings. Am at work slowly on Mr. Billings' working plans and surveys.

Credits – 20.00

Debits – .15

Friday, September 25

This is the closing day of the Windsor County Fair and the most pleasant day of the fair. But little could be done Wednesday, the 2d day for it was too windy and rainy. Addison Darling called this morning and I paid him \$14.75 which pays the interest on the note he holds against me to June 8, 1885. I have spent much of the day on the plans. In the evening I walked to Horace Dunham's with mail for Miss Latimer, and the air seems quite cool, and we may expect a frost. We were alone in the evening and every thing seemed pleasant and cosy.

Debits – 14.75

Saturday, September 26

The frost came and the thermometer fell a very little below the freezing point but it is a very pleasant morning notwithstanding the frost and cold. The day has been one of the fairest of autumn days, and the colors of the forest foliage deepen now quite rapidly. I went to the post office and mailed letter to our friends at Springfield, Mass. Paid 10 cts for postage stamps and paid Paul 13 cts for sweet potatoes. Abba came from Pomfret in the afternoon and again freighted with errands, and Mortimer Spear came also with errands. Miss Latimer made a very pleasant call and got flowers to use at the cemetery.

Debits - .10, .13

Sunday, September 27

This is one of the pleasant days of autumn. Temperature 51 degrees at 7 a.m. and it has been increasing, and at 2 p.m. it was 80 degrees which is a warm day for September. Yesterday morning the lowest temperature was 31.6 degrees, and it is 80 degrees at 2 p.m. today, a change of almost 50 degrees. We are here at home alone this very pleasant day and have rested ourselves very well though I have kept my pen running the greater part of the time. We could not get out to run on the hills, but we could go into the garden among the flowers and see much that God has done in that direction. The decaying forest foliage is fast putting on its glow of beautiful colors, and the present idea and appearance indicates an early day of the highest glow. That glow was one year on the first of October. It was in 1866, and in 1881 it was not until the 16<sup>th</sup>; and it appears now as though the brightest would be soon after the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Monday, September 28

Rose early this morning and got the chores out of the way ready for work. The fog was very dense and the darkness indicated rain, but the fog moved away in time and a warm clear day followed. I spent the working part of the day on the plans. I went to the P.O. in the morning and paid Paul 20 cts for fish; and in the afternoon I paid Chapman 18 cts for bisulphate of mercury which is 12 cts an ounce. Mailed letter to Prof. Pickering of Harvard College Observatory. I paid Hewitt 1 dollar for tickets.

Debits - .20, .18, 1.00

Tuesday, September 29

These are very foggy mornings and are so dense that it seems like a dense stratus cloud. We paid Collins 30 cts for meat. Paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for last weeks work. The middle of the day and the afternoon were very warm, the thermometer rising nearly to 80 degrees. The Sun shine seemed almost scalding hot yet the evening is cooler. I have driven myself on the plans this afternoon, and I begin to like the appearance of them. There is some work in 18 or 20 of them. Carlie Dunham called in the evening; a very pleasant call.

Debits - .30, 2.00

Wednesday, September 30

Dense fogs prevail and they continue till nearly ten o'clock. I continued my drawing work this forenoon till nearly eleven o'clock and then laid it aside to go to the post office. Paid 5 cts for vinegar at Slack's. The weather is very warm and seems almost like having thunder showers. My drawing work continued till too dark to work. See Sept 21<sup>st</sup> for 50 cts to balance the account which in the cash account says not accounted for. Carlie Dunham came in the evening for the pears that Joanna sent to her and Miss Latimer came with her.

Debits - .05

Thursday, October 1

Another foggy morning and a warm day followed. Paid 21 cts for sugar & 8 cts for vinegar at Slack's. Spent the day at my table and that is my business as long as I can work at such work. Four hours a day is all that one can safely work at such work. Let them change to something else. Brought forward 4.42.

Debits - .29

Friday, October 2

Dense clouds and some fog this morning, and there is much appearance of rain. Spent the day of about six hours at the drawing table, but the day is too dark to work easily. Six hours work of that kind is too much, as my work today will show. A large blot on a valuable sheet was the result of tired nerves and a tired head.

Saturday, October 3

Cloudy with strong signs of rain. Mortimer came in the forenoon and about eleven o'clock we went to Pomfret to the old place where I had not been for nearly a year, which is the longest time that I have ever been away from the old home of my father and mother, every part of which is distinctly pictured in my memory and imagination. I staid till nearly night and then we rode again to Woodstock where we found everything safe and right at home. I have watched the autumn colors and I think is the brightest of the season.

Sunday, October 4

The day is now Sunday and we do not need to hurry about starting but we were up before about six o'clock and we have been alone till this evening when Carlie called with a cheerful smile. I have spent nearly the whole day with chores about the house and barn, and this is well for such things need to be done as well as more important and showy work. It is a day of rest and we all should use it as such, though we do not always do it. I spent some time in looking over the copies of the Post that we started about the year 1871 I think. I tried to find a copy of an article I wrote on Ascutney mountain but have not yet been able to find it. I must get the Mansfield article re-printed if possible.

