



## Hosea Doton's Memorandum for 1876

Transcribed by Scott Fletcher



## Preface

Hosea Doton was born in 1809 on his family's homestead on Cloudland Road in Pomfret, VT. His father, John Edward Doton, was a farmer and surveyor who lived on the farm now known as Sleepy Hollow. Hosea attended Pomfret School No. 2, which still stands on Cloudland Road, and continued to study mathematics and science after leaving school. Hosea began teaching in Pomfret schools in 1830.

Hosea married Lois Paddock in 1834 and they had a daughter named Abba on August 1, 1840. Hosea called her Abbie throughout his diaries. Lois Paddock Doton died on February 2, 1857.

On May 28, 1858, Hosea married Harriet Ware who was a former student and daughter of his neighbor Henry L. Ware. Harriet was gifted in math and became an assistant to Hosea in the classroom. She was one of few people who could help Hosea calculate the positions of the sun and moon each year for *Walton's Vermont Register and Farmer's Almanac*. Hosea was devastated when his "dear Harriet" died of fever on November 18, 1858. They were married less than six months.

On July 4, 1868, Hosea married Elvira Julia Wood who he referred to in this diary as Mrs. D. Like Harriet Ware, Elvira shared Hosea's interests and was able to help him perform his calculations for the almanac.

In 1876, Hosea and Elvira lived in a house on Pleasant Street in Woodstock. Hosea was elected to serve on the Woodstock School Committee, which was responsible for hiring teachers, selecting books, and maintaining the schools. Hosea was still doing some work for the Woodstock Railroad, which had opened in September 1875. He helped inspect the tracks, which suffered some damage during the severe winter. At the end of the year, he reported that more than thirteen feet of snow had fallen during the year, which was more than he had seen since he started measuring snowfall fifteen years earlier.

Hosea was also tutoring several scholars at his home, doing surveying in Woodstock and other towns, and working in his yard and garden. As always, Hosea and Elvira had a busy social life, and Hosea was also corresponding with friends and relatives about the genealogy of family patriarch Edward Doty.

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.



## 1876

Saturday, January 1

Cash on hand 23.60, a small sum for a year, but "hope on! Hope ever!!" The centennial year opened with the ringing of all the bells. Paid 35 cents express bill and 15 cents for stamps. A.C. Foster called here from Sherburne on land matters. I worked on the R.R. report and shall not finish it for a week or more. In the evening I wrote to Quincey Page. Found five letters in the office, one from Idaho on Almanac matters, one from Claremont, one from E. Latimer, one from Three Rivers, and one from Amelia Gookin. A very dull cloudy day. The sun did not shine at all. The wind changed S.W. to E. but each strata of the atmosphere moved in a different direction through the forenoon. Dense fog in the evening.

Credits – 23.60

Debits - .35, .15

Sunday, January 2

A gloomy morning. Clouds running very low, almost to the houses in the village. Dense fog and low clouds in the morning and some drops of rain, but early in the forenoon the wind came to the southwest, or as the lower clouds moved away, the upper clouds became visible and they were moving from the southwest. There is but little snow on the ground and but little in the roads and that is fast leaving us.

Monday, January 3

Abigail has been here and has made us a very good visit, but she was getting some tired and some anxious to get home. Mortimer Spear called for her. Mrs. D. did her own washing and the day was rather windy. I wrote the greater part of the day on the report and became very tired. Willie Dana called here in the evening and we had a short talk on books for schools. Warm weather for January and cloudy in the morning.

Tuesday, January 4

Kimball Perkins came in the morning and remained nearly through the forenoon. In the afternoon, I wrote on the railroad report and went over the surveys of the dummy line of 1863. In the afternoon I called on H.S. Dana at the Probate Office. A very high wind through the night and it continued through the day. The day is too cold to work. Horace took my transit to use for a few days. A very cold clear day, only a few cir-cumulus clouds in the morning. Cold with high winds.

Wednesday, January 5

I hardly find a minutes time to write for there seems almost everything to be done. I saw Judge Porter and I am to go in to have Mrs. Fitch's will approved this afternoon. Joanna walked over to go with me to the Probate office. We attended in the afternoon and the will was approved without opposition. Horace Dunham called in the afternoon. Polk and Abbie took dinner here and wish to have us go there tomorrow. Paid 12 dollars of fees at the office (Probate office). Cirro-stratus clouds and these continued through the day.

Debits – 12.00

Thursday, January 6

Went to the office and borrowed 10 registers to carry to Miss Knapp, which makes 50 the number which she has had. She paid me \$4.87 for them and a part of the express bill. Paid Miss Knapp for International Review 80 cents, and Hathaway \$1.25 for cleaning my watch. We took dinner with Abbie & Polk. Saw Mr. Chamberlin and spoke to him about Dr. Russ' estate, etc. Paid Woodbury \$1.50 for printing letterheads and for paper. Saw Mr. Granger of Rutland at the office. Mrs. Bates came in the afternoon train. Some snow early in the morning and squalls in the middle of the day.

Credits – 4.87

Debits – .80, 1.25, 1.50

Friday, January 7

Got Mr. Fay to carry Mrs. Bates to South Pomfret, and Mrs. D. rode with them to make a short call. I kept about my writing and have progressed somewhat rapidly. It takes some time to look up dates. I took from the Savings Bank 25 dollars of Kimball's deposit money to pay his board at different places. I paid one dollar for Post office box. Mr. Clarke called to have me look over his books, that is, his R.R. account. Mrs. Day left 35 cents to send to Vick.

Credits – 25.00, .35  
Debits - 1.00

Saturday, January 8

Arose quite early for me and soon began on my writing. The work is going on quite pleasantly, but I am pressing it too fast for comfort. Paid Montague 15 cents for paper. Mrs. Russell called in the afternoon, otherwise we have been nearly quiet and alone. Montague paid me 23 cents express bill.

Credits - .23  
Debits - .15

Sunday, January 9

I am too much jaded to go to church today, and I remain in my room and at my table. Mrs. D. rode to church with Mr. Russell's folks, and she heard Mr. Hewitt preach from Eph. III: 8, "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." The sermon was said to be one of great power, and I almost regretted that I did not hear it. He had been treated somewhat badly by the other denominations and he felt the abuse. But this is no more than he might expect for bigotry and self-righteousness are not yet quite banished from our world. The spirit that said, "Come not near for I am holier than thou," is still walking abroad. Full stratus clouds in the morning. The storm was very light in the night.

Monday, January 10

Did not get up very early and Mrs. Bates called long before breakfast. I went to the Post Office and also called on H.S. Dana to talk with him about the settlement of the Dr. Russ' estate. We went with Mrs. Bates to the depot and saw the cars start away. I paid Fred Doten 20 dollars and sent 5 dollars of Kimball's money to his mother. I also paid 10 cents postage and 15 cents stage fare. I saw Mr. Dana's report of the railroad; and it is a remarkably good one. A hard shower soon after midnight and some rainy till morning. Squall of snow and temperature falling.

Debits – 20.00, 5.00, .10, .15

Tuesday, January 11

I was hindered at the office during the greater part of the forenoon about the gas fixings. They have tried to put a meter into the office but have failed so far. I spent much of the afternoon in making a plan for Mr. Woodward. Norman Perkins sent me the knife that he had been plating, and also "Gunter's Works," printed in 1673 being now about 203 years old. What a treasure!! Colder with ther. only 1 degree above zero. It was nearly clear with westerly wind.

Wednesday, January 12

Went to Mr. Woodward's office and took the plan of the mills to correct if necessary. Mr. Woodward paid me two dollars for the work. Came to the office and fitted it up for the directors to meet in to transact some business of their own. Sent one dollar to the Springfield Republican. I staid at the office the greater part of the day. The annual meeting of the Woodstock R.R. Company was held this afternoon and the old directors were chosen, I think. Polk went to Taftsville so I have not seen him today. Mr. Thompson called in the evening. A pleasant call. Some dense cirro-cumulus clouds in the morning, but the afternoon was clear. Westerly wind through the day.

Credits – 2.00  
Debits – 1.00

Thursday, January 13

My work is now very monotonous, and is confined to railroad history, and I find some work in looking up dates. I am often hindered in the office or in the streets on railroad matters. Paid Freeman 75 cents for lock, one for small trunk. Worked on my railroad papers in the afternoon and evening. Paid express bill 25 cents on sixty registers sent from Claremont.

Debits - .75, .25

Friday, January 14

Am quite unwell, have taken cold. These sudden changes are quite unhealthy and we cannot easily keep ourselves protected from the bad influence or rather effects of them. I do not make much advance on my railroad report. Health is quite necessary for rapidity of mental labor.

Saturday, January 15

Am still at work looking up dates and facts about the R.R. work in 1867. Carlie Dunham staid here last night and went away this afternoon. Paid Hatch 2 cents for screws, a small amount to put in a diary or cash book. Cloudy during the greater part of the day, but not cold.

Debits - .02

Sunday, January 16

Went to the Post Office in the morning and got the World, and this no. seems to be very full of reading matter. Concluded to go to church in the afternoon and spent some time in putting myself in readiness. At the proper time I started and walked to church. Mr. & Mrs. Marcy came, and after church they came to supper. Polk & Abbie were here. I went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt speak from John V: 30, and he gave us a very good discourse. It was not only good, but it had very much of truth in it. We can do nothing of ourselves; but we must try to do the will of the father. It is our duty to watch every thought and every impression that is made on us in any way. The house was quite well filled and I was glad to see many from other churches. Found 3.60 inches of snow this morning, that makes 0.21 inches of water.

Monday, January 17

Paid Paul \$2.05 on account stated and paid Montague 15 cts for paper. Paid 9 cents postage, and I paid 10 cents for a false key, and 3 cents postage. I must call in some of my accounts, but it is not always pleasant to do so. Polk was taken sick last night with the old type of bilious cholic, and is very sick. I went there early in the morning and again in the evening. Dr. Sherwin was called in the night.

Debits - 2.05, .15, .09, .13

Tuesday, January 18

Rested very badly last night, but this morning I walked out to Horace Dunham's and rode back with Carlie. Horace went to Bridgewater and of course could not go to South Pomfret. The day was rather uncomfortable being warm and damp.

Wednesday, January 19

I mailed some letters this morning. Paid 30 cents for stamps. I went by the down train to White River Village and measured all the trestle work on the line and examined all the places that were liable to get out of order. Came home at 2<sup>h</sup> 40<sup>m</sup> and met Mr. Chamberlin at the depot and he examined the new car. Came to the house but was too tired to write. Paid express agent 5.00 for American Cyclopaedia. In the evening there was a cry of "Fire." Smith's house at the corner of Pleasant & Stanton was burned.

Debits - .30, 5.00

Thursday, January 20

Called at Polk's early this morning and found him a little more easy. Went to the office and then back to the house to work. Mrs. D. went to Sunny Side to see Joanna. She came home about five o'clock. Mr. Wilson of West Dummerston was here nearly through the day.

Friday, January 21

Called on Polk this morning and found him much better, being nearly free from pain. He has had a very sick time for the past four days, but I hope is now getting better. I have worked at my table nearly all day, and have hardly found time to rest. I paid Miss Knapp 34 cents for a no. of the Naturalist, and I do not recollect of seeing it before.

Debits – .34

Saturday, January 22

Spent a part of the forenoon in fixing locks at the office. I got a blank key and fitted it for Mr. Clark, and I found one in the office that I fitted for the inside door. Paid Paul for kerosene 26 cents. Mr. Chamberlin came down from Pomfret and Mr. Dunham and myself had a long talk with him on the estate of Dr. Russ and I received letters from those interested in the estate, and especially in the welfare of Mrs. Russ.

Debits - .26

Sunday, January 23

The morning was so stormy that we did not think of going to church, and I staid in my room nearly all day. I read the Cyclopedia and some of the papers, but it has all been miscellaneous. No particular subject has been read up, but I have looked up some facts. We called on Polk in the evening and found him some better. But he has been quite sick for the last week. He will get about again if something new does not take hold to bring him down.

Monday, January 24

I went to the office early and found letters from Philadelphia and from Potsdam. Kimball Perkins came here in the forenoon and hindered me about three hours for nothing, as his business amounts to just that. In the afternoon I wrote on the railroad report, and hope I can get it done in time to have it printed.

Debits - 4.00

Tuesday, January 25

Began my writing early in the morning and continued it nearly through the forenoon with but little interruption. Mr. H.B. Thompson of Bridgewater called here about noon and I always assist him all that I can about his maps, etc. In the afternoon, we called on Polk & Abbie and found them getting along quite well.

Wednesday, January 26

Mr. L.A. Miller called in the morning with a piece of poetry he had just ben writing. I continued my writing on the report and became very tired. Horace Dunham called here in the afternoon and we had a long talk on the subject of Dr. Russ' estate. I carried the small calendar clock to the office and set it right. I tried to write in the evening but was not able to do it. Mr. Leach went to the depot to meet Orrin and family. A cold evening and we moved all the plants into the sitting room.

Thursday, January 27

A very severe snowstorm started this morning. I did chores about the house, then began to write and continued the work till nearly noon. Paid Paul 25 cts for baking powder and Meader \$1.00 for Graham flour, and I gave 25 cents to a stranger. Such expenses will come along and we cannot prevent it. I met Dr. Powers and had a very pleasant talk with him about the early railroad work.

Debits – .22, 1.00, .25

Friday, January 28

A stormy day and warm. Mr. Elisha Smith called at the office and paid me \$8.50 being the balance due me for surveying, and I paid Paul 93 cents for molasses and I paid Freeman 25 cts for a frame for a lamp shade. Polk went to the office for the first time since he was sick. My teeth are troubling me very much



and I must arouse courage enough to have some of them pulled. I borrowed 25 cents of Mr. Clarke to make change. It began to snow about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, but it soon turned to rain.

Credits – 8.50, .25  
Debits - .93

Saturday, January 29

Had the toothache and pain in my face during the night and through the day. It was too stormy to go out with any peace, but I went twice to the office. I did not get any letter from the school committee at Bridgewater, or rather, Dist. No. 12, Woodstock. I have their order, but it is not very valuable if they cannot pay it. Paid five cents at the market. Rainy nearly through the day. In the afternoon the wind came to the west and at night to the N.W.

Debits – .05

Sunday, January 30

Staid in my room during the greater part of the forenoon. Polk called. Mrs. Russell called to have Mrs. D. go to church with them. She started about half past 123, and I soon after. Found the time about ten minutes too fast. – Mr. Hewitt preached a most rousing and earnest sermon from I Peter II: 15, "For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men." The force and power of this sermon can be gathered from the text. First the speaker examined the will of God, his nature, etc. without beginning, uncaused and unlimited. Then who are the ignorant? These he divided into different classes, and there he made some remarks that had a particular meaning to them. His last class was zealots, but I think he might have added bigots. The sermon was one of his best. Direct and eloquent. The singing was very good. Cold and clear in the morning, with north wind. In the afternoon there was but very little wind, but the air was still cold.