Monday, October 5

One inch of rain fell in the storm Saturday and Sunday which is a good beginning for October. Miss Billings called here this morning and wishes us to dine with them tomorrow. Miss Latimer called in the afternoon and has now gone to Taftsville and is so far on her way to Smithville. I received of Frank Simmons one dollar and fifty cents for the survey of the lot he bought of the Savings bank. Abba came from Pomfret in the afternoon, and always with a full supply of errands to be done. She did not get started for home till about four o'clock.

Credits – 1.50

Tuesday, October 6

The weather now is cloudy and cool, and I might almost say, cold. Franklin Billings came this forenoon to assist me in making a survey of his father's lot where the livery stable is kept. We made the measurements in the forenoon, and in the afternoon I went to the Town Clerk's office to find the description of the line between Woodbury's lot and the old Danforth lot. I paid the August assessment on the Mutual Insurance policy of \$2.94

Debits – 2.94

Wednesday, October 7

Colder. – Thermometer registered 28 degrees and that is three degrees lower than I have known it before during this season. I think the ground froze slightly, but the garden does not show very much decay. Today I had a pleasant call from my friend Kimball Perkins whom I have not seen for many months before. He was in a very humble mood today, otherwise he would not have called on me. He got a pair of boots of Thomas Smith and a pair of undershirts of Wm. S. Hewitt. The boots were \$3. And the shirts \$1.00 and these I must see paid for.

Thursday, October 8

I took some more measurements about the Danforth lot and spent some time in searching the records to find a particular dimension of the lane on that lot. In the afternoon I went to Mr. Billings' barns to point out the drain pipes from the horse barn to the outlet near the Denison park. These I had in memory fully and also have them sketched in a note book. The evening was a cool one and the air seemed very chilly and damp. Paid 6 cents for newspaper envelope.

Debits - .06

Friday, October 9

This morning I put off my summer under clothes and put on those thicker and warmer, and could well feel the difference. Early this forenoon I finished the September weather report and mailed it to the Signal Service office. I met Mr. Billings and he wishes to have the new aqueduct pipes surveyed and laid out on the plans that I am making for him. There was one of the most beautiful sunsets that I have yet seen, at first a pink and after it changed slowly to a rich orange, and all through it was very brilliant. It was the best that I have seen this season.

Saturday, October 10

I finished the plan of F.N. Billings' Danforth lot and left it with him and he paid me three dollars, and I paid Mr. Billings for graham 50 cents and I paid Mrs. Welch for last weeks work 2 dollars. In the afternoon I tried to fix the cross hairs in my transit and found it to be a very nice work. Abba came from Pomfret with her errands, and will be here again probably next Monday. Paid Slack for groceries 18 cts.

Credits – 3.00

Debits - .50, 2.00, .18

Sunday, October 11

The weather changes rapidly. The mean temperature of the 3<sup>rd</sup> was 58.25, and four days after that, that is on the 7<sup>th</sup>, it was 33.05 or more than twenty five degrees lower; and on the fourth it was 58.50, a fall of the temperature of 25.45 degrees in three days. The weather was cool this morning and it has been growing cold through the day. I tried to rest me and have succeeded very well. It is now nearly seven o'clock in the evening and I have just got a thought that I must write a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus Parker of Baniston, Canada, Province of Quebec. Mrs. Parker fifty five years ago was Susan Crooker and I have not seen her since. I think the Crooker family went to Barford in 1830 or 31. I went to Canada I think in 1837 but I did not see Mrs. Parker. They lived five or six miles away, and I was in Derby line where we were stopping for a few days.

Monday, October 12

There was a brilliant sunset last night and an equally brilliant sunrise this morning. The cause of these no one yet can tell, and I hope that scientists will study upon it till they can find the true cause. I mailed a long letter to Mr. & Mrs. Alpheus Parker of Baniston, P.Q. and I hope to get a reply in time. This has been a pleasant day and warm enough for comfort. Sister Joanna called just before night and will probably come to stay some before many days. – I selected a pair of pants at Wm. S. Hewitt's and left them with Mr. Myers to be re-fitted.

Tuesday, October 13

Mr. Porter called to see about the cattle pass on Strongs land near the orchard. I soon called at the depot and left two small note books one of the western part of the W.R.R. and one of the eastern part. He (Mr. Porter) put them in his safe. Received of Mr. Billings 30 dollars, and I paid Mr. Myers 40 cts for work on my pants and I paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for last weeks work. Paid Slack 8 cts for lamp chimney.

Credits – 30.00

Debits - .40, 2.00, .08

Wednesday, October 14

It rained through the early part of the night and this morning there had fallen 0.39 of an inch, and the rain today measured 0.06 making 0.45 of an inch that fell since the storm began. This morning I sent \$18.06 to the Mutual Benefit Life Co. to pay the assessment to be paid on or before Oct. 23d and the amount due payable Nov. 2d which is 6 dollars; and the money order fee of 15 cts, and I paid 8 cts for stamps and I paid Murdock 50 cts for eye glasses and paid Billings 25 cts for oatmeal, and Paul 20 cts for sweet potatoes. Polk came down from Pomfret, and has not been here before for nearly three months.

Debits – 18.06, .15, .08, .50, .25, .20



Thursday, October 15

This morning I paid Mr. Hewitt one dollar for milk tickets, and in the forenoon I went to Mr. Billings' barn to get the positions of water pipe from the horse barn to the farm house, and the position of the Ts placed in the pipes to put in branches to the horse barn, cottage and the barn for the cows. In the afternoon I went with Mr. Chapman to trace the Aqueduct from the well at the N.W. corner of the woodlot to the reservoir and we traced it nearly the whole distance.

Debits – 1.00

Friday, October 16

A pleasant day dawns upon us, and I ought to go into the fields with my transit or level. – We received a card from Mrs. R.D. Conant asking for Miss Latimer. Paid Paul 40 cts for sugar, and paid 5 cts for postal cards. Mailed one to Mrs. R.D. Conant, that is I wrote it and will mail it in the morning. Paid Paul 40 cts for sugar as above and I carelessly repeated it. Caroline called here and Mrs. Damon called and Mrs. Russell called. These were in the afternoon. I have spent the greater part of the day on the notes taken in the past few days and a few years ago.

Debits – .40, .05

Saturday, October 17

The weather now is cool, but pleasant. I received on R.R. bond \$17.50 of bank. Paid savings bank \$15.12 interest on the Thompson note. And I paid Collins one dollar for meat in full to date. It is one of the most beautiful fall days, the oak leaves being a deep yellow with a brownish shade. Paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for the weeks work and Chapman 8 cts for Ammonia. Spoke to Mr. Porter to get the time at the Junction, and this afternoon I compared his time with my own and my watch is about 17 or 18 seconds too fast, and if so the town clock is more than one minute too slow.

Credits – 17.50

Debits – 15.12, 1.00, 2.00, .08

Sunday, October 18

Early this morning the clouds were low so that they rested on the top of Mt. Tom, but after the Sun rose those foggy clouds dispersed and the wind was steadily in the south west and the sky was only partly covered with cumulo stratus clouds and the day was very pleasant and balmy. The colors of the foliage on the mountain where the trees are mostly oak, are now about the highest and a deep brown orange color seems to prevail. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> when the maples glowed with the brightest red the oak was a dense green and had not begun to change, while now they are at about the brightest deep orange brown. We have been here alone today, and though I have been very busy, we have enjoyed the day very much for we are both feeling comfortably well. Mrs. D. has been able to do the necessary chores about the house, and we can but love the quiet of home when we are able to keep it alone. Miss Richmond called about four in the afternoon and that is all the company we have had today and it is now nearly half past six.

Monday, October 19

The morning was foggy and there was much appearance of rain, though the barometer was quiet or rising. But the day has passed without rain. I have worked very busily at my table on the plans for Mr. Billings, and the day has been a very quiet one, warm enough for comfort, and not enough to prevent rapid work. I am now writing with Stephens ink and have used it almost entirely for the last month, beginning to use it Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. Sister Joanna came from home this evening and I hope she will stay and get rested, for she is often afflicted with a rheumatic lameness.

Tuesday, October 20

Dense clouds from the southwest and an appearance of storm, but the barometer does not show signs of it. I got five papers from Mr. Green containing my Mansfield survey. – Paid White 10 cents for Washington pens and 10 cts for table salt. Received a letter from Prof. Pickering on the receipt of the papers that I sent to him last week. I hope he will find the results of those surveys correct and satisfactory. The day has been very warm and the sky mostly much obscured by clouds but there has been a very strong south

wind that has prevented all the rain that people were looking for. Paid Paul 15 cts for kerosene. There was a slight rain from 9 to 11 this forenoon but I did not notice it rain.

Debits - .10, .10, .15

Wednesday, October 21

The night has been very warm, therm reading 60 this morning. The air was extremely muggy and no one could sleep a refreshing sleep. It must have begun to rain as early as three o'clock this morning as there is 0.04 of rain in the gauge. Paid Richmond & Taylor 75 cts for lard. Paid Jones for matching flannel 73 cts. Paid Misses McCollum 20 cts for goods. Received of sisters E. & J. for express bill 30 cts. The rain has increased from morning till night though not steadily, and at half past five p.m. there was 1.04 inches in the gauge. – I have spent the day on the plans and this afternoon have laid out the road through the Dana wood lot, with very good success.

Credits – .30

Debits – .75, .73, 20

Thursday, October 22

Half an inch more of rain since yesterday and the full measure since the storm began is  $1.04 + 0.04 + 0.50 = 1.58$  inches, and it was a furious storm. Heavy showers of rain with strong wind day and night make up the storm. My young friend Franklin Swift Billings started this morning for Texas where the report says he will remain about ten months, and I wish him abundant success and good health. I paid 50 cts to Billings & blind peddler 5 cts. My work has gone along slowly.

Debits - .50, .05

Friday, October 23

A pleasant October morning. Forty two years ago today there was a severe snow storm and the snow remained on the ground till spring. But this has been a very pleasant day and no appearance of storm. Sister Joanna has been here through the day and has been at work for me. I paid 8 cts for braid to bind an old coat that I have had many years. Mrs. Emery (Christiana Page) came here in the afternoon and brought her youngest child, one that I had never seen before.