Monday, January 31

Mr. Curtis called and paid me 20 dollars for money that I advanced to Amelia last summer. Sent 3 dollars to Vick and paid 40 cents at the post office. Spent a part of the day on the meteorological report. I copied it in full, at least as far as I could get it, but did not work much after nine o'clock. Mr. Clark called and I read to him the last part of what I had written of the Railroad report. I some fear it will be too long, but will condense it as far as possible.

Credits – 20.00  
Debits - 3.00, .40

Tuesday, February 1

Mrs. Page is quite sick at the Fitch place, and Mrs. D. went there in the forenoon to assist them. She came home in the evening and thinks she ought to go back to assist them. I called on Abbie in the evening and went to the office to see Polk. I wrote a letter to Quincey Page and one to William. I also wrote to Rand McNally & Co. engravers of Chicago, also to Mr. Thomas Doane of Charlestown, Mass. Am still at work on the Railroad report. About one foot of snow on the ground.

Cash on hand – 25.42

Wednesday, February 2

Probate court today. Dr. Russ's will was proved by Dr. Hazen, one of the witnesses to it. Mr. Bates and Henry came here in the morning from Horace Dunham's. It was intended to have an administrator with the will annexed, but there was so much opposition from outside that the appointment was not made. Paid six dollars for the Quarterly and that pays for the past and present Vol. and paid Oliver for hair cutting 20 cents, and 20 cents at the post office. Paid Billings one dollar for snow shovel. Found 6 inches of snow this morning equal to 0.41 inches of water. Very high NW wind through the day.

Debits – 6.00, .20, .20, 1.00

Thursday, February 3

Sent to Life Insurance Co. 5 dollars. Paid for silk braid 25 cents and for a neck ribbon 15 cents and we gave a boy 5 cents for a very weak paper. I called on Mr. Dana at the Probate office and found that Mr. Johnson would consent to administrator on Dr. Russ's estate, and I must send to Mr. Bates in the morning. Mrs. D. went last night to Sunny side to watch with Mrs. Page, and I staid alone at our home. Am very tired this evening but can hardly tell why.

Debits – 5.00, .25, .15, .05

Friday, February 4

Rested very badly last night on account of toothache. After breakfast I went to the office and to the post office. Called on Dr. Chandler and had two teeth extracted, and then I rode with him to "Sunnyside" to see Mrs. Page who is sick. I paid the Dr. 25 cents.

Debits - .25

Saturday, February 5

I called on Abbie to hear from the sick at "Sunnyside," and then I mailed some postal cards to Quincey and William, and I ought to send one to Joseph. I paid Paul for groceries 89 cents, and I came home and worked on my report. Scraped the snow from the house and went to my writing. I wrote a letter to my friend Crooker in the evening. Paid Montague for a Nautical Almanac \$1.65. Cold! And a cold day.

Debits - .89, 1.65

Sunday, February 6

Went to the post office in the morning and then to see Abba. She will call on us at three o'clock. In the afternoon we went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt from James I: 5, 6, and Matt. VI: 7, 8. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth, etc." and "Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find, etc." "For every one that asketh receiveth, etc."

Monday, February 7

Staid in my room the greater part of the forenoon. Paid for blue ink 10 cents, and paid Montague also for a singing book \$1.05, and I paid to George Hart for work on wood 35 cents. Paid 24 cents for stamps, and Paid Paul 45 cents for soap.

Debits - .10, 1.05, .35, .24, .45

Tuesday, February 8

As is usual I began my writing in the morning, but I am obliged to get into the air before noon. I paid Paul 50 cents for sugar. Mrs. Walker called in the afternoon and Lizzie Bridge soon after. Mrs. Marcy called also and left with Mrs. Walker. Lizzie staid there till night when she was called for to go home.

Debits - .50

Wednesday, February 9

Took up my work with renewed vigor, and kept it up as long as I could well write. Went to Paul's for groceries and paid him 55 cents, and Taylor 9 cts for lemons. Paid Billings for kerosene.

Debits - .55, .09, .25

Thursday, February 10

Arose quite early and before I got ready to go to writing was called to the office. I was called to see Judge Porter as he wished to talk with us about the appointment in the case for Mr. Miller for administrator of Dr. Russ's estate. I think he intends to appoint Mr. Miller. Comment is unnecessary in this case though they are easily made. Mrs. D. was called to go to Sunnyside to watch Mrs. Page. Found eight inches and a half of very dense snow that was when melted 0.95 inches of water.

Friday, February 11

Staid alone in the house last night but rested but little. Mrs. D. came home very soon after seven o'clock. It hailed some when she came and it continued to storm through the day. I did not go to the office till about four o'clock. Got the specimen number of the Independent, and it looks very natural. Horace called in the afternoon and I rode up with him. Am very tired and some unwell this evening.

Saturday, February 12

A very pleasant morning. I called at the Probate office and filed a bond as executor on the estate of Mrs. Fitch. I paid Mrs. Maxham 4 dollars for Kimball's board. Got team of Mr. Fay and rode to Pomfret to see Spencer and Fred and his folks. Called at Joanna's and took supper.

Debits - 4.00

Sunday, February 13

Did not go to the post office but kept quiet at my table and my writing. In the afternoon we walked to church to hear Mr. Hewitt speak from Deut. XI: 26-27. "Behold I set before you this day a blessing and a curse. A blessing if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God." – This text was the foundation of one of the best sermons that we have heard from him in a long time. It is always interesting to think and to be taught that we are accountable to God for every act of our lives and that happiness is secured by a virtuous life and misery by a vicious one, and that virtue itself is its own reward. Our speaker pointed out the nature of sin in a better and clearer light than I had heard for some time. In the evening, Mrs. D. went with Mr. and Mrs. Russell to the concert at the chapel, while Robert spent the evening with me at home. Clear nearly through the day with light N.W. wind. Slight haze in the evening but no perceptible wind. Barometer rising through the night but falling through the day with slightly rising temperature.

Monday, February 14

Went to the office, had a chat with Mr. Porter, with Horace and with some others. Paid Paul 13 cents for soap & coffee. I kept very close to my table through the day. Horace came here in the morning and has attended a meeting of the auditors. A very stormy day. Hail at 8 a.m. and with rain continued through the day with S.E. wind.

Debits - .13

Tuesday, February 15

A severe hail and rain storm and I kept near my table. Charles Washburn paid me for tuition last year 10 dollars, and I paid Montague \$1.65 for a Nautical Almanac for 1878, and paid Miss Knapp for pencil 8 cents. Very low barometer this afternoon and evening. The rain continued till night. Slight snow storm in the evening.

Credits – 10.00

Debits – 1.65, .08

Wednesday, February 16

Paid 15 cts for cream tartar and 10 cts for stamps. Abbie went to Mrs. Darling's and Polk came here to dinner and to supper. I worked on the report nearly all day. The walking is very bad, for the rain made it very wet and it has not fully frozen, and where it is frozen it is very rough. In places the ice is broken through and the holes make the walking dangerous.

Debits - .15, .10

Thursday, February 17

Mailed Register to J.Q. Page and one to H.B. Smith of New Jersey. Paid Mr. Hewitt 4 dollars for milk tickets. Mr. & Mrs. Hewitt came here in the afternoon and staid till evening, and then went to Mrs. Tewksbury's concert. We did not go but I heard that the hall was not quite full, but I hope she was well paid.

Debits – 4.00

Friday, February 18

Colder. Ther. only 3 degrees above zero, but pleasant. Paid Pomfret school tax \$2.50. Elmer Emery called in the forenoon., Kimball Perkins called on business as usual. Worked at my table in the forenoon on the cost of the railroad, or that part done by Ralph Jones & Co. In the afternoon I went to the depot and got the number of passengers over the road and also the amount of freight carried. Paid Miss Knapp 34 cents for the Feb. No. of the Naturalist. Colder and partially cloudy. Wind N.W.

Debits – 2.50, .34

Saturday, February 19

Horace Dunham called in the forenoon for me to meet him and Mr. Miller on the subject of commissioners in the estate of Dr. Russ. I called at the Probate office and had a very pleasant interview with Mr. Miller and selected a very strong board. Otis Chamberlin, Ora Paul and Ellis Wood. Paid 12 cents for stamps. Was very tired and some unwell. Partially cloudy through the day with light westerly wind.

Debits - .12

Sunday, February 20

Spent nearly all the forenoon in getting ready to go to church in the afternoon. Mr. Hewitt preached and the sermon was a good one. But I cannot praise the singing. The text was Malachi III: 6. "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." The character and nature of God was called out and then came the unchangeable nature, and this gave us the assurance that He will still be our father, etc. I read Dr. Ryder's sermon on the eternity of punishment, and should like to make an abstract from it as I have begun. Robert called in the evening. A very beautiful day with cool northwest wind. Partial but decreasing cloudiness. Evening clear.

Monday, February 21

Mailed letter to Mr. Bates; one to Mr. Chamberlin and one to Amelia. Went to the office and called on Norman Paul. Came to my room and called on Mr. Russell who is quite sick with pleurisy. I went to work on the report to Poor on the Manual. The funeral of Mary Richmond is attended today. Mrs. Fisher called in the afternoon. Paid Mrs. Maxham for Kimball's board \$1.50 in full and I paid Paul for groceries 23 cents. Abbie called in the evening. Cousin Hiram Vose's little boy died this afternoon. Clear in the morning but cirro-stratus clouds in the afternoon. Light N.W. wind. Solar halo from 9 a.m. through the day.

Debits - 1.50, .23

Tuesday, February 22

Paid Paulo for groceries 58 cts. Met Salmon Thompson and had a short talk with him on Zadock Thompson's Vermont. He says there are still some unbound copies yet at Burlington. At two o'clock p.m. we went to the funeral of Cousin Hiram's little boy. Spencer and Joanna were there. The funeral will also be attended at Pittsfield where they formerly lived. I borrowed \$1.30 of Mrs. D. and paid the same amount to Chs. Dana, or 1.33. Paid Fisher for ruler. Five inches of snow this morning equal to .35 inches of water.

Credits – 1.30

Debits - .58, 1.33, .05

Wednesday, February 23

Carried Dr. Ryder's sermon to Mr. Mellish and left it at Slack's grocery. Had a talk with Simeon on singing and singing books. Mortimer called to carry Mrs. D. to "Sunnyside." She remained there till night and then rode home with Mortimer. I staid at my table and had but few calls. Fred called about 2 o'clock and I had a very pleasant chat with him on living and how to live. I hope he will stay with his father and carry on the old farm where I lived nearly forty years ago. A squall of snow early in the morning,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch full. Colder with north or N.W. wind. A rough day.

Thursday, February 24

The cold takes rather rapid hold of one on such a day as this. These cold, blustery days are not very comfortable. I staid in my room the greater part of the day and tried to get at the total cost of the Woodstock Railroad. But I do not find the facts all so clear. There was some confusion about the amounts in the settlement with some of the contractors. Am hardly able to write this evening. Cold! Thermometer 11.5 degrees below zero and the high N.W. wind with squall clouds (cumulus) makes it very rough and uncomfortable.

Friday, February 25

Finished copying the meteorological work that I had neglected to copy into this book. I went to the office hoping to find time to copy from Clarke's book some of the items of extra work but we could not find time to attend to it. A cool but still morning there being no wind. Air very clear.

Saturday, February 26

I went to the depot with a letter to Mr. Dewey, and then I went to the office. Mrs. Bridge came here in the morning and staid till night. Mr. Chamberlin called and we had a free chat on Pomfret matters and Pomfret history. I am trying to get the statistical matter of the Railroad. Paid seven cents for stamps. Clear in the morning and evening. Cirro-stratus clouds in the afternoon. Solar halo through the middle of the day.

Debits – .25, .50

Sunday, February 27

I staid in my room nearly all the forenoon. I called at the office a few moments, but soon went to my table again. Called on Mr. Russell but soon got ready for church. Mrs. D. went with Emily White to her home. I went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt from Acts XXIII: 1<sup>st</sup>. "I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." The sermon was a strong appeal to his audience to have their lives such that they can say with Paul, "I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." Abbie came here to supper and staid till nearly night. In the evening, Carlie and Hermie came and made a very pleasant call. Some cool in the morning with west wind. Pure type of cirro-cumulus clouds in the middle of the day.

Monday, February 28

It is all centennial today for this evening is the great time at the town hall. Abbie goes in an old or ancient costume, and Polk goes with his coins, and Mr. Wilder from the bank joins with him. I hope they will have a pleasant time and profitable. I am glad that we enjoy ourselves best at home. A pleasant and happy home cannot be too highly prized. About 1½ inches of snow fell before daylight, and it began to snow again about ten in the forenoon and it continued till night.

Tuesday, February 29

Went to the depot in the morning and marked four new picks and an adze for the Railroad Company. I finished up my meteorological report as far as I could and went to get Parker's report, but he is not now keeping it. Paid Paul 20 cents for wafers. A few days ago I paid Billings for kerosene 25 cents that is not down on my book. Snow ended in the forenoon. Nearly clear at noon but cirro-stratus clouds in the evening. Wind southwest.

Debits – .20, .25

Wednesday, March 1

I finished and sent off the meteorological report for February. Staid at the office through the forenoon. Mrs. D. has gone to Horace Dunham's and I must walk out there this afternoon. Started about two o'clock and walked out, or rather rode out with Mr. Kendall, and we had a very fine visit. But it is a long time since I spent as many hours visiting. We rode home and found a letter from Mr. Dewey, and I am glad to find him taking a little rest in Boston, which is a happy condition of things after such a life of toil as he has had. Stratus clouds through the day and a few flakes of snow. Snow about 2½ or a little more on the ground. Brought forward 0.25.

Thursday, March 2

The train was early this morning and I went to the office and found Polk there busy in the settlement of an account of Joseph Wyatt vs. Joel Willis. The matter was closed up fully. Paid Slack 10 cts for a lamp chimney. I worked on a map for the office at English's Mills. In the afternoon I had a talk with Mr. Clarke about my work for the road. Paid 5 cents to the ladies social. Mrs. D. attended it at the Bailey's, going with Mrs. Russell. Mr. Chs. Dana came in the evening. Stratus clouds during the greater part of the day.

Debits - .10, .05

Friday, March 3

Mr. Hart called to have me do some surveying on his lot, bought of Mr. C.C. Watkins. I worked on meteorology. Went to the office but I did not find Mr. Clarke. Was not very well this forenoon. In the afternoon I made the survey for Mr. Hart, and wrote out the description for a deed. Mrs. Miller called and also Mrs. Dr. Chandler. Paid Slack 10 cts for crackers. Mr. Hart paid me 50 cts for the work. A very beautiful morning. Very light stratus or cirro-stratus clouds.

Credits - .50

Debits - .10

Saturday, March 4

Mr. Greene paid me for the Clar. Mfg. Co. twelve dollars and seventy-four cents, and I paid Miss Knapp 80 cents for International and Billings 42 cts for kerosene & eggs. I ruled sheets for the New Hampshire almanac and I did writing at my table. Mr. Hart paid me 25 cts for surveying in addition to 50 paid yesterday. I paid Montague 25 cents for paper. Cold in the morning but warmer in the middle of the day.

Credits - 12.74, .25

Debits - .80, .42, .25

Sunday, March 5

In the morning I staid about my room excepting going to the Post office and I tried to rest what I could. In the afternoon we went to church and had Polk and Abbie go with us. We heard Mr. Hewitt speak from the same text he used two weeks ago. Mal. III: 6. "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." This sermon was, as I have learned, was called out by a conversation with a Congregational clergyman in this place. After going through the attributes of what we know of Jehovah and showing their immutability, he made his particular points and the effect on us, and then our duties. Our prayers were not to change Him but to change us and to draw us nearer to Him. On the whole, this was one of his greatest sermons and I am sure that he felt well for the day was fine and the air pure. Polk and Abbie took supper here and Joanna called. Some cloudy through the day. Westerly wind, falling barometer and rising temperature.

Monday, March 6

Pleasant and warm. Carried the weekly and monthly reports of the weather to the printers. Called at the office and found Mr. Slayton lettering the office door. W.R.R. OFFICE, and on the other panel LAW OFFICE. I went to my room and went to work. Paid 30 cents for stamps and Billings 25 cts for salt. Sent to Brattleboro seven dollars, and peddler 25 cts for silk. Very warm and thawy and the snow is running fast. The river is breaking up and the ice lodging in many places.

Debits - .30, .25, 7.00, .25

Tuesday, March 7

Town Meeting and a stormy time, especially for the railroad. I hope Dr. Powers will forget his Hartland route and help us along. I went to the office and finished up the letter for Poor's Manual of the Railroads of the United States, and mailed it for him. I called on Mr. Clarke. Paid Mrs. Gallup \$2.81 for butter and eggs had last summer. She visited here in the afternoon and went home about four p.m. The warm weather continues and the snow is leaving rapidly.

Debits – 2.81

Wednesday, March 8

Worked on the Almanac pages through the forenoon. Called on H.S. Dana to find a word for him, the name of a parish in Ireland. This is another instance of the value of dictionaries. I kept myself quite busy in the house while the walking is so very bad. The thaw has raised the streams very much, but I hope our culverts will stand the test. I paid Miss Knapp 34 cts for the Naturalist and I paid Paul 10 cts for lamp chimney. Low stratus clouds very dense in the morning. It began to rain at 9 a.m. and continued till night. 0.23 inches at 7 p.m. The river is broken up fully. Water very high.

Debits - .34, .10

Thursday, March 9

The train was in quite early this morning and so am sure that all is well on the line. Staid at the office a part of the forenoon. Went to the depot in the afternoon. Mr. Clarke paid me 75 dollars on Railroad account, and I paid him 15 dollars for wood had last year. Tried to arrange some about the engine house and car house. Robert called in the evening with a plan of Pomfret meeting house. Wrote a long letter to Horace Ware of Williamstown on the history of Pomfret. Cooler. Wind N.W. Stratus clouds

Credits – 75.00

Debits – 15.00

Friday, March 10

I went to the office and remained there nearly through the forenoon. I worked on the almanac for 1877 and towards night went to the office and post office. Joanna came to see about trying to make a settlement with Mr. Leach and getting the old place back again. She and Abigail have left the subject with Polk to look after and he has written a letter to Mr. Leach. I paid 23.55 cents to Savings bank as interest on the B.S. Thompson note. Paid Paul 95 cents for groceries. Stratus clouds morning and evening but partially cloudy in the afternoon. Wind N.W.

Debits – 23.55, .95

Saturday, March 11

I carried my boots to Mr. Eaton to be repaired and it was done this forenoon. I have worked at my table nearly all day and at times have been quite tired. I paid Mr. Eaton 65 cents and I paid Miss Latimer 25 cents as balance for work last summer. And I put up for what Mrs. D. took of Mrs. Russ' money \$1.30. Mrs. Marcy and Miss Latimer came and spent the evening though I am now here alone at my table and it is some past 9 o'clock. Stratus clouds in the morning, but only partially cloudy in the afternoon. Surface S.E. in the evening.

Debits - .65, .25, 1.30

Sunday, March 12

Did not get up till after six o'clock and was some rested. The morning is still and quiet, cool and cloudy. I kept at my table the greater part of the forenoon. We went to church in the afternoon and heard Mr. Hewitt preach from Ps. LXXXIV, last clause of the eleventh verse. "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." After the introduction, he gave the different uses of the word work as found in the scriptures. And then walking uprightly. Then the promise taken in connection with the unchangeable nature of God making it forever reliable, is sure to be fulfilled. Mrs. D. rode with Mr. Russell's folks and I came home by way of High Street, and Abbie came and took supper with us, but Polk was too dull and lazy as he thought to come. Robert called in the evening but did not make a long stay. Stratus clouds though not very dense. Wind southeast.

Monday, March 13

Paid Chapman for pills .20, boy .12 for lemons. I went to the office and got Mr. Greene's book and spent the day in copying dates from it. I have now the dates of all the important steps from the organization of

the Company. I called a few times at the office and found Abbie there as she stays there now through the greater part of the day. Rain began at 6 o'clock a.m. and continued till 4 p.m. 0.52 inches.

Debits – .32

Tuesday, March 14

In the forenoon I finished copying dates from the R.R. clerk's book and returned it to Mr. Greene. I lent to Polk \$1.50 for the day and I paid for groceries 10 cts and to Montague 15 cents for paper. In the afternoon Mortimer came for us and we went to the Fitch place and made them a visit and did not get home till evening. I looked over Mrs. Fitch's property, but found it had nearly all been removed. Partially cloudy in the forenoon, but clear in the evening.

Credits – 1.50, .10, .15

Wednesday, March 15

I was very tired this morning as we were up late last evening. I spent nearly all the forenoon at the office. Mr. Chamberlin came down with Kimball Perkins and Mr. C. wishes to hire him till next fall, and I think it is a good place for Kimball. I saw Elmer Emery and Mr. Spear, and spoke of Mrs. Page and of her going to stay with Christiana for a while. Paid 5 cents to Chapman. Clear through the day. Wind north.

Debits - .05

Thursday, March 16

Mr. Greene wishes to begin the printing of the R.R. report tomorrow. I paid the Taylor boy for oranges 10 and paid 8 cts for lemons. I spent the greater part of the day writing on the R.R. report. Mrs. D. went to the office and staid with Abbie in the afternoon. It began to snow in the afternoon and Mrs. D. came home in the snow. Clear in the morning but clouds soon formed and increased. It began to snow at 4 p.m.

Debits - .18

Friday, March 17

Must very soon draw plan and make out bill for timber for engine house. I carried 15 pages of the report to Mr. Greene, though I gave it to Mr. Pratt who was authorized to see to the printing of it. The storm keeps us in the house today and there is but little stirring about in the town. Was on a very difficult part of the report for I do not like to get in individual conversations. The report would be too long if I did that. Snow continued lightly through the day.

Saturday, March 18

Mailed documents and maps to the post office department for the English's Mills P.O. and I must write a letter to Mr. Dennison on the subject. Paid Mrs. Dana 18 dollars as interest on the Gibson notes. I paid Billings 25 cts for yarn, and paid R. Dana 50 cts for shirt pattern. Was some unwell through the day especially in the forenoon. In the afternoon I wrote on the report with very good success. Storm ended early in the morning. 9.2 inches of snow = 0.95 inches of water.

Debits – 18.00, .25, .50

Sunday, March 19

Did not rise till nearly seven o'clock as I have not been well for a few days past. Mr. Russell called to see if we are going to church today but we concluded not to go. Abbie came down before noon and remained here till after four in the afternoon. Polk went to Pomfret with Mr. Pelton to see his father as Mr. P. wishes to have him speak on fruit trees. I dozed at my table much of the time. Abbie went away soon after supper and I went to the office to wind the clock. The evening was some cool, but I came home and did some writing and tried to rest. I ought to have gone to church but was too tired and too unwell. A very few stratus clouds in the morning, but clear through the rest of the day.



Monday, March 20

Paid 15 cts for stamps. I worked on the plan for an engine house in the forenoon and in the afternoon I went to the depot and made measurements for the place to put the engine house. Came to my room and had a long talk with Horace Dunham and he went away soon after. In the evening Polk called and Allen Thompson and Robert called on historical matters. Polk came here for the night. Abbie went to Pomfret to take care of Mr. & Mrs. Chamberlin for they are unwell. Beautiful Solar halo at half past ten forenoon. It began to snow at 7 p.m.

Debits - .15

Tuesday, March 21

Paid Richmond 27 cents for ham. I spent all the morning in shoveling snow and clearing the roofs. At about 11 o'clock the storm changed to rain and the roads were soon very slushy. In the afternoon I went to the office and made out a bill of lumber for the engine house and I worked through till night when Polk and I went to supper. In the evening I remained in my room. It is about as much as I ought to do to keep my own work along. The storm continued and changed to rain about 11 a.m.

Debits - .27

Wednesday, March 22

After doing chores at the house I went to the office to work on the estimates and bill of lumber for the Engine House. When the cars came in I went to the depot and met Mr. Porter and Mr. Clarke to see what change would be made in the building. I went to the office and met Wm. Dana and had a very pleasant chat on the reason and habits and instincts of the little domestic animals. Paid Paul 52 cts and paid Mr. Tewksbury \$1.00 for gas shade. Mrs. Bridge visited here and Polk is stopping with us. Paid 60 cts for rubbers.

Debits - .52, 1.00, .60

Thursday, March 23

Arose soon after five this morning and after doing chores I went to the office. Carlie came and went with Elvira to the Dr. Russ place. The passing is very good and they had very good success. I wrote out the bill of lumber for the Engine House. I wrote out the bill of lumber for the Engine House. After making out three or four copies of it, I went to writing on the Railroad report and became very tired. Am obliged to lay by my work this evening.

Friday, March 24

Mailed letter to Amelia and one to Abbie at Mr. Chamberlin's. Saw Mr. Fitch a few minutes in the street. Mr. Porter is moving into O.E. Taylor's house on Pleasant Street. Paid tramp 25 cts. Tried to write on the report but have hardly felt able to do it. Paid 9 cts for stamps. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Clarke called and we had a few minutes of pleasant chat on R.R. matters. Mr. Thompson would place the engine house away from the car house and have the first for one stall only. Borrowed of the Russ money .25. Aurora in the evening.

Credits - .25

Debits - .25, .09

Saturday, March 25

Though the air was so clear last evening it began to snow at six o'clock in the morning, and it continued through the day, changing to rain, in part, in the middle of the day. I worked at my table the greater part of the day. Mr. Thompson went home in the morning and Mr. Clarke rode with him over the line, or a part of it.

Sunday, March 26

I had to shovel snow in the morning and it was very heavy, so much so that I could not use a snow shovel, but was obliged to use a steel shovel. After getting chores done I put myself in readiness for going

to church. I heard Mr. Hewitt from Col. II: 6-7. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." Though the passing was very bad for man or beast there was a goodly number in attendance. The sermon was a good one, the unit of which was the value and importance of a firm and living faith in God. Robins and woodpeckers.

Monday, March 27

The report is my work now and I spent some time in getting the order in which this work was done. Paid six cents for stamps. I was some unwell through the day but kept about. Abbie is now at Mr. Chamberlin's as Mr. & Mrs. C. are both sick. I am some afraid that both of them will sometime sooner or later go with Consumption. Polk is here with us, but is beginning to feel some lonely and is unwell with cold.

Debits – .06

Tuesday, March 28

The roads are now so bad that it is almost impossible to get about for the late storms of rain and snow. The water is so deep that walking is an impossibility. I spent the greater part of the day at my table on the report. In the evening we all went to the school meeting and I got into office. My associates as committee are Mr. Royce and Mr. Thompson, are both very good men, and I hope we can "retrench and reform."

Wednesday, March 29

I remained in my room through the forenoon and a great part of the afternoon. I am beginning to think of the schools and the school teachers, and how to form classes, etc. I went to the office in the afternoon, heard some school talk, and all seem to think of the high price paid the teachers and the great expense of the schools. Spencer called here and I am glad to see him looking and feeling so well. His situation is much more pleasant than it has been for the past two years. Lightning at 2 o'clock a.m.

Thursday, March 30

It froze some last night so that the crust bears this morning and I walked up to the office. No mails of any importance this morning for the trains have ben delayed on some of the roads. Abbie came down a little before ten o'clock, but Polk had just gone to South Woodstock. Paid for stamps six cents. Mr. Curtis of Bridgewater called and paid me 10 dollars as principal and 75 cents interest for money advanced to Amelia. This pays me in full. Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets 1 dollar.

Credits – 10.00, .75

Debits - .06, 1.00

Friday, March 31

Paid Billings for kerosene & 5 cts for buttons. Paid 8 cts for oranges a few days ago. Spent some time in looking over the state of the school finances and the state of the district. I am not sure that the schools are any larger than they were six years ago, though they have more term scholars out of the district. I am afraid we shall have some difficulty in getting along with some of these retrenchments and reforms. Schools and high prices are the talk now.

Debits – .30, .08

Saturday, April 1

Paid Paul for groceries \$1.30. Paid for stamps 90 cents. Mrs. D. went to Taftsville in the forenoon train and came back in the afternoon. I mailed the meteorological report, but worked diligently to finish it. Polk is with us yet for Abbie is needed at his fathers, as they are not well. Mr. Bradley's boy came for hay and I let him have about two hundred pounds. About two and a half feet of snow on the ground. On hand 19.25.

Debits – 1.30, .90

Sunday, April 2

After building the fires I sat down at my table and I hardly left it through the day. I wrote some for both papers and perhaps what I wrote is not worth printing. I was much too lazy to go to church, but Mrs. D. went with Mr. and Mrs. Russell. The funeral of Mr. John Bernard was attended at the brick house this afternoon. In the evening Simeon Dunham and his wife called here in the evening and it was pleasant to have them call again, for they have been very busy as well as myself. Tomorrow I must see to the beginning of the primary schools.

Monday, April 3

Paid Mr. Fay's account 6.00 and John Cone's bill 25 cts for passage to and from the depot. The Primary and Intermediate schools begin this morning, and I spent the forenoon on the schools to find out as near as possible their condition in every respect. I believe it will be some work to get them into working order. In the afternoon I met Mr. Chamberlin at the office and he came down to stay with us through the night, attending the fruit discussion in the evening.

Debits – 6.00, .25

Tuesday, April 4

A very stormy day. 6 inches of snow at 7 o'clock this morning. Mr. Chamberlin went from here about nine o'clock. I staid in my room to work on the almanac for 1877. Paid 4 cts for lemon. The storm continued through the day and about 9 inches had fallen before night. I am not sure that I shall work much more on the R.R. report, for I am not sure that the pay is coming very freely. I can as well spend my time on the almanac. Found six inches of snow this morning. Wind S.E. but it backed to N.E. and the storm continued.