Debits - .08

Saturday, October 24

A cool and cloudy morning with westerly wind though it was for a time difficult to get its direction. I paid 8 cts for a roll of braid and I paid Mrs. Welch 2.00 for the weeks work. The calls have been quite numerous. Miss Richmond came in the forenoon and Mrs. Latimer and Angela in the afternoon. Mrs. Russell and her sister Mrs. Simmons called a few minutes just before night and Mrs. Fairbanks a few minutes later. I paid Billings 45 cts for lettuce.

Debits - .08, 2.00, .45

Sunday, October 25

A very clear sky with a beautiful sunset last night and an equally glowing sunrise this morning. These glowing sunlights seem to increase in beauty and brightness and who can tell for a fact of their cause or their origin? This is one of the best of October days, the air cool but very bright and clear. Sister Joanna is here with us today and her presence drives off all loneliness, but in the afternoon she went home with Mr. & Mrs. Leach as they went home from church. They sometimes come to church in the afternoon and then it is to the Methodist church as there is no other of the churches that are open in the afternoon. We had no calls after she left for home, and it is now evening and just seven o'clock. We have had our suppers alone and are now resting comfortably. The streets are all still and quiet as any summer evening. The glowing sunset was truly brilliant with a deep shade of pink and orange. The air has been clear through the day and there were no clouds to prevent all the glow of sunset that the nature of the case would allow. Mr. Charles Carlisle fell by his own hand today.

Monday, October 26

Another very fine morning tho some cool. The thermometer fell to 24 degrees in the night and had risen to 26 at 7 o'clock. In the morning I went to Mr. Billings' garden to give the line of the aqueduct to the reservoir but was not detained only a few hours. At my table I made a plan of the aqueduct to the reservoir on a small scale, that is one inch to forty rods. I had remarkably good success in putting it on to the plan.

Tuesday, October 27

The weather is now very beautiful the mornings as well as the evenings are a perfect glow as the sun comes up to the horizon or falls below it. I paid Collins 44 cts for meat, and that is all that I have paid out today. I have spent the day at my table and have been fixing and preserving the notes of surveys about the house lot of Mr. Billings' home place. The funeral of Mr. Carlisle was attended at the brick church this afternoon. Abba came down from Pomfret with errands in abundance. Miss Laura Churchill died today. She was the daughter of the late Joseph Churchill.

Debits - .44

Wednesday, October 28

A very foggy morning; The Connecticut River fogs have set up the valleys on each side very much this fall. My letters this time are railroad notices and I am again amused by the superscription. I have as many names as could well be invented. This time it is Hosea Deaton. Miss Laura Billings called and is going away next week, but will be here again about Christmas. Miss Esther Dana called in the afternoon, and will assist us about the Almanac for 1887 if we wish. The air feels like having rain though the barometer keeps up, and hardly shows any signs of falling. Sent a letter to S.E. Cassino the publisher of the Nat. Directory. Carlie Dunham called here in the evening. Mrs. Lucia Aikin died today. She was the sister of the late Volney Smith.

Thursday, October 29

A dense fog that came down low on the mountain, but no rain to notice though the barometer is falling rapidly. Spent the greater part of the day at my drawing table on the old plan of the house and grounds around it. Today it more particularly the Reservoir, and am trying to locate the Green house and its surroundings. Miss Laura Billings called here today and presented Mrs. Billings with a bouquet that she wore at Nel Whitney's wedding last evening. I paid Mr. Harding \$1.60 for a bag of Graham flour. It began to rain at 8 p.m. and continued.

Debits – 1.60

Friday, October 30

A rainy morning found 1.26 inches of water in the rain gauge and I put 0.50 of an inch as fallen Thursday and the remainder in the morning. There is a strong wind and an intensely falling barometer. It continued to fall till towards noon but the two o'clock reading was about one tenth of an inch higher. At night the rain gauge had caught 0.36 of an inch of rain making 1.62 inches of rainfall since the storm began at 8 o'clock last evening.

Saturday, October 31

A cool morning with partially cloudy sky and North wind. Ther registered 30 degrees, and though the air feels so cold, it is not so cold by 8 degrees as we had a few weeks ago. I received of Mr. Billings 15 dollars and paid Paul 35 cts for lamp & soap. Mortimer came down in the evening.

Credits – 15.00

Debits - .35

Sunday, November 1

Ten months of the year have passed and how quickly they have flown. It hardly seems as though they had been, for our thoughts have been occupied so fully that we could notice the passing days. This morning is a cold one, the thermometer registering only 14 degrees, and was only 16 degrees at 7

o'clock. The night was a very rough one and if the snow had been a foot deep on the ground with a wind so strong it would have seemed like a winter night. I wrote on the meteorological notes that I had taken and have had good success in working all the proofs. The mean temperature of the month was 44.75 degrees and the mean for the month in the last eighteen years is 44.69 degrees. The rainfall was 4.70 inches which is 0.92 of an inch higher than the average for the month in the last seventeen years. Ferris Vaughan called here and left my watch that he had been cleaning. Laura Billings called while on her way to church, leaving a beautiful bouquet of flowers with Mrs. Doton. Mrs. Southgate and Mrs. Russell and Washburn called late in the afternoon, and they talked of the snowy air.