Debits - .04

Wednesday, April 5

Mailed letter to the Mut. Life Association of Brattleboro with five dollars. I rode down the line to examine trestle work. I found it all right except some of the blockings needed to be kept tight, but all was safe. The track is uneven in a few places, but if it can be kept in order till the ground is settled it can easily be made right. Polk left four cents to pay for milk. Bright Solar halo at 11 o'clock a.m. Blue birds seen.

Credits - .04

Debits – 5.00

Thursday, April 6

Am very lazy from my walk yesterday in the snow. Was quite badly burned up by the intense light of the day. Lizzie and Emily White called for flowers as the funeral of their mother will be attended next Saturday. I hardly went out of the house during the day, though I once went to the post office. Spent the greater part of the time at the writing table in my room. Song sparrows seen.

Friday, April 7

Cloudy and a light storm this morning, and it rained a very little in the course of the day. Paid four cents for a lemon. I did not go out except to go to the post office. I have not heard from Mr. Thompson since he left here about two weeks ago, but am expecting some directions about the car house and the engine house. I see Abbie's letter every day and they are quite cheerful and musical. Some flakes of snow in the morning, and some rain in the afternoon. In all, one tenth of an inch of water.

Debits – .04

Saturday, April 8

Mailed another letter to Abbie. She stays at Mr. Chamberlin's yet and I hope she will stay there till Mr. and Mrs. C. are both better than they are now. Mrs. D. has gone to the funeral of Mrs. White an old acquaintance of hers. I went to Mr. Woodruff's in the morning and I am to take one pound of black tea and a bag of his best flour. Fred brought them in the afternoon. Mortimer called here and I assisted him

about hiring the Seavey place. Cooler with a stormy N.W. wind. The wind is N. by W. or N.N.W. and not strictly north or northwest.

Sunday, April 9

The day is very pleasant though there is a very cold wind from the north northwest or northwest. The roads are so bad and we are so lazy that we concluded not to go to church. The folks are just now going from the brick house, and the sleighs seem to be in the gravel, dragging harshly and heavily. I am spending a great part of the day at my table, and I must say it is a pleasant place. I do very little of my work at the office for my room is so much more pleasant. I have looked over my old catalogue of scholars in the Pomfret High School, and it melancholy to see how many of them are gone, and what are left are very much scattered over the world. Wrote a letter to Wallace Ware. He is now in Georgetown, Colorado and I think is in trade there. I do not hear from him very often. Have not heard from Carlos for some years, but suppose he is in Fulton City, Illinois.

Monday, April 10

Cooler this morning and it would be pleasant to have a run on the crust. I have spent about half a day on the schools. Called on the high school this morning, and found the greater part of the scholars there and the teachers preparing for the work. I hope they will make a profitable term of it. I paid young Wentworth 20 cents for hair-cutting, and 25 cents to Richmond for meat. In the afternoon I went to the Intermediate School with some materials for the teachers.

Debits - .20, .25

Tuesday, April 11

A clear day except for a few cirrus clouds in the middle of the day. Mailed a letter to Abbie this morning and I hope she will get more of them. I drew a sketch of our R.R. for Mr. Porter to send to the Publishers of the Railroad Guide. I expected some surveying to do this morning but the intense light was too much for such work. Paid 34 cents to Miss Knapp for Naturalist. Abbie has not been here for a very long time. The upper currents of the air were from the N.W. in the morning.

Debits - .34

Wednesday, April 12

Went to the depot to see Mr. Porter, and then I went to Mr. Woodbury's office to have some R.R. notices printed. Came to my room and worked there through the day. The train was about one hour late this afternoon, and I have not yet learned the cause. I fear some of those slides will hinder some time. Worked on the column of aspects in the almanac till late in the evening, but could not quite finish that column. There is a variety of subjects in that part of the work.

Thursday, April 13

Mr. Thompson called on me this morning and I had a long talk with him on railroad matters, and I then went to work on the almanac and finished the col. of aspects and then took up the column giving the moon's place. I finished that just before night and was fully tired out. I paid Richmond 40 cents for a piece of steak. Went to the office and got meteorological blanks and circular from Washington. It began to rain at 7 p.m. Water 0.11.

Debits - .40

Friday, April 14

Fast Day. - I went to the office quite early and paid 31 cts for groceries. I went down the line as far as the Tracy crossing and examined that culvert and the two deep ravines. Mr. Clarke went with me. We found the water was getting under the frost in one of the deep ravines, and we shall be compelled to watch it closely. Abbie came in the evening and I went to the office for Polk and I was a little pestered. The rain ended at 11 p.m. Water 0.06.

Debits - .31

Saturday, April 15

Spencer and I took from the bank for three months \$150.00, he taking the 100 and I the fifty, which was discounted 48.95. At maturity I am to pay the 50 dollars and he the 100. I paid Mr. Mellish for office rent and wood \$14.50 and the Universalist society 15.00 I paid for Evangelopedia Vol. 4 five dollars and 18 cts for meat. I went down the line again and watched the ditches and some other work. They are trying the scraper very effectually in some of the cuts. It is now a very muddy time. Very light showers between 12 and 1 o'clock p.m.

Credits – 48.95

Debits – 29.50, 5.00, .18

Sunday, April 16

Some cooler but no freezing. The water drained off some last night and I hope it will not do damage on the road. I went to the office in the forenoon and then to Polk's house on High Street. In the afternoon I went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt from Acts XXXI: 8<sup>th</sup>. "Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?" This led to a somewhat doctrinal discourse, an account of the credibility of the resurrection of the dead. Would God call them from their sleep to make them miserable? I am sorry we could not have better singing for this is one of the best parts of the work. Good singing puts us in the mood to drink in the pure spiritual essence of a sermon. There is something spiritual in good singing, but is there in those cruel discords that we sometimes hear. I hope we can have better sometime.

Monday, April 17

I started for the schools and met Mr. Dana the principal of the High school. I went with him to the school house and gave some directions as to the course and extent of the studies. I then went down the line and examined the trestle work, and straightened up some of it in the first ravine on Porters. Mr. Clarke went with me and we came back on the train. Paid 40 cents for steak, and I think it is all I have paid out today.

Debits - .40

Tuesday, April 18

In the morning I went to the Stanton Street primary school, and I got ready at train time and I went down the line again. Today we rode to the Porter trestles and then walked down the line to White River Village. I paid Montague \$5.25 and Abe Dunbar 1 dollar towards his wood sawing. We bought a lounge of Mr. Fisher and paid \$12.50. Saw Mr. Hanchel the bridge builder on the Central Vermont R.R. He came to examine and repair trestle work.

Debits – 5.25, 1.00, 12.50

Wednesday, April 19

In the morning after doing chores about the house I went to the office and found things going very well. I went down the line again and examined the trestle work and then went to White River again and rode home on the train examining every foot of track on the line. The road is improving very fast except in a few places where the frost was very deep. I have some confidence in the correctness of all the work and all the foundations. Aurora in the evening.

Thursday, April 20

This is the first day that I have had to be at home in a very long time. I took the time to visit the schools and make some suggestions to the teachers. In the afternoon I worked on the almanac and fear that it will be late this year before I get it done. Mr. Clarke went down the line to the Junction and thinks it will be necessary for me to go down tomorrow to make everything safe. This is a bad season of the year for railroads. Paid Dunbar 50 cts.

Debits - .50

Friday, April 21

It began to rain about one o'clock this morning and was showery the rest of the night. I went to Stanton Street school and carried a map of the United States for the use of the school. I went down the line on the second train, or first down, stopping at the trestle work on the deep ravines. Mr. Hanchett was there putting in some new braces. Mr. Clarke was with me and after making some thorough examinations we came to the Shallies Hill and rode home. Paid Dunbar 1 dollar. Rain began at 1 a.m. and ended at 8 p.m. Water 0.14 inches.

Debits – 1.00

Saturday, April 22

A very beautiful morning. Polk and Abbie came down from Pomfret and we were about starting for the Seavey place to see Abigail and Joanna. Elvira rode there with Mortimer and I waited till the last train down and rode to Taftsville and then walked up on the north side of the river. We remained there till nearly night and started for home. Willie Dana called on me in the afternoon. Paid Richmond and Pinney 50 cents and I paid for lemons a few days ago 12 cts. Rain began at 10 p.m. and continued. Water 0.12 inches.

Debits – .50, .12

Sunday, April 23

Rainy in the morning but clearing weather began in the forenoon. I had felt some anxiety about the weather for we had fixed our minds about going to church to hear some fresh singing from some new books. The sun came out before noon and the afternoon was very pleasant. We walked to church and heard Mr. Hewitt preach from 1<sup>st</sup> Thes. IV: 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. This was a favorite theme with the speaker, and with the denomination generally, and in this case it was handled with a strong hand. He made brotherly love the test of Christian inheritance. The singing was most truly excellent. Simeon Dunham's choir with Mrs. Tewksbury on the organ can but make most excellent music, and such it was. I hope this can be continued through the season. We called at Simeon Dunham's a few minutes in the evening. Abe Dunbar called and I paid him five dollars as the balance for sawing my wood, and I paid contribution fifty cents. Rainy in the morning but clearing weather through the day and clear in the evening. A faint aurora seen at 9 p.m. Aquatic thrush heard. Rain ended at 9 a.m. Water 0.02.

Debits – 5.00, .50

Monday, April 24

A clear and very beautiful morning. I went to the River Street school and put up a map of the United States. I came back and worked at the table on the Almanac. In the afternoon went to the depot. The day was spent in doing chores.

Tuesday, April 25

I went down the line to work on the road. A slide came in at the McCarty cut after the morning train passed and it was again stopped at the Shallies Hill, but it got through in the forenoon and reached Quechee and Woodstock before noon. This is the first interruption that the road has had, and I think this will be out tomorrow, and I think too that we ought to bear one such hindrance. Summer warbler. Hermit thrush.

Wednesday, April 26

Rested rather badly last night and could not go down the line. The slide will not detain the train after this day if we have good success. I paid two dollars for shoes at Royce & Pryvis, and I paid 6 cents for spool of thread and paid 45 cents for tea. The train came up in the afternoon and went back to the Junction to come up in the morning at the usual time. Polk came down from Pomfret in the forenoon.

Debits – 2.00, .06, .45

Thursday, April 27

Rose quite early and went to the depot to see the men before they started for the work on the line. Had the first meal of vegetable oysters this morning. I went down the line with the train and inspected the trestle work and all the fills in that part of the work. Mr. Thompson came on the up train in the afternoon and so did Mr. Dewey. It will seem quite natural and pleasant to see those men about here again. Cerulean warbler. Black birds.

Friday, April 28

A cool and windy day and not very pleasant to be out of the house for one not well. I have taken cold and am too unwell to go out. Mr. Thompson called in the forenoon and we talked on the road matters fully. It is well that he is one of the directors of the road, for he knows all about railroad management. Mary Shaw came to recite her lessons in Arithmetic. Mr. Greene got some paper paying 25 cts for it. It began to rain at 11 a.m. and ended at 6 p.m. but the rain was very light. Water 0.10.

Credits - .25

Saturday, April 29

Am not well this morning and can do but little writing. I went to Mr. Billings to give some levels for a sheep shed. Came back and have spent the greater part of the day at my table. Mr. Greene got 12 sheets more of paper and paid 10 cents making 35 cents a quire.

Credits - .10

Sunday, April 30

Some showers during the latter part of the night, but the clouds began to break away soon after 7 o'clock and at 8 o'clock there was a very brilliant rainbow which was so low that the whole arch rested on the face of the mountain. All the primary colors were distinctly and clearly visible. - Fred Doten and wife called about noon. In the afternoon we went to church to hear Mr. Hewitt and to hear the singing. He spoke from Psalms XXXVI: 9<sup>th</sup>. "For with thee is the fountain of life: In thy light shall we see light." He first touched upon the mystery of Life. The life of the flowers of the field, of the birds that fly, and of man that walks the earth, all is mystery, we have no power given us to understand them.

Monday, May 1

A cold May-day with frequent flakes of snow. Mr. Hathaway called in the morning and brought us some corn meal. The greater part of my work today has been on the meteorology. I wrote out the meteorology for April for Mr. Greene, but I do not care to have any one publish what I have written. I mailed the report to the War department this morning and think it was full and correct. I paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets \$1.00 and paid Miss Richmond 25 cents. Snow flakes have fallen nearly all day. Water 0.02. On hand 7.10.

Debits - 1.00, .25

Tuesday, May 2

Rested much better last night and could eat my breakfast with some peace. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Porter called in the forenoon. I went to the post office and found that I must explain my account against Gen. Mower in the afternoon. I went to Johnson's at two o'clock and found no difficulty in having my account allowed. Polk came down in the afternoon. Paid 3 dollars for four moss rose bushes.

Debits - 3.00

Wednesday, May 3

Rested badly again last night, a dreary and troubled sleep. The morning is cloudy and gloomy. I worked at my table in the forenoon and in the afternoon I went to the northerly part of Mr. Billings' land along the old turnpike road and laid out a connection of the walls laid out by the Perry boys. I paid Paul 23 cts for groceries and Richmond 35 cts for meat, and Billings 7 cts for buttons and 25 for kerosene. Rain ended 6 p.m. and began at noon.

Debits - .23, .35, 32

Thursday, May 4

Am some better this morning, and after going to the Post office I came to the house and concluded to go down the line to Taftsville. My friend H.S. Dana went with me and we walked back on the line and examined the line fully and I believe the track to be in good order for the season. I paid Walter White for periodicals \$1.14, that is the International and Naturalist. Mr. Mellish sent 30 cents for flower seeds. Got a letter from Abbie. Rain began at 4 p.m.

Credits - .30  
Debits - 1.14

Friday, May 5

A very light rain nearly all day. Arose quite early and began to clear the door-yard. Found that the ground is remarkably light and easy to move and grass roots and weeds are very easily moved out of the way. Paid Slack 18 cents for vinegar. The railroad is working well and the frost is coming out of the ground very quietly. It is some work to keep track of all the trestle work on the line. Light rain through the day.

Debits - .18

Saturday, May 6

Rain through the night. Found 0.21 in. of water in the rain-gauge. I worked on the almanac the greater part of the day, copying the Sun Rising & Setting. Can finish the New Hampshire calendar in a few days. Henry Ware called to have me compute the interest on a note. Polk came down this forenoon to attend to a case of his father's on the Ordway estate. Got Abe Dunbar to clear out the out-buildings at the School houses, and the district paid him five dollars. Rain continued till 3 p.m.

Sunday, May 7

A warm morning and it seems more like having summer again. Am anticipating some good singing today at church. In the afternoon we walked to church. The day was very warm. Ther. 83 degrees above 0. Mr. Hewitt spoke from Phil. III: 8<sup>th</sup>, and a part of the context was also brought in. "I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord." An excellent text and an excellent subject and the speaker made a good discourse from it. All his sermons are made practical, and this one touched some upon belief. The singing was excellent, as good as can be heard at any house in the county, I think. Our folks need a better organ for such an organist.

Monday, May 8

Mr. Sidney Cummings called for me to go to Bridgewater to look over again some old lines that I ran nearly forty years ago. A suit is pending in the courts about one of these lines. Polk and Abbie came down to move their things from the house on High Street. After working through the day and starting Kimball with the team, they came and took supper with us and soon left for Pomfret. Borrowed five dollars of George Paul.

Credits - 5.00

Tuesday, May 9

Sent to Insurance Company 5 dollars. Paid 66 cents for groceries to Richmond & Pinney. I came to my table and wrote most of the afternoon. In the morning I arose early and worked about two hours in the garden. I worked at my table much of the time but am not in a mood for writing. We are trying to have Elvira take a short trip abroad, and she may possibly go tomorrow. Carlie Dunham is here this afternoon or evening. Bobolink heard.

Debits - 5.00, .66



Wednesday, May 10

Arose early but quite unwell and I hardly felt able to stir out. But was some better in the afternoon. Mrs. D. did not go today but I hope she will go towards the last of the week. I worked in the garden some in the afternoon. I took the time and found my watch eleven seconds too slow. I have never known it to run better than it has since it was cleaned by Mr. Hathaway. A thunder shower began at 6 o'clock p.m. from the southwest. Thunder at 6 o'clock p.m.

Thursday, May 11

Went to the depot in the morning and then on the train to Quechee to distribute willow bushes to set on the high embankments for protection. Mr. Clarke paid me 25 dollars on my Railroad account, and I paid George Paul 5 dollars that I borrowed of him last Tuesday. Paid Miss McCollum \$4.28 for hat and paid Miss Bay 40 cents for handkerchiefs. I went to Mr. Dewey's and had a very pleasant talk on R.R. matters, and I went with Mr. McKenzie and Willie Dewey to explore a line below the Gulf bridge.

Credits – 25.00

Debits – 5.00, 4.28, .40

Friday, May 12

Paid Paul 17 cts for eggs and 12 cts for soap. Tried to arrange my work so I could leave it for one or two days. Have concluded to go to Franklin tomorrow.

Debits - .29

Saturday, May 13

In the morning I got things in readiness for going away. We started for Franklin at a quarter before eleven in the morning and arrived there about half past two in the afternoon. Paid 4.20 fare. Had a very pleasant ride and found the folks well and happy; and I think they enjoy life very well. Their place is very suitable for them. It is a little retired from the street and yet it is near the hotel and the business part of the village.

Debits – 4.20

Sunday, May 14

Arose rather late in the morning and after breakfast we took a walk to the Junction of the two rivers below the villages. We came home about noon and Elvira went to church with Mr. Gookin in the afternoon and I took a walk up the Bristol Road where I worked more than twenty-five years ago. I laid out the track about June and July of 1848. After meeting Mr. Gookin, I took a walk up and down the Northern Railroad. We were some tired but the walks were very pleasant. We are calling it very pleasant about the village of Franklin, though the scenery is very different from Vermont. The pine and oak timber would not grow so well here. I saw while here at Franklin the largest flocks of chimney swallows that I ever saw. They had not come at Woodstock, but they had been seen at Franklin for some days.

Monday, May 15

Paid fare to the Junction 4.20. In the morning we went after some wild flowers west of the Railroad and we found a good supply of them. At eleven o'clock we went to the depot and soon started for home and found ourselves there very soon. It is very pleasant to find an easy railroad all the way home. We came home before three o'clock and I went to the depot to set grade stakes for grading the north side of the yard.

Debits – 4.20

Tuesday, May 16

Paid 25 cts for stamps. Sent calendar to Claremont, that for 1877. It has been done for some time but I have not had time to send it off. I wrote a letter to the Claremont Co. and one to Amelia. Rode to Quechee to run a line for Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Bragg, and I gave levels for the foundation on John Dewey's house. Received of Wm. Dewey five dollars for the surveying. Abbie came in the afternoon and Mr. Chamberlin and Polk came and returned at night. Frost, a hard one for May.

Credits – 5.00

Debits - .25

Wednesday, May 17

Paid Mrs. Churchill six dollars for pew rent up to May 1<sup>st</sup> of the present year. I went to Taftsville to meet the selectmen of Hartland to look at the road below Taftsville and try to reduce the grade if possible. The selectmen were there when I arrived there, and I think they will make some change in the road. I got a steel bar that Mr. Taft had been making for Mr. H.S. Dana. I carried the bar to Mr. Dana and he paid me the money (\$2.25) and I must send it to the company. Frost this morning.

Debits – 6.00

Thursday, May 18

Sent the \$2.25 to Mr. Emerson or to Daniel Taft. In the afternoon I made a partial survey of the depot ground and must draw a plan of it as soon as possible. The season is so late that it keeps every one hurried with work. The weather is very fine but there is a cold wind, and there probably will be till all the snow is melted away. Chimney swallows.

Friday, May 19

I let my writing go and worked in the garden. Fixed a frame for the blackberry bushes to rest on; and I cleared off the ground for plowing. In the afternoon I got a horse and buggy and went to South Pomfret and to Mr. Chamberlin's. Called on Mrs. Russ and found her comfortable for one of her age. She is nearly 79 years old. Mr. Chamberlin seems to be some better, but his breathing is bad. Birth root blossoms, and blood root seems very plentiful.

Saturday, May 20

Was some unwell this morning but after breakfast I went to work about the house and garden. Mr. Thompson and Miss Shaw called in the forenoon. I went to the depot with Mr. T. and we talked about the changes in the arrangement at the depot grounds. Dunbar finished piling my wood in the shed and I paid him four dollars for it. And I paid Paul 45 cents for tea. Mr. Chamberlin came down with Polk and was here to dinner. Am glad to find him so well.

Debits – 4.00, .45

Sunday, May 21

There was a light shower in the forenoon but it was very soon gone. After doing some writing I tried to rest me and had a pleasant snooze for a few minutes. In the afternoon we went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt preach from II Peter III: 9<sup>th</sup>. "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness but is long-suffering to us – not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." The sermon was full of earnest appeals urging us to pure godly lives, prompted by earnest emotions of the heart. It was just such a sermon as Mr. Hewitt would preach. His sermons, though sometimes doctrinal, always urge a purity of life and character. The singing was excellent though Mrs. Dr. Chandler was not there. After supper I took a walk with Simeon Dunham to find the place from which a picture of the Marsh place was taken long ago. Plum trees in blossom.

Monday, May 22

A very sultry and warm morning, such as will relax every muscle and make one feel very tired or weary. I went to work in the garden quite early and the weather was very warm. I fitted the garden for plowing and Mr. Bradley plowed it in the afternoon. Mr. Wilson Parker assisted his boy in doing it. I have paid before now \$1.15 for groceries, etc. that have not been set down.

Tuesday, May 23

Cold! Wind north and quite strong. Worked in the garden preparing beds for vegetables. Polk came from Pomfret to attend the opening of the county court. I drew plan of the depot grounds, and in the afternoon took further measures at the west end of the lot, and in the evening I placed the curve of the track on the plan.

Wednesday, May 24

Hard frost! Water in small quantities slightly frozen over. But it soon grew warmer. I went with Mr. McKenzie to Bridgewater to run out the Messer lot, so called, lying north of the Hoisington pasture. This was one of the hardest days work that I have seen. We left home before eight o'clock and came home about night. The work was on one of the highest hills in that town. A hard frost. Ice formed in vessels of water.

Thursday, May 25

Cool this morning but no frost. I went into the garden quite early to make preparations for planting and sowing, but it is some discouraging to have the cold hold on so late. Made plan of the Messer lot surveyed yesterday. Polk and Abbie and Miss Edith Stanley came down in the forenoon from Pomfret. Court is now in session but I have not noticed it. Mr. Clarke went to Newport, N.H. to see Mr. Howe and the Railroad buildings at that place.

Friday, May 26

Light frost again this morning but we have nothing that it will injure. In the morning I went to the depot ground to make some measures so as to fix the position of the stations. Mr. Hathaway called in the afternoon to see about his road partition, etc. I worked in the garden the greater part of the day, and the heat was some oppressive. Willie Dana called to speak of the school for decoration day. Have not planted the garden yet. Took Polk's clock to Hathaway's. A light frost.

Saturday, May 27

I drew a plan of the outline of the depot grounds and in the afternoon I took some more measures in order to place the buildings. I paid Pinney 5 cts for cat's feed. In the afternoon Polk came for us and we went to Pomfret with him. I spent the greater part of the day in the garden, and I planted a few potatoes and a few hills of sweet corn.

Debits - .05

Sunday, May 28

Am afraid we visited too much last night for Mr. & Mrs. Chamberlin did not rest much and are rather unwell this morning. But after breakfast, Mr. Chamberlin and I took a walk to their chestnut tree that stands on the lower or south side of the road a few rods west of his old house. The chestnut was planted by his father Laban Chamberlin 73 years ago and is now 14 feet in circumference one foot from the ground on the upper side, and is 12 feet in girth at 4 feet from the ground. At 10 feet from the ground it divides into three nearly equal branches that stand at nearly equal angles from the trunk and from each other, and these branches are more than 7 feet in girth (or 7' 4"). We went to the summit of the hill and had a very pleasant walk. Mr. Hewitt and Mr. Rufus Richardson called in the afternoon. After supper Polk brought us home and we were jaded out fully.

Monday, May 29

We were very tired and lame this morning, but after working at my table a few hours I went into the garden and did some garden work. Sowed beets and the ground was very dry. Saw Mr. Dean and agreed to go to Barnard next Monday to set out a homestead and dower. Light showers in the afternoon and evening. Thunder about 6 o'clock a.m. and again about 5 p.m. Very light showers.

Tuesday, May 30

Very clear and cool. The smoke that was so dense is now entirely gone, and the atmosphere is very pure. I wrote awhile in the morning and then went into the garden. Carlie Dunham paid us 50 cents for horse hire, and I paid 23 cents for groceries at Pauls.

Credits - ..50

Debits - .23

Wednesday, May 31

Am some better than I have been for the past few days. Finished up the meteorological report as far as could be done. I spent very much of the day in planting potatoes and on garden work. I ought to call on the Railroad folks again for money. In the afternoon I looked up the record of the surveys around the depot lot and find some difficulty about it. A few days ago I paid Woodruff a balance due him; and I paid for groceries, in all \$1.15.

Thursday, June 1

Arose quite early and finished up the meteorological report, and sent it on the Washington. I made a survey for Mr. Kent and he paid me fifty cents. I paid 4 cts postage and 12 cents for a blank key. In the afternoon I looked up the records of Miss Carver's deeds and made a test of former survey. On hand .27.

Credits .50

Debits - .04, .12

Friday, June 2

Mr. Billings paid me six dollars and I paid Paul 84 cents and I paid John Eaton 3.25 for a hat. The morning is extremely warm and rather dull and dusty. Mr. Dewey came from Quechee in the morning and will remain here till the meeting of the directors in the afternoon. Went to the depot and when the train came Mr. Thompson came to attend the R.R. meeting. All the different subjects were talked over. Paid for Naturalist 34 cts.

Credits - 6.00

Debits - .84, 3.25, .34

Saturday, June 3

Paid Richmond 38 cents for meat. I looked up the award of damage to A.J. Pierce and the description of the land taken for the Railroad and find that against his house there was 25 feet taken from the center on the North side and 40 feet on the South side. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Dewey left for their homes on the forenoon train and I came back to my work at my table. Paid 10 cts for stamps. Katie Gibson called in the afternoon.

Debits - .38, .10

Sunday, June 4

We were both some unwell in the morning and we attributed it to the intense heat of the past few days. We tried to rest through the forenoon and get ready for going to church in the afternoon. Strong appearance of rain but we went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt from I John IV: 14<sup>th</sup>. "And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world." This, like all of Mr. Hewitt's sermons, had for its object the elevating and purifying of man; to raise our thoughts to the high character of the Savior and to make us see him more clearly as he is; To see the purity and grandeur of his life, and to make us like him. This is the aim and tendency of all Mr. H.'s sermons, and they are of a higher order than the purely doctrinal sermons that so many admire. Forenoon cloudy but not rainy, but it began to rain.

Monday, June 5

Went to Barnard to set off homestead on the O. Davis estate. Mr. Dean paid me \$4.75 and out of that I pay for the horse and buggy. I called and took Mr. English and we did not get there till past ten o'clock. After making full examination of the ground we went to dinner at Mr. French's and then began to apprise the different lots. In this we were very well agreed. Came home and found that there had been a slide on one of the culverts on Braley's land. But the section men and train hands made all right. Rainy through the night and in the morning.

Credits - 4.75

Tuesday, June 6

Arose quite early and went into the garden. Mr. Simmons called and wished me to examine the records of some deeds at the town clerk's office, but I could not do it today. Wrote a letter to my friend Rev. R.A. Greene of Northfield. At eleven a.m. I went to the depot and started down the line. I examined all the culverts along the line from the Tracy crossing to White River Village. Came home on the train. Worked in the garden till night. Paid Paul for tea .45 – Hatch for screws .08.

Debits - .53

Wednesday, June 7

Arose quite early and worked in the garden till nine o'clock. Went to the office and then arranged for going down the line. Went to Hartford and then up the line and examined all the work on the line and directed about fixing it up. After I came home I went to the town records of deeds and took notes for Simmons' survey. Mr. Chamberlin came from Pomfret with Polk. Paid 3 cts for meat. Polk is to remain here through the night. Paid Billings 1.50 for oil cloth.

Debits - .03, 1.50

Thursday, June 8

Wrote to Mr. Thompson about the culvert that was injured last Saturday for I am anxious for him to see the injury. He is very busy on the Wells River road and I hope it will be a good job for him. We have had nearly twenty calls today. Mr. Whipple came here to dinner. Abbie came down in the afternoon and carried Polk home with her. Mrs. Murdock and Mrs. Taft came here towards night to prepare for the meeting of the Association. I worked on the plan for the Fisher bridge, also on the plan of the Mary Harvey estate. Showers in the afternoon from 1 to 3 o'clock.

Friday, June 9

Early in the morning I went into the garden and worked till six o'clock. After breakfast I went to the depot ground and to Woodruff's store and paid him 50 cents for groceries and I paid 5 cents postage. I got a line from Mr. Lockwood asking me to make a plan of the bridge site and send it to Cooper & Nash Iron bridge builders. I mailed the plan at night. Had a call to go to Bridgewater and one to run a line in the village. A train came in late in the evening. Thunder in the evening.

Debits - .50, .05

Saturday, June 10

Paid Mr. Hewitt for milk tickets 0.99. The Railroad Company paid me 60 dollars for my work in May, and I think it will be as much or more in June. I spent some time in drawing a plan of the Fisher bridge site on tracing cloth. I examined a line for Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Haggarty and found the old posts and thought we could get the line away from them. Paid barber for hair cutting 20 cents, and I paid John Eaton 1.25 for linen vest.

Credits – 60.00

Debits .99, .20, 1.25

Sunday, June 11

The nights are very warm and it is quite difficult to get much quiet rest. I rested much in the forenoon and in the afternoon went to church alone. The singing was excellent and I am sure we ought to be satisfied with it. Heard Mr. Hewitt preach from I Cor. XIII: 13. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity." These subjects were taken up in their order and were very lucidly defined.