Monday, November 2

Two and a half inches of snow, but the storm soon turned to rain, and it continued through the greater part of the day. Miss Laura Billings called in the forenoon and she goes to New York tomorrow. I paid Mrs. Welch \$2.00 for last weeks work. Paid Billings for goods 2.40. The storm ended about 4 p.m. There was 1.20 of rain in the rain gauge this afternoon. Today I have worked on the 6<sup>th</sup> plan. Mailed the weather report to the New England Society at Providence, that is the report for October.

Debits – 2.00, 2.40

Tuesday, November 3

This is Mrs. Doton's forty fifth birth day as she is 45 years old today. She went to see her sister Caroline and I went there a little before noon and took dinner with the rest of them. They have repaired the house and have now things very comfortable. Mrs. D. came home about four o'clock. This morning I paid Collins 36 cts for meat. Mrs. Welch washed the front room and the middle room and has done a large days work. Abba came down from Pomfret and brought a variety of good things from the farm. – Mrs. Dana came with an errand from one of her nephews, I think to get registers of various dates.

Debits - .36

Wednesday, November 4

There is too much democratic news this morning to please the republicans, but the facts may not yet have reached us. Paid Mr. Hewitt 1 dollar for milk tickets. Paid Chapman 48 cts for medicines. Received a long letter from Herman and it tells us that he is nearly through with his college course, and the surest way to get an early letter from him is to answer his letter early. This evening it began to rain at eight o'clock and it rained slightly in the night. Paid Woodruff 25 cts for horse hire to go to H. Dunham's.

Debits – 1.00, .48

Thursday, November 5

Rain in the last evening and slightly in the night and soon after 7 a.m. the lower clouds broke away and the upper clouds were from the southwest or west. About nine o'clock I went with Mr. Russell to run a line between his woodlot and Mr. Norman Montague's land. Spent all the forenoon and got home about 2 p.m. I worked on the plans about two hours but was too tired to do more. Received of Mr. Russell \$1.50 for the work. I find some work in climbing the hills with my surveying instruments and was some lame at night.

Credits – 1.50

Friday, November 6

Some rainy in the night and 0.04 in the rain gauge this morning, but the clouds broke away again and a very warm fine day followed. I expected Dunbar to assist about banking the house but he did not come. I have put my time on to the plans and with good success. This afternoon I received two letters from Robert Perkins on his bond business. He sends 13 dollars and the bank note reduced to \$150. I hope he will continue to reduce it till it is fully blotted out. I have snoozed away my time this evening and now (9 p.m.) am feeling much rested.

Saturday, November 7

Another slightly rainy night and the clouds run nearly to the base of the mountain. Dunbar's boy came to assist me in banking the house. The day is warm and densely foggy and night came before we were ready. I went to the bank with money and papers from R.A. Perkins and had his note renewed. The new one will run four months from Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> which is to January 26-29 in next year or 1886. I paid Chapman 20 cts for Bay Rum, and Simmons 18 cts for sweet potatoes.

Debits – .20, .18

Sunday, November 8

The rainy weather still continues, yet the amount of rainfall is not great the dense clouds keep the weather dark and gloomy. Yet the gloomy weather does not prevent the thought from grasping facts and drawing conclusions in matters of science. I amused myself this morning after I awoke in solving a problem in Algebra, and I think it is well to keep the mind active by some such exercises. I wrote out a weather article for the "Standard" of this week. We have been at home alone through the day, and when we are comfortably well such is always pleasant. The day has been slightly rainy as only one fourth of an inch of rain has fallen, yet it still continues, so that 2 inches and one tenth has probably fallen the first week or in the first eight days surely.

Monday, November 9

Rainy still! This stormy weather began in the afternoon of Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and it has hardly been clear or the weather settled at all since. The storm began with snow and rain has fallen on every day since, and it still continues. I am at work on the plan of the mountain, or Mount Tom, and find some work on it yet. I wrote a long letter to my friend Robert Perkins.

Tuesday, November 10

Some rainy through the night and this morning finds 0.11 of rain in the gauge. I made a correction of the article that I left with Mr. Greene yesterday, and I mailed the report to the Signal Service for October. I paid Paul 27 cts for kerosene and for matches. I went home and worked the rest of the day on the plans of the mountain and of the parts of Mr. Billings' lands. Mrs. Russell called for Mrs. Doton to go and visit with her and she went about eleven o'clock and remained till four in the afternoon, and had a remarkably pleasant time. Mr. Lockwood called in the morning to see about some of the aqueducts on Mr. Billings' lands.

Debits - .27

Wednesday, November 11

The temperature fell nearly to freezing point in the night and was rising this morning; and the air was clear of clouds. In the morning I was called to go to Mr. Billings' hill to follow the old aqueduct line from the well near the woodshed to the barns. But we did not follow the old line very satisfactorily to myself. – In the afternoon I fixed the needle point of my transit and will try the lines again, perhaps tomorrow. Mortimer came with a load of wood.

Thursday, November 12

A warm and cloudy morning and the weather has kept nearly so through the day. This morning I expected to go to Mr. Billings' work but they were too busy to attend to the pipe laying. I had a call to go to Hartland to do a job of surveying, something new for me, for I have hardly done such work for a long time. I paid Collins 45 cts for meat.