Monday, June 12

Paid Dunbar 50 cents and am to pay him 25 more (I paid him the 25 cents). Paid six cents postage. Paid Paul 60 cts for molasses & coffee and Woodruff 62 cts for sugar and soap. This is one of the paying out days; but we must get ready for the meeting of the association Wednesday & Thursday. Paid Paul 27

cents and Mr. Winslow 12 cents for buns. I am glad to have the new bakery started. Mr. Fisk came up on the train and selected his tools for work and went back to work on the lower part of the work.

Debits - .50, .25, .06, .60, .62, .39

Tuesday, June 13

Was too tired and lazy to start very early this morning. Made sketch of the railroad and carried it to Mr. Porter who will send it to Rand, Avery & Co. 114 Franklin St. Boston R.R. printers. Paid Mr. Meader \$2.25 for flour. I have tried to arrange with the Bagley Company about the land on which they have put their office. Spent about two hours on the Harvey survey for Dr. Boynton, but now he does not want it. Paid boy 50 cents. It began to rain about 6 p.m.

Debits - 2.25, .50

Wednesday, June 14

Rested badly through the night and arose quite early and went into the garden. Paid Mr. Winslow 25 cts for bread and buns. Abbie came in the afternoon and made a nice call. The Universalist Association meets here today, and the services will continue through tomorrow. Mrs. D. attended in the afternoon. At about six o'clock we met Mr. Bagley at the depot ground and talked about the placing of his building and of his fence on the back of Miss Carver's lot. We went to the church in the evening. Very warm! Very heavy cumulus clouds in the afternoon mixed with stratus. Thunder at about four o'clock. Light showers.

Debits - .25

Thursday, June 15

Arose soon after four o'clock and gave my attention to the garden. I let Simeon Dunham take five dollars to pay Mrs. Tewksbury for playing at the meeting of the association. Two ladies came here last night and attended the meeting and returned home this afternoon. Paid County insurance tax 3.99 cts.

Debits - 5.00, 3.99

Friday, June 16

The day was extremely warm. Polk staid here last night and goes home today with Henry Smith. I spent a part of the day in cutting the grass in the door-yard. Polk got some hurt by getting thrown from a wagon. Mrs. D. and self were too tired to stir much when it was so very warm.

Saturday, June 17

Paid bakery 14 cents and that is all. The day is very warm, too warm for comfort in the open air. There was a caucus in the afternoon at the town hall. I did not attend. I computed the time in the forenoon and again in the afternoon. I did not succeed in getting a noon-mark made at Randall's. I put the first hay into the barn.

Debits - .14

Sunday, June 18

I did some writing in the forenoon but was far too tired. It began to rain at about eleven o'clock a.m. and Mrs. D. did not go to church, but I went and heard Mr. Hewitt preach a very excellent discourse I John. Clear in the morning but it began to rain about 11 a.m. and ended at 1 p.m. but the rain continued after a short pause.

Monday, June 19

Today I paid Mr. Winslow 20 cents for bread and buns. I worked in the garden much of the afternoon, and in the forenoon I went to the depot to see about the work on the line. Mrs. Bridge called late in the afternoon. I made some arrangements with the Bagley Co. about moving the old office so it will be partly on their own ground. Rain continued.

Debits – .20

Tuesday, June 20

In the forenoon Mr. Thompson and myself visited the Stanton Street primary school and found three scholars that we could pass to the next school. In the afternoon we went to the River Street primary school where we found four ready to go forward. We then visited the Intermediate school and partly examined the highest division. I paid Eaton \$10.50 for a coat. Thunder showers from 2 to 3 p.m.

Debits - 10.50

Wednesday, June 21

I went to the office and post office in the morning, and we soon went to the Intermediate School on River Street. We spent the greater part of the forenoon in the examination. Dr. Boynton paid me three dollars for time spent on the Harvey estate. In the afternoon I went to the school house and examined the Primary school and found eight scholars that will go forward to the Intermediate School. The County Convention was held here today. Paid White for International 80 cents. Rain ended at 8 p.m.

Credits – 3.00

Debits – .80

Thursday, June 22

In the morning Mr. C.O. Thompson and I went to the high school to examine the third division. I paid 30 cents for ribbons to put on the diplomas. I spent much of the afternoon in fixing the diplomas, lettering, etc. Paid five cts for Spencerian engrossing pens.

Debits – .30, .05

Friday, June 23

I went to the school house in the morning to assist in the arrangements for the exercise in the afternoon. I went with the rest to see the closing exercises of the school. Every thing went off with ease and satisfaction. I was very tired and could stir but little after I got home. I mowed the door-yard this morning and think that I took a very severe cold, and I begin to feel the effects of it.

Saturday, June 24

I took up my writing for the railroad reports and kept it up as long as I could. Had a very severe day for the severe cold that I took yesterday morning nearly keeps me at my easy chair or in the bed. Mrs. Bridge and Cornelia called here towards night, and so did Mr. Davis, a book agent. Paid Paul for lemons 10 cts.

Debits - .10

Sunday, June 25

Rested very poorly last night for my cold takes severe hold of me. We could not go to church today for I could not sit up all the day. Tried to get some rest but it is a tired day. We have been alone nearly all the day though Robert called for a few minutes. I like these days when we can be alone and can read and rest ourselves. My cold has been improving through the day and I hope it will be better tomorrow for I must go to Bridgewater to divide a lot of land. I regret that we could not go to church this afternoon for the services were very rich as I had reason to expect. Clear in the morning but showers began at 9 o'clock, and there was thunder in the afternoon and evening.

Monday, June 26

Mr. Abbott called for me to go to Long Hill to divide anew the Raymond Lot, so called, now Mr. Woodward's. Mr. Hubbard had spoken to me to do it. I went early in the morning and we measured the south line of the lot very closely and we made the middle line 2 rods and .11 links farther east than Mr. Pratt had made it some years ago. Came home about three o'clock and was immediately called to assist in appraising the Cubley lot which detained me till late in the evening. They paid me 4 dollars for the division of the lot. Nearly clear through the day.

Credits – 4.00

Tuesday, June 27

This morning I took up my railroad work and wrote about three fourths of a day. Polk and Abbie came from Pomfret in the forenoon and Abbie returned about noon. Mrs. D. went to Horace Dunham's to pick strawberries but the showers, in part, prevented it. I staid in my room the greater part of the day. Polk remained with us through the night. Thunder showers in the afternoon beginning at half past two.

Wednesday, June 28

Rested very well last night but my cold troubles me much. I wrote on the railroad report and have now written down to the time of the final location of the line and the letting of the contract to Ralph Jones & Co. The first work that was done at the north end of the cut in Champion's pasture at Sta. 517. Paid 20 cts to Mr. Winslow for bread & buns.

Debits - .20

Thursday, June 29

In the morning I paid Paul 17 cts for sugar and Richmond 20 cts for strawberries. I spent the day in railroad writing but the weather seems much too warm for close application in any thing.

Debits - .17, .20

Friday, June 30

Received 10 dollars of Wm. E. Johnson on my account vs. Gen. Mower allowed by the commissioners. Paid 40 cents to Mr. Winslow for bread, etc. I paid Richmond & Pinney \$5.00 on account. During the month there is 2.19 cents not put down at the time. It is for groceries etc. in small quantities.

Credits – 10.00

Debits - .40, 5.00, 2.19

Saturday, July 1

Arose quite early to finish the meteorological report, and before getting it half done found myself very tired, but we managed to finish it and mailed it quite early. Mrs. Quincey Page and Christiana Emery came in the middle of the day. Mrs. P. brought two children and Mrs. Emery one and we had a very nice time. On hand 43.88.

Sunday, July 2

In the forenoon I tried to get some rest, but my cold troubles me much. In the afternoon we went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt preach from Rom. V: 6<sup>th</sup>. "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." It was very warm in the house and it was difficult to give the best attention, but the sermon was a very good one. Mrs. D. fixed a very pretty mound of flowers, and after church we called on Mr. Streeter and presented it to him and we had a very pleasant time. After staying there about half an hour we came home and found ourselves much rested. I do not know as I ever had a more pleasant visit with him. He is now about 85 years old and his memory and all his mental faculties seem very clear and unimpaired.

Monday, July 3

Some patriotism manifested itself today though we cannot say that the day has been very noisy. I met the committee and had a talk with Mr. Dana and with his uncle Swan about the schools and teachers and I hope he will continue in school one year more. I went to the bakery and paid Mr. Winslow 20 cents for brown & white bread. Paid Paul 53 cents for tea & beans. Paid Slack for vinegar 15 cts. The boys are very quiet and the streets are comparatively still.

Debits – .20, .53, .15



Tuesday, July 4

Celebration in the village but I keep in the garden, and find it a good place to celebrate. But the showers prevented my work in the afternoon. Wm. Page came from Canada and his wife met him here. There were about twelve here and we were glad to entertain them. Mrs. Bridge staid for the night. It began to rain in early evening and continued till ten o'clock. I think Wm. must have gone to Reading as he does not come in.

Wednesday, July 5

Arose quite early but had not got fully rested. Mrs. Bridge staid here and this forenoon went home. I wrote out the meteorological report and left it with Mr. Greene. Called at the depot to see Mr. Porter. But I spent the greater part of the day at my table, but have been too tired to write correctly. Have not yet heard where Wm. went last night. I have worked in the garden some this afternoon but the weather is too warm for ordinary comfort. The barometer fell rapidly indicating a high wind and it came a few minutes before midnight.

Thursday, July 6

Paid Mr. Winslow 35 cts and I came home and worked at my table looking up dates in the time after the R.R. work was suspended in 1870. Aunt (Joseph) Vose and Mrs. Hiram Vose made us a visit in the afternoon. The weather is extremely warm this month so far, and it must be a warm summer if it keeps along. A strong wind from the N.W.

Debits - .35

Friday, July 7

I paid five dollars for the fifth Vol. of the American Cyclopedia. Paid Mr. Winslow for bread 10 cts. Spent some time on William Page's matters and could not find out where he went to from here on the fourth of July.

Debits - 5.00, .10

Saturday, July 8

This is the warmest day that we have had this season, and surely it is warm enough. A mean temperature of 79 degrees above zero is very warm for any one in the house or out of doors. I sent five dollars to the Life Association of Brattleboro. I went down the line to see to the work about the culverts. Mr. Smith's folks came to the Junction and Mr. Chamberlin met them there and came up the line to Woodstock. Paid 20 cts to Mr. Richard and 10 to Winslow. Paid for lemons 12 cts. Paid for sugar 50 cts.

Debits - 5.00, .12, .30, .50

Sunday, July 9

The morning is extremely warm and close and I have hardly left my room this forenoon. We do not feel able to go to church in the afternoon for Mrs. D. is quite unwell from over-work and from taking cold. We hoped to be able to make a beautiful arrangement of flowers but were not able to do the work.

Monday, July 10

The morning was extremely warm and the thermometer rose to 92.5 above before two o'clock. I worked for a time in the garden and then mowed about the edge of the garden and about the vines. I then came in the house and worked on the railroad lines where we wish to change the location across the first deep ravine on the Porter place. Paid Taylor for soap 12 cts.

Debits - .12

Tuesday, July 11

Was some unwell and could hardly work at all. In the afternoon we got a team of Mr. Fay and went to the Seavey place to see Joanna. Paid Mr. Winslow 20 cts and I paid the drawer 25 cents in coin.

Debits - .20, .25

Wednesday, July 12

Called at the depot early in the morning to make some measures about the engine house. Went again when the train went out to see Dr. White again and to see William Dana start for the White mountains. I worked nearly through the day on the depot plans more especially the engine house. I wish our directors could agree among themselves about things pertaining to the road. Called in Dr. Colton to see Mrs. D. on account of her cough. She rested badly last night.

Thursday, July 13

Paid Paul 60 cents for tea & fish. The great heat prevents action as it is unsafe to get very much heated. Worked on the plans of the engine house and car house. Mr. Thompson called in the afternoon and was on his way to Massachusetts. I wish our directors would let him manage and direct about the buildings and also the running of the road.

Debits - .60

Friday, July 14

Received a letter and reference certificates from Mr. James Dana Jr. an applicant for the school. Spencer came down and we renewed our bank note for three months. I paid \$1.03 interest and Spencer paid me \$1.25 that he says he borrowed of Mrs. D. some time ago. I spent some time in the hay field and find it very warm. Paid ten cents for postal cards.

Credits – 1.25

Debits – 1.03, .10

Saturday, July 15

Mowed in the morning and took care of what I mowed in the afternoon. Simeon Dunham paid me five dollars on our account. It is not quite as warm as it has been for some days past. Mrs. Bridge came to go to hear the Jubilee singers (colored) but we have no wish to go near them. The weather is very dry and the vegetables wilt under the heat. Paid ten cents for bread. Miss Richmond and Miss White called in the afternoon. Wm. Page came, or is at the old place in Pomfret.

Credits – 5.00

Debits - .10

Sunday, July 16

In the forenoon I staid in my room the greater part of the time and tried to rest. Mrs. Bridge went home his morning. In the afternoon I went to church and heard Mr. Ballou preach from Rom. III: 23 & 24. This text brought up the subject of justification and redemption. He was very successful in explaining these terms in accordance with our own views and not in accordance with those entertained by religious people generally. It is lamentable to see how very ignorant the common religious people are on many important subjects on which the learned all agree. We paid Mr. Winslow 20 cents for bread and cake. And I think I paid White for Naturalist 34 cents.

Debits - .20, .34

Monday, July 17

Wm. Page and his wife came from Pomfret and he went with me to the Post office and bank and to Mr. Dana's store. We went down the line together, he for Canada and I for my work. I looked over the work at the ravines and then walked to Hartford station and there took the train for home. I found the track in very good order the greater part of the way.

Tuesday, July 18

Early in the morning I went to mow the grass on Miss Richmond's piece by the river. The day was too warm for work of any kind and we have no record of a warmer day in Woodstock. The maximum

thermometer registered 95.3 above zero but I have it in my memory that it once reached 96 above, but I should not dare to report it so, as I do not know the instrument that gave it.

Wednesday, July 19

Another warm day the thermometer reaching 94 degrees. Too warm to work much. Paid Paul 10 cts for matches got yesterday. I attended to my writing this morning and in the morning I carried the certificates around among the scholars. In the afternoon I worked on the Bill of Lumber for the Engine house. The agricultural report came tonight, and also the meteorological report for June.

Debits - .10

Thursday, July 20

Arose quite early and began to repair the cistern. The top of it had begun to decay, and it let dirt down into the water. I assisted the bridge builders in leveling their work and then came to my room and took up some writing that I had neglected. This continuous heat is wilting us down and it still continues. But these showers may cool the air some. There was some heavy thunder at a distance S.E. of us. Paid Mr. Winslow for bread 20 cents. Thunder showers in the afternoon. It began to rain at eleven a.m. and ended at 5 p.m. There was a light shower at 11 p.m. Water 0.43 inches.

Debits - .20

Friday, July 21

Examined my hay and found that it would be ready to go into the barn in a few hours. Worked in the garden in the forenoon clearing weeds from the potatoes and the walks, and in the afternoon Dunbar came to assist me in taking the hay to the barn. Took cold yesterday by getting wet in the shower in the forenoon. Paid Mr. Winslow 30 cts and I paid Dunbar 50 cents.

Debits - .30, .50

Saturday, July 22

Rested very badly last night and am lame and quite unwell today. Took cold last Thursday by getting wet in a shower while assisting the bridge builders. I walked to the Post office in the morning and again in the afternoon. I assisted Randall and Moore in testing their noon mark and I think it is now right. Paid Mr. Winslow 10 cents. Paid Richmond for meat 35 cents.

Debits - .10, .35

Sunday, July 23

Am still very unwell so that I did not go out at all. The day is stormy and some chilly, a strong contrast with some days last week. Mrs. Page came here last Friday and is making us a very pleasant visit. I think she enjoys herself very well. I have kept my rocking chair the greater part of the day and was in it when Norman and his wife and Robert called in the evening. But I was very tired and went to rest quite early. Mrs. D.'s work is very hard now for her. The rain continued through the day and ended at 7 p.m.

Monday, July 24

I rested some better last night but do not go out today. Elmer called for Mrs. Page and she left for Spencer's. Mrs. D. has tried to work too much today and has now (4 p.m.) called on Mrs. Perkins. I am now at work at my table. Cousin Hiram Vose called of an errand. Lent to him 25 dollars for a few days. Paid 30 cents for stamps. I have hardly stepped to the door today and am quite lazy and it makes the work very hard for Mrs. D.

Debits - 25.00, .30

Tuesday, July 25

Did not start very early this morning for I rested badly through the latter part of the night and of course did not feel very well in the morning but was much better after stirring about. Robert called in the forenoon

when a dress agent called. In the afternoon we paid 95 cents for groceries at Paul's. We have been much alone today. I went to the garden in the afternoon, but Mrs. D. went to the post office.

Debits – .95

Wednesday, July 26

Was very lame and sore through the day, and hardly went out in the forenoon. In the afternoon Horace Dunham called to see about work on the barn. I walked up street about four o'clock, but was wholly unfit to go out at all. After coming home I did not go out again that evening for I was very lame and jaded. It began to rain at 3 o'clock a.m. and ended at 3 p.m. Water 0.11 inches.

Thursday, July 27

Rested badly but am feeling some better this morning. Paid Montague for paper 39 cts.

Debits – .39

Friday, July 28

We rested very badly last night and are not feeling well at all. We concluded to send for Dr. Colton and he came in the early evening. Am feeling some better this afternoon and have been at work on the elevation of the outer rails in curves. In the morning I sent of the proof of the New Hampshire almanac, and I must now very soon get the Vermont calendar ready and send it forward. Rain began at 3 p.m. Water 0.04 inches.

Saturday, July 29

Rested much better last night. The doctor called again this morning. We remained as comfortable as we could, but the house was not very quiet through the day. We were very glad to have Mrs. Smith and Abbie from Mr. Chamberlin's call and they staid to tea. And while they were here, Mr. Dana our teacher called. Mrs. Elisha Gallup called to see if we would board their daughter. Paid Paul for groceries 64 cents. Rain continued till 5 a.m. Water 0.25 inches.

Debits - .64

Sunday, July 30

Was very tired when I went to bed last night but have rested very well when that is considered. We are here almost entirely alone today and we had no calls except Simeon and his wife, and I had not seen them before for some time. I could hardly read anything worth reading, though we have enough that is on hand to be read. It began to rain at 8 p.m. and continued through the night. Water 0.13 inches.

Debits - .15

Monday, July 31

Paid Paul 47 cts for groceries. Albert Darling called here from Aurora. He came to Pomfret some day last week. He is running a train from Aurora to Streater, a distance of about sixty miles. Henry Ware came for him. He had with him a silver bugle, a very pretty instrument. It is an Eb and is very fully keyed. 12 keys. Rain continued till 6 a.m. Water 0.12 inches.

Debits - .47

Tuesday, August 1

Paid Mr. Winslow 20 cts. Albert and his nephew called and made some corrections of an article that he had prepared describing his journey and the scenery on the way. Fred called and also Chs. O. Thompson called on school matters. We are both of us too unwell to go out or to get along easily. On hand 3.70.

Debits .20

Wednesday, August 2

I am now staying in the house for I am not able to go out. Am expecting a teacher from Dorchester, Mass. He will come on the train. He came and Mr. Royce met him at the depot and came here with him. At first he seemed not to have used his knowledge quite so much as might be well in teaching such a school as this. Dr. R.H. Paddock came here from Chicago. Paid 10 cts for soap.

Debits - .10

Thursday, August 3

Dr. Paddock called here in the forenoon and remained till dinner time. In the afternoon Mrs. D. went to Mr. Fay for a horse and we rode to the Seavey place to see Joanna and the rest of the folks. Mr. Royce called early in the morning on school matters and he called with the teacher at ten o'clock. We admire the first appearance of Mr. Dana and we shall engage him if we can. Mr. Porter called and I gave him a set of numbers for elevating rails.

Friday, August 4

Norman called in the morning, and made a very pleasant call. Indeed, all his calls are pleasant. Joanna called for a few moments this forenoon and we are glad to find that her health is improving. Dr. Paddock called with his daughter.

Saturday, August 5

A very warm day. In the forenoon I scarcely went out at all, though I walked to see Norman and Robert, and had a very pleasant time. In the afternoon we went to Pomfret. Robert got Mr. Gillingham's horse and we had a fine time but became very tired. Paid 50 cts to Mr. G. and must pay 25 more. Postage 5 cts.

Debits - .50, .05

Sunday, August 6

Rested very badly last night for the weather was warm and I was very tired when I went to bed. We remained alone nearly through the day, and we enjoyed the quiet very much. Spent much of the day in miscellaneous reading of which we have a full store and much of it very good. Thunder from 5 to 6 o'clock and a fine shower in the N.W. but only a few drops of rain here about 9 p.m.

Monday, August 7

I am feeling some better and must go to work on the almanac. I have had the proofs of the N.H. Calendar, but the Vermont has not yet been completed. I have much writing that waits to be done and I hope to be able to do it soon. Norman called for me and we rode up the river nearly to the flat and had a very pleasant visit. Thunder from 2 to 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 8

Norman and wife called in the morning and they start for home this forenoon. We have been so unwell that we have hardly realized their visit; but we shall think more of it after they have gone. I wish they could be here more, though I have hardly treated them decently this time. Received a letter from Mr. James Dana Jr. and he accepts our offer as a teacher of the High School. The higher clouds were from the S.W. but the lower from the N.W.

Wednesday, August 9

The train came in early this morning on account of the excursion to Newport, Vt. The lake is quite attractive just now to our excursionists. A large number left here and about as many at Taftsville and Quechee. I spent much of the time in the garden. Mrs. D. rode to Taftsville with Etta Latimer who is now at work for Mrs. Perkins. Paid for groceries 37 cents.

Debits - .37

Thursday, August 10

Mr. & Mrs. Smith came down from Mr. Chamberlin's. Mrs. S. is just starting for Montreal to visit friends. Mr. S.S. Thompson called on his way to the cars, and Dr. N.H. Thomas of Stowe called. Took a walk to the office and the post office and met my friend Dana and had a talk with him on schools and school books. Have not been to the office for a long time.

Friday, August 11

Walked to the Post office this morning and called at Paul's and at Slack's. Paid Paul 45 cts for tea and Slack paid me 10 cts for a register. I then went to my room and copied some of my accounts against the R.R. Company. I wish they would pay me what they owe me. In the evening Mrs. D. went to hear the Swiss bell ringers with Miss Latimer. Paid 35 cents for ticket.

Credits - .10

Debits - .45, .35

Saturday, August 12

In the morning I went to the Post Office, and came back and went to the depot where I had not been for about four weeks. It is three weeks since I took my hay across the garden to the barn and I have hardly been able to stir out since.

Sunday, August 13

I had hoped that we should be able to go to church today, but we shall probably be disappointed. The morning is very warm and the afternoon will probably be much warmer. I have not walked so far as the church for three weeks, and will try to content myself at home. We have many of the best of books to read and it might be strange if we could not find some book over which we could spend our time profitably. Our reading through the day was a little promiscuous.

Monday, August 14

Another very warm day. Albert Darling called and left his silver bugle with us while he went to Randolph. Mrs. D. tried to do her washing and I worked on the Vermont calendar for the Clar. Mfg. Co. I hope that company will stand this financial crisis, but it is a trying time for such companies. I called on cousin Hiram on an errand for Fred Doten. Abbie came down in the evening. This is the hottest day of the season so far.

Tuesday, August 15

This is one of our warmest mornings. But the thermometer did not run quite so high as it did yesterday. Thunder showers from 3 to 4 afternoon.

Wednesday, August 16

A cooler day and the air was very pure and good. I went up street four times, I think, and felt much better for walking. Got berries of Mr. Haynes. Paid him ten cents for them. Carlie Dunham called here in the afternoon. Paid White for Naturalist 34 cts.

Debits - .10, .34

Thursday, August 17

I thought I would go down the line today and I got aboard the cars and rode to Mr. Dewey's and had a remarkably pleasant visit with Mr. Dewey who was mostly alone in his office. After the noon resting spell of the hands, we went into the mill and looked that over. We then went to the depot and after waiting half an hour I took the train for home. Albert Darling and wife were here to tea, and in the evening the school committee came here.

Friday, August 18

Though very tired last night I rested very well. After breakfast I called on Miss Fairbanks to see if she will teach the Intermediate School and also on Simeon Dunham to see if Emma will teach one of the primaries. Miss Marble will teach the River Street school I think, and I hope Miss Hewitt will teach another.

Saturday, August 19

Albert Darling called in the morning and started for home. He speaks in the highest terms of our railroad and its superintendent and all engaged in running it. Mr. Clarke paid me thirty dollars for my work on the railroad track and repair in June. My work on the construction account in June was 25 dollars, which is not yet paid.

Credits – 30.00

Sunday, August 20

The air was much cooler and we thought we would go to Pomfret and see sister Electa who is some unwell. We got a horse and buggy of Mr. Fay and called at Spencer's and I paid Fred 27 dollars and Spencer paid me one dollar that he says he borrowed of me some time ago. We then called on Electa and found her comfortable with some rather bad symptoms. I took notes of old books, and especially the old Vt. Registers. We came home very tired, and after writing out some meteorological matters and other things I was tired enough to retire for the night.

Credits – 1.00

Debits – 27.00

Monday, August 21

Early in the morning I went to the Post Office and to Mr. Taylor's and got a book for Mr. Smith's boys. Paid Seneca Taylor 50 cents, and Frank McKenzie paid me 7.50 for surveying on the mountains in Bridgewater. Mrs. Knowlton called and also Mr. Dewey on R.R. matters. I rode down the line to Taftsville and made some measures on Mrs. Knowlton's land. Mr. Smith and family left for home.

Credits – 7.50

Debits - .50

Tuesday, August 22

My railroad work began early and it continued through the day. I took Henry Greene with me and went down the line to examine the Braley crossing, and took levels for a cross-section at the place and find it inexpedient to put a crossing in that place. Came home very tired and did but little towards making a map of the crossing. Paid Mr. Winslow 20 cts.

Debits - .20

Wednesday, August 23

Began early to make a plan of the Braley crossing by making a cross-section of the road at that place. Mrs. D. went to Horace Dunham's today. I drew the plan and sent it to Mr. Dewey by the conductor. I am some jaded and can write but very little. Met Clara Vail at the block and went with her to see Mr. Royce the second member of the committee. Mrs. D. came home soon after six in the afternoon.

Thursday, August 24

Horace and Carlie Dunham called very early in the morning on their way to his work at Horace Dennis's. I worked about home in the forenoon and in the afternoon I got a horse and buggy of Mr. Fay and we went to Pomfret to see Abbie and Mr. Chamberlin's folks. I got very tired and jaded. I paid Chs. Vaughan ten cents for matches. I paid for a reading glass at Randall & Moore's 1.75. Paid 8 cents for berries, and Paul 45 cts for tea.

Debits - .10, 1.75, .08, .45

Friday, August 25

Was some tired this morning though I thought of going to examine curves on the road. But it was so warm that I gave up the work. Paid 10 cts for groceries at Slack's and 20 cts to barber and 3 cts postage, and what is worse I paid 6.75 for book that I could have done without. I worked in the office for a time but was "smoked out." Mrs. D. went to Taftsville with Mrs. Dunham and Carlie. Paid Fuller for meat 30.

Debits - .10, .20, .03, 6.75, .30

Saturday, August 26

A few days ago I paid 27 cents for meat and for postage and I think my cash account is right to this time. I hope we can hear from Frank Billings who now has my Railroad Account. We are both of us nearly sick today but hope to get rested by tomorrow. I have staid at home quite busily engaged at my table. Paid Billings for kerosene 25 cts.

Debits - .27, .25

Sunday, August 27

Spent the greater part of the forenoon at my table, and in the afternoon we went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt preach from Prov. III: 5<sup>th</sup> and onward. "Trust in the Lord, etc." He gave us a very excellent sermon, good and practical. There was a very respectful audience and respectable as to numbers. The choir did themselves much credit. The house was some cool so much as to be almost uncomfortable, and what a contrast when compared with three weeks ago. We are glad to be able to go to church again.

Monday, August 28

I went to the depot thinking to go down the line to examine the curves, but was not well and came back. I spent the day at home and the greater part of it in my room. But I was very tired and lame through the day and of course did not work easily. I received a new set of blanks from the signal service, with blanks for additional observations. Paid 12 cents for stamps.

Debits - .12

Tuesday, August 29

A cool morning and growing cooler. Look out for frost after this. I staid at home and tried to get my writing along. Have just mixed some Arnold's ink with M&N fluid and I hope it will work better. Have had many calls today. Alice Winslow called in the afternoon. Simeon Dunham called on school studies. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Porter called on R.R. matters. Mrs. Greene called and Mrs. Russell. Paid Mr. Winslow 10 cts for bread.

Debits - .10

Wednesday, August 30

Went to the depot and had a talk with Mr. Porter on road matters. Got some groceries at Woodruff's. Polk and Mr. Whipple came in the morning and Mr. Chamberlin in the middle of the day. There was a railroad meeting in the morning but I do not know what was done. I worked in the garden in the afternoon and dug some of the earliest potatoes. The air is smoky and the ground extremely dry.

Thursday, August 31

I went to the depot and to Woodruff's in the morning. Worked about the house in the forenoon. In the afternoon I paid Slack 15 cents for vinegar. I saw John H. Thurston one of my best scholars. He now lives in Cambridge, Mass. It is very pleasant to meet my old scholars. The month seems to be closing without more rain.

Debits - .15

Friday, September 1

I went to the post office and then rode with little Henry Johnson to see Mortimer Spear. I had a very pleasant ride for he is a very interesting young man. I took from the bank 97.94 cents, and I paid Dr. Hazen 66.65 On hand 1.49.