Debits - .45

Friday, November 13

This is remarkably pleasant weather for so late in November. I have kept myself at the drawing table and have made plan of the aqueduct from the well near the woodshed to the barn east of the road. Abba came from Pomfret in the afternoon with a good supply of milk from her one cow, a full Jersey, and I can

well nigh live on what she brings. Miss Marcy (or Mrs. Bell) called in the afternoon and Mrs. Fairbanks made a very good call just before evening.

Saturday, November 14

This is fine November weather and I plead for a time to do some of our getting of the field notes of the aqueducts, etc. for winter will come as it always has. Nearly half of the month of November had gone and the winter is now favorable. Today I have been trying to fix my transit but I do not think I can put it in good order without sending it to the maker or his grandson. The maker was Wm. J. Young of Philadelphia and the business was for a long time in the hands of his sons, Alfred Young being the principal. Since Alfred's death, his son, the grandson of Wm. J. Young is at the head of the shop. I paid 65 cts for handkerchiefs.

Debits – .65

Sunday, November 15

One fourth of an inch of snow on the ground but nearly clear early but the clouds increased till it was fully cloudy, and it continued so till night and it began to snow before nine o'clock. We have been here alone at our own quiet home till evening when Horace and Caroline came in and staid till nearly eight o'clock. But I was too tired and sleepy to be very social and intelligent for I have tried to do too much at times this fall. Snow was slightly falling at nine in the evening and there may be some on the ground in the morning.

Monday, November 16

Early this forenoon I was called to go to Mr. Billings' work where Mr. Lockwood was directing the hands in taking up an old lead pipe aqueduct that was laid fifteen years ago or more. I think I can find all those pipes. Today I have paid 13 cts to Chapman & 48 to Paul. I was called to Mr. Billings' work to look up the lead pipes near the barns. In the afternoon I fixed my compass tripod and put the compass in order for work. – Mrs. Albert Darling called in the evening. She seems to be a very good minded woman. The first impression is very favorable. There was about half an inch of snow on the ground this morning that probably came in the early part of the night.

Debits - .61

Tuesday, November 17

A remarkably fine morning for November. Mr. Billings and family leave for New York at six o'clock. We miss them here for it seems to take all the life of the village. Mrs. Albert Darling starts for home at 7 o'clock and rides in the stage over the mountain, a delightful ride for such a morning. I was called to Mr. Billings' work again to plan some of the positions of the pipe. Sister Joanna came just before noon and went to see the dentist. She paid 30 cts for linen and thread. I paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for last weeks work.

Debits - .30, 2.00

Wednesday, November 18

Though the last evening was very clear and the stars shone brightly this morning the sky was densely cloudy, the clouds being a thick fog just above the hills. The weather was more and more thick and dark till it began to rain lightly at eleven o'clock. Polk came in the forenoon to get the transit to make a survey of an addition to the burying ground. Sister Joanna went home this forenoon. I spend the best of these days at the drawing table. Joanna paid 6 cts for braid.

Debits - .06

Thursday, November 19

Wrote a letter to Edward Doten of Springfield, Mass. For brother Spencer or on his account for he wishes them to come to Thanksgiving, and I hope they will come, for their father needs to see them, for his health is not very good and he is very lonely. I spent the day on the plans. Paid Dunbar 25 cts toward work or lent it to him.

Debits – .25

Friday, November 20

I started in the morning to test some surveys near Thompson Mill and got Mortimer Spear to carry me there and back. Got Mrs. Welch to do some heavy washing and must pay her an extra price. I spent all the afternoon on the drawing and have arranged a correction in my survey book as I had omitted one bearing in the survey of the aqueduct from the North well above the road at the mill. Paid Paul 25 cts for oatmeal. In the afternoon my friend Kimball Perkins called and was here till nearly night.

Debits - .25

Saturday, November 21

A cloudy and damp morning. The air is chilly and is bad to breathe. I am trying to keep my work going at my table and succeeded very well. We paid Mrs. Welch 50 cts toward her extra washing but have not yet paid her for the weeks work. Paid Paul 25 cts - for kerosene .15 and soap, 10 cts. We felt obliged to remove our little pet kitten that had been sick for some weeks to relieve him from his misery.

Debits - .50, .25

Sunday, November 22

This morning the clouds are more nearly cirro cumulus than stratus, but they soon began to assume the stratus form and finally the nimbus and it began to snow or rain very lightly. It began to snow about eleven o'clock and it increased slowly but there was a sharp snow shower about four o'clock. – Horace Dunham called in the morning for a few minutes, otherwise we have been entirely alone through the day. It seems now like having winter before many days as the snow begins to gather on the ground which is slightly frozen. The wheeling is remarkably good.

Monday, November 23

Rested very well through the night. Dunbar came to saw wood and I paid him 25 cts. – We expected Abba from home today but she did not come. Paid Paul 10 cts for cranberries and paid 10 cts at the post office. Received of Mr. Billings 25 dollars.

Credits – 25.00

Debits – .25, .10, .10

Tuesday, November 24

A densely cloudy morning with signs of snow. Paid Collins 25 cts for meat. Miss Tracy called to see an Aneroid barometer. Abba came from Pomfret and I paid her or lent her ten dollars to pay for money borrowed of Charles Vaughan and I hope and believe the money borrowed will be a real benefit.

Debits - .22, 10.00

Wednesday, November 25

The storm continues and increases. I called on the livery keeper to have Mrs. Doton brought to Mrs. Fairbanks where we are invited to dine and she got there at about eleven o'clock and I went a little before twelve. It is a snow storm and increases rapidly. We had a remarkably pleasant time, for Mrs. Fairbanks and her daughter Lucy are women of good and elevated thought, and their conversation is elevating. I came home soon after two o'clock and Mrs. D. came soon after four. This is a severe snow storm, and is wet that the trees are loaded down with the snow, and the storm continues.

Thursday, November 26

This is the nations Thanksgiving and of course the states fall in with it. The snow has continued through the night and I measure 10½ inches of the snow this forenoon, and I cannot call it less than one inch and 4 tenths of water. We had our Thanksgiving alone and Mrs. Doton was able to get it done and we could eat it and enjoy it. Paid Collins 15 cts for meat.

Debits - .15

Friday, November 27

A cold morning. The thermometer registered -2 degrees. At 7 o'clock it had fallen only to -1 degree but fell before the warm part of the morning began. This is the first minus sign this season. – We put on the outside windows this afternoon. I paid Paul 10 cts for groceries. Mailed letter to W.M. Davis of Harvard College giving my readings of Christmas time last year. The evening is cool and we are expecting a low thermometer in the morning. – Mortimer came with a good load of wood this afternoon.

Debits - .10

Saturday, November 28

Cool for the season. Ther. registered -10 in the morning. This morning I paid Woodruff \$2.60 for 100 pounds each of cracked corn and shorts, and I paid Mrs. Welch \$4.00 for work to this date. Brother Spencer came this forenoon and we renew his note at the bank. He took dinner with us. Dana Bugbee and his brother called just before noon. I paid Dunbar 25 cts towards work. This is a peculiarly cold time. Last night the ther. reading was 2 degrees above and tonight it is 1 above. It fell to -10 last night. It has three times been lower than that in Nov. in the last 18 years. In 1873 -14 degrees, in 1875 -16.5 degrees. In 1880 -16.3 degrees.

Debits – 2.60, 4.00, .25

Sunday, November 29

This is my seventy sixth birth day, and I do not seem to be more than forty six years old so rapidly has the time moved. It is somewhat singular that I feel more like talking with scholars of twenty or twenty five than men of seventy. So much of my life has been devoted to teaching that I talk more easily with scholars than with teachers. There is always an anxiety to see young people searching for new truths of physical science or moral or intellectual science for such has been my life. The day has been pleasant though cool or some cold but the wind S.E. or S.W. Mr. and Mrs. Marcy came up from Taftsville and made us a very pleasant call, and Mr. Marcy took Mrs. Doton to ride a short distance. She rode as far as Horace Dunham's.

Monday, November 30

Warmer. Ther. +19 at 7 a.m. and it continues to grow warm and I expect the snow will get off the trees before it is colder. Paid Mr. Hewitt 1.00 for tickets and Benjmn. Southgate 1.00 for two hens. The hens were full blood white leghorns and they make a fine addition to our flock of Leghorns. This afternoon I received a letter from Abba and I think they are getting along very well and are taking very good care of Mrs. Chamberlin, but she is failing gradually. I find that I had paid 23 cts not noticed in this month.

Debits – 1.00, 1.00, .23

Tuesday, December 1

The winter month opens with the appearance of a pleasant winter day. I finished the redactions and copying the weather notes for the month of November, but I did not find a time to get them to the post office. I paid 25 cts for soft soap, not the kind that is sometimes so freely used, but the real washing soap. The scholars called for the plan of the aneroid barometer. Mrs. Russell called in the afternoon. On hand 9.45.

Debits – .25

Wednesday, December 2

Mailed the weather notes to Providence this morning, and I got 25 dollars of Mr. Billings and sent \$12.06 to the Mut. Benefit Life company of Hartford Conn. Paid P.O. fees 10 cts. Paid Chapman 10 cts for soda & Billings 5 cts for thread. Sister Joanna came and got teeth of Dr. Williams. I went twice to the Post office today and mailed a money order to the Insurance company. Very hard walking and the air is rather hard to breathe.



Credits – 25.00  
Debits – 12.06, .10, .15

Thursday, December 3

Three inches of snow this morning and a densely falling barometer. The reading is the lowest that I have seen for a long time, 63 degrees -28.535. without reductions. I worked at my table on the plans through the forenoon, and in the afternoon I wrote and mailed a letter to my friend Rev. L.H. Tabor of Bryant's Pond, Oxford Co., Maine. He was in the Vermont Senate in 1865 from Essex County. I have two letters from him and they were valuable letters.

Friday, December 4

I was quite unwell this morning and we called Dr. Logan who came about half past four o'clock and he came again in the afternoon.

Saturday, December 5

Rested comfortably and Elvira keeps about very well, though I am afraid she will get sick more so than she is now. We paid Mrs. Welch 2 dollars for the week.

Debits – 2.00

Sunday, December 6

We had some calls today and we were some nervous but are getting along very well. The doctor called in the forenoon, and Mrs. Washburn called about noon or soon after.

Monday, December 7

Have rested some better but can write but very little today. Mailed a letter to Abba (Mrs. J.K.P. Chamberlin) in reply to one received one week ago. Brother Spencer called this forenoon to have me write to his son Edward at Springfield. Self am feeling much better this evening. Paid 10 cts postage.

Debits - .10

Tuesday, December 8

In the morning we received a good letter from our friend Rev. L.H. Tabor of Bryant's Pond, Maine, and in the evening one came from Abba in reply to one that I sent yesterday. Both these were remarkably good letters and we think we realize their value. Mortimer called and we sent by him and paid Paul 88 cts for groceries.

Debits - .88

Wednesday, December 9 (Mrs. Doton)

Paid Dunbar for work.

Debits - 50 cts.

Thursday, December 10

No entry.

Friday, December 11 (Mrs. Doton)

Paid for medicine sixty cents.

Debits - .60

Saturday, December 12 (Mrs. Doton)

Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets one dollar, and Collins for meat 30 cents. Soap ten cents.

Debits – 1.00, .30, .10

Sunday, December 13  
No entry.

Monday, December 14  
No entry.

Tuesday, December 15 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paul for crackers and burner forty five cents.

Debits - .45

Wednesday, December 16 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid for postals six cents and express on registers twenty five cents. This was Thursday instead of Wed.

Debits - .06, .25

Thursday, December 17 (Mrs. Doton)  
White called in the evening and took forty of the registers.

Friday, December 18 (Mrs. Doton)  
Benjamin called and took fifty of the registers for Burdette.

Saturday, December 19 (Mrs. Doton)  
Collins for meat sixteen cents. Mrs. Welch for work two dollars, and Dunbar for sawing sixty cents.

Debits - .16, 2.00, .60

Sunday, December 20  
No entry.

Monday, December 21 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paul for kerosene fifteen cents. Mrs. Welch for work two dollars.

Debits - .15, 2.00

Tuesday, December 22  
No entry.

Wednesday, December 23  
No entry.

Thursday, December 24 (Mrs. Doton)  
Dunbar for work on wood one dollar.

Debits - 1.00

Friday, December 25 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid for postals ten cents.

Debits - .10

Saturday, December 26  
No entry.

Sunday, December 27 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets one dollar.

Debits – 1.00

Monday, December 28 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid for postage stamps.

Debits – .10

Tuesday, December 29  
No entry.

Wednesday, December 30 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Dana for print one dollar and twenty five cents, and Joanna is to have one half of it. Paid Chapman for cream tartar thirteen cents, and Paul for crackers sixteen cents. Paid Dunbar for work on wood one dollar.

Debits – 1.25, .13, .16, 1.00

Thursday, December 31 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Paul for kerosene fifteen cents, and Billings for flour and groceries two dollars and eight cents.

Debits - .15, 2.08

Friday, January 1 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Richmond for meat ten cents.

Debits - .10

Saturday, January 2 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Richmond for meat eighteen cents, and postage two cents. Received of Billings twenty five dollars.

Credits - 25.00  
Debits - .18, .02

Sunday, January 3  
No entry.

Monday, January 4 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Richmond for meat twenty cents. Slack for soap ten cents.

Debits - .20, .10

Tuesday January 5 (Mrs. Doton)  
Received of Nat. Bank six dollars as dividend. Paid six cents for postals.

Credits – 6.00  
Debits - .06

Wednesday, January 6 (Mrs. Doton)  
Richmond for meat. Received twelve N.H. Registers from the White River Paper Co.

Debits - .29

Thursday, January 7 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Paul for kerosene fifteen cents, sent \$12.06 to the Mutual Benefit Life company of Hartford, Conn. P.O. fees nine cents. I think there is a mistake about that.

Debits - .15, 12.06, .09

Friday, January 8 (Mrs. Doton)  
Richmond for meat thirty five cents.

Debits - .35

Saturday, January 9 (Mrs. Doton)  
Paid Mrs. Welch for work six dollars.

Debits – 6.00

Sunday, January 10  
No entry.

## 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.

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.

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 or Abba and this diary preserves all 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.

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.

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.

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 moved to Chicago and corresponded with Hosea 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. He later worked for the Rutland Herald. He was a frequent visitor to Hosea and Elvira Doton and wrote an obituary for Hosea in January, 1886.

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 Spear was a farmer in Pomfret who was unmarried, enjoyed reading, and became a friend of the Doton family. Hosea sold him a farm near the Doton family homestead on Cloudland Road in 1878. While there, he helped Hosea's sister Joanna care for the Doton farm, provided transportation for family members, and delivered wood to Hosea in Woodstock. Mortimer sold his farm after Hosea died and continued to help Joanna maintain the Doton farm. When Joanna Doton died in 1908, she passed the farm, now known as Sleepy Hollow, to Mortimer.

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

Aneroid barometer – A barometer in which air pressure is measured using a small vacuum chamber.

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.



Ruche – Pleat of fabric for decoration of a garment or home furnishing.

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.