Credits - 97.94

Debits - 66.65



Saturday, September 2

Paid for Wm. Page yesterday on Hazen note \$66.65. I paid this money to Mr. French on note that Wm. Page gave Dr. Hazen long ago. The note was on annual interest and amounted to \$89.15. My account against Dr. Hazen was 22.50, and the balance paid as above. I paid interest at Savings Bank 21.90 it being on the Thompson note. Paid ten cents for buns.

Debits – 21.90, .10

Sunday, September 3

A remarkably pleasant morning and it was followed by an equally pleasant day. I tried to rest me at home but we were often interrupted. Miss Hewitt declines to teach the primary school and I called to find Mr. Royce and we concluded to have Miss Dinsmore teach the school. I called on Mr. McKenzie and got him to see Miss Dinsmore, and he did it and she will teach the school. Etta Latimer called here and I think she will not work for Mrs. Perkins more for a time. Mr. Porter called and Mrs. Richardson with her daughter who wishes to attend the school.

Monday, September 4

Our schools begin this morning and I am to go up to the house with the new teacher. Abbie came down from Pomfret and we went and opened the school and introduced Mr. Dana. Mr. William Dana came and assisted us about starting the classes and arranging them. In the afternoon I went to the depot and assisted Mr. Porter in making out the report of the road.

Tuesday, September 5

State election but I am much too unwell to go out to vote. Kept house quite closely and was quite unwell till nearly night when I was some easier. The election in this town was a very severe one, there were so many candidates. Warren C. French was finally elected to represent the town for the next two years. We shall feel safe with regard to some of the interests of the town.

Wednesday, September 6

Rested some better last night and hope I shall do some work today. William S. Dana starts for Massachusetts today. I saw him pass on his way to the depot. I wish him good success in whatever business he engages in. He is a very fine young man and Woodstock is poorer mentally and morally for his absence. Paid Paul 75 cts for flower pots of different sizes. Mr. James Dana called after school and the more I see him the more I am convinced of his business power.

Debits - .75

Thursday, September 7

Abbie came down alone this morning and seems to drive business very much. I hope her health will hold out and if it does I think the school will go well. I was rather unwell in the forenoon but am very much better this evening. Received a letter from Mr. Conant, the State Supt. Of Education which is a most valuable letter. Some signs of rain though not very cloudy.

Friday, September 8

A rainy morning. Polk came with Abbie this morning. I am very much better this morning and shall try to do some work. Visited the Stanton Street Primary school in the forenoon, and was caught in a shower. In the afternoon I walked to the P.O. and called on Mr. Montague to see about books. Mr. French was some disturbed about our arrangement for the schools. Lent 25 cts to Spencer.

Debits - .25

Saturday, September 9

Paid 5 dollars for vol. VI of the New Cyclopedia yesterday and today I have paid Paul 45 cts for tea and Walter White 1.14 for Internat. & Naturalist and 10 cts bread and 10 cts for mending pin. I went to the depot to help Mr. Porter about his report and I worked on it at home till the train came in when I went to

the depot. Met Mr. Thompson there. Have walked more than for weeks before, but am some tired tonight. Got a small bottle of David's Ink and am using it. Paid 22 cts for sweet potatoes.

Debits – 5.00, .45, 1.14, .20, .22

Sunday, September 10

Staid about the house in the forenoon, but in the afternoon we went to church to hear Mr. Hewitt. He gave us one of his best sermons and the whole matter was excellent. I saw Dr. J.H. Streeter and also Corydon Miller. It has been some time since I have before seen either of these young men. The singing was indeed excellent. I have hardly known it to be better. We came home some rested, and the beauty of the day added much to the scene. It is a fall day and the wind is some cool.

Monday, September 11

In the forenoon I went to the Intermediate school and to Miss Dunham's school and found them running in very good order. I also went to Miss Marble's school on River Street and found it quite full. This school always goes well for the teacher is never frustrated or disturbed. Paid 10 cts for bread. In the afternoon I worked on the report of the earnings of the road. Mr. Dunbar helped me clear the cistern and I paid him 50 cents.

Debits - .10, .50

Tuesday, September 12

I spent nearly all day on the road report and was very tired. Mr. Charles French paid me 50 cts for making deed. Tried to finish the report but failed to do it. Mr. Chamberlin came down with Abbie, as he is engaged on Thomas Pratt's estate. Mrs. Brizzell (Ellen Thompson) called with Emily Ware. Mrs. Bridge called and Allen Thompson. The day was exceedingly fine.

Credits - .50

Wednesday, September 13

Arose very early to finish up the report and get it off my hands. I went to the depot and let Mr. Porter see it, and I then came back to finish a duplicate copy of it. In the afternoon I took Abbie's horse and wagon and we rode to the Seavey place to see Joanna. Came back soon after three o'clock and found Quincey Page here. Paid 10 cts for bread and 14 cts for vinegar. Mrs. Winslow and Alice called. Quincey went to Pomfret with Abbie.

Debits - .10, .14

Thursday, September 14

Cloudy in the morning and the clouds increased in density till it began to rain. I wrote on the meteorology for August, as I have not been able to write on it before. I went to find Abe Dunbar as I can work on the fence tomorrow. I went to the schools. Paid boy ten cents. Paid Billings 25 cts for yarn. Polk went to the Stephen Raymond place to survey road. Little Nina was here through the afternoon.

Debits - .10, .25

Friday, September 15

Rainy in the morning. Went to the depot and Mr. Porter paid me fifteen dollars for assisting him in making out the R.R. report for the Commissioner. Horace Dunham came to work on the fence about the garden. Paid Billings \$4.19 for gods. Abe Dunbar worked a part of the afternoon.

Credits – 15.00

Debits – 4.19

Saturday, September 16

We worked on the fence again today and ran it nearly to the river. Horace helped me through the day. Paid Billings 25 cts for nails and 98 cts for goods. Mr. James Dana called and came to the flat when we were at work. He seems to be a very active young man with much energy and force of character. I hope he will do well in school. I worked on the flat in spreading ashes, etc. a part of the time and hope to get a good mowing lot though a small one.

Debits – .25, .98

Sunday, September 17

A cloudy and damp forenoon. This is one of days such as we noticed years ago when the dense clouds and perhaps rain continued through the day and all seemed so still, and a slight melancholy seemed to hang over everything visible. In the afternoon I went to church alone and it was some lonely, but I heard Mr. Hewitt speak from I Peter II: 17. "Love the brotherhood." A short text but a very good one. The singing was very good but not the best. Mrs. Chandler was not there, and it makes some difference with that part of the service. I ought to have gone to Mr. Royce's this afternoon but the rain prevents.

Monday, September 18

A very much broken day. Mr. Chamberlin came down in the morning and starts for Chicago and Mendota. Quincey Page came here and started for his home at Three Rivers. I went to the school house in the morning to see about the room in the attic. In the afternoon Mr. Royce and I went to make the same examination and to see some other things that are not going so well. It began to rain again about four o'clock and Abbie started for home in the rain.

Tuesday, September 19

Rested very badly last night and am quite jaded out today. Abbie came down in the rain this morning and seems to regard it as a pleasant time. I remained in the house the greater part of the day and am quite unwell. I was too nervous to read and too tired and jaded to work. Abbie concludes not to go home tonight as the rain is quite too much.

Wednesday, September 20

Found that our little pet kitten had "passed along." He was apparently well on Sunday but was quite sick Monday morning. These little domestic pets seem almost human and we miss them when they are gone. I paid Montague 80 cents for a key to the New Practical Arithmetic, and 12 cts postage on two books sent to Franklin. In the afternoon I dug potatoes in the garden. Abbie left for home quite early for her. Mrs. Day called for flower slips. I subscribed five dollars to the Pilgrim Monument fund.

Debits - .80, .12

Thursday, September 21

Went to the post office, got letter from Albert Darling. Paid Paul 23 cts for groceries and Hatch 15 cts for eggs. I dug potatoes and destroyed potato bugs in the forenoon. Worked in the garden a part of the afternoon and spent some time at my table besides doing errands and chores. Got the school report of Georgetown, Colorado from Wallace Ware; and it is a little remarkable how soon they will build up schools of high grade after a village is begun. Georgetown is a comparatively new place.

Debits – .23, .15

Friday, September 22

Worked about the house and garden much of the time. Ruled sheets for the almanac of 1878, and shall begin to compute it very soon. Paid 9 cts postage and 12 cts for meat. In the afternoon we rode to Mr. Chamberlin's with Abbie for the night. Found them all busy and flying about very earnestly. The young folks cut apples in the evening. I paid Charles Vaughan 12 cts for a knife. We did not retire to rest till nearly eleven o'clock. Paid Miss White \$1.25 cts for work.

Saturday, September 23

Did not get up till past six o'clock and then we did little but eat. In the forenoon roamed about the house and garden. Elvira went to Mr. Whipple's to get some very rare flower slips, and when she came back we left for home. Abbie brought us down and I went to the Post Office and found the Weather Review for August, a rather full report. Found everything right and safe, but we were nearly jaded out, and soon retired to rest.

Sunday, September 24

Am somewhat rested this morning and I soon began my reading and writing. Remained at home through the forenoon, but in the afternoon I went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt preach on the subject of personal religion, that is, on the importance of cultivating ourselves in all that pertains to goodness and godliness. He made some strong points against everything like a denominational religion, but took a broader and higher ground. His sermon was excellent and could but do good. After supper Robert called and soon after the Dr. called to talk on his proposed lectures. Etta Latimer called and remained till evening. After they left, all was still cozy and quiet, and we finished up our reading and this writing and retired to rest.

Monday, September 25

In the morning I got the money on a money order for Mr. Chamberlin \$10.78 and I endorsed it in an envelope and Abbie took it home with her. Paid 8 cts for nails and 12 cts for fish and 45 cts for tea at Paul's. I paid Mr. Brewster 50 cts for iron hooks for garden fence; and in the afternoon I made the gates to hang on the hooks. Abbie took her melodeon home with her. We dismiss the schools tonight for the week, and this gives the scholars time to attend the "fair," and the teachers an opportunity to attend the Institute at Ludlow Friday and Saturday.

Debits - .20, .45, .50

Tuesday, September 26

I went early to the office and I paid T.O. Seaver 88 cents on the N. Hoisington & Co. account. Paid Mr. Winslow 10 cts for buns and I paid Abe Dunbar \$1.50 for work. I can save something by doing work myself. There were strong signs of rain this morning and it began to rain about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. Polk came in the morning to assist at the fair ground. He started for home about five o'clock in the rain.

Debits - .88, .10, 1.50

Wednesday, September 27

The second day of the Windsor Co. Fair. I learn that the entries are very good, some more than usual notwithstanding the rain of yesterday. After going to the post office I began work in the garden but the rain soon prevented. I took the time in the morning, and set the clocks in the shops. Levi Hazen called to get notes of surveys in the Wood & Willard lawsuit. Mr. Adams called to see about Kimball's work. Mr. James Dana called. Horace Dunham came with his wife and Herman. Paid Mr. Winslow 10 cts for bread. Mr. Adams called to talk of Kimball's work.

Debits - .10

Thursday, September 28

I worked in the garden or tried to but soon found it to be quite difficult for I was called every few minutes. Was very tired and some unwell but I dug potatoes and put them into the cellar. Mrs. Wood came to work for Mrs. D. for a few days. Addison Darling called to attend the Fair and to see his mother.

Friday, September 29

I went to the office in the forenoon but soon came back and attended to digging potatoes, and before I finished the work I finished the part planted with seedling potatoes. I went to the depot ground and to the store in the afternoon. Kimball came from Pomfret in the afternoon to meet Mr. Chamberlin who is expected on the cars, but he did not come. Paid stranger 25 cts. Paid Richmond 15 cts and Billings 7 cts. Capt. Pelton called in the evening.

Debits – .25, .22

Saturday, September 30

Polk came down from Pomfret this morning and is expecting his father this afternoon. I finished digging the garden potatoes and we have enough for our own use. In the afternoon Mr. Chamberlin came, and also Mrs. Blake (Cornelia Paddock). She came to Mrs. Perkins' on a visit. Mr. Chamberlin and Polk went to Pomfret. A Mr. Davis called to talk about the trotting course on the fair ground. Paid 11 cents postage. Mailed photograph to Addison Darling.

Debits – .11

Sunday, October 1

I went to the office in the morning to set the clock and to get the mail from the P.O. I spent nearly all day at the writing table, though we were not able either of us to go to church. Today I change the times of reading the barometer, reading it now at seven, two and nine. This will make some more work for me, but am glad to have all the observations uniform. The bright and beautiful colors of the forest foliage are very soon to be before us, and I anticipate a very bright display, and a little earlier than usual. I have long observed the dates of the highest colors and have found it to be about the 9<sup>th</sup> of Oct. I once knew it as early as the first of Oct., and have known it as late as the 13<sup>th</sup>., but such cases are rare. Some change is made in reading the barometer. It is now read at the same time as making the other observations, that is, at 7 a.m. 2 and 9 p.m. and it is here given reduced to 32 degrees or zero of the centigrade scale. On hand 4.18.

Monday, October 2

Arose some tired this morning for I wrote quite too much yesterday and last evening. I spent the greater part of the day at my table, but it is not very profitable writing. I have been fixing a table for reducing the readings of the barometer at 32 degrees to the level of the sea, and have carried the corrections to seven places of decimals so that the places that I need to use will be correct. Paid Jones 1 dollar for goods.

Debits – 1.00

Tuesday, October 3

In the forenoon I went to the town clerk's office to search the records for Mr. Simmons and was there till nearly noon. In the afternoon I went to the depot and the Post Office, etc. The day was very beautiful and the autumn colors are nearly at their highest and brightest hues. Am very tired and can hardly keep about. The brain becomes tired very easily.

Wednesday, October 4

Called at the depot to send a petition to Mr. Hathaway and had a little chat with Mr. Clarke on railroad matters. In the afternoon I went with Mr. Simmons to make some surveys about English's Mills. In the evening I drew a plan of my surveys and fitted them to send to Ira A. Abbott of Boston. I also wrote a letter to Mr. Abbott explaining the survey. Received of Mr. Simmons three dollars for my work. Paid Mrs. Wood for work three dollars.

Credits – 3.00

Debits – 3.00

Thursday, October 5

Got very tired by my work yesterday. Mailed letter to Ira Abbott. 3 cts postage. Have tried very hard to write today but have done some chores about the house. We have been more alone than for some days past. Another Volume of Cyclopaedia came today which is one month earlier than I was to take them.

Debits - .03

Friday, October 6

Mr. Clarke paid my R.R. account that was audited by the auditors, the balance of which was \$145.00. This is only that part of my account that belongs to the road in its running expenses to pay, and only covers certain months named. I paid Billings 2 dollars for under shirts and also paid Express for the VII Vol. Cyclopaedia 5 dollars. Dr. Paddock's lecture came off this evening.

Credits – 145.00

Debits – 2.00, 5.00

Saturday, October 7

In the morning I paid 60 cents for stamps and I paid 37.07 to the Savings Bank, and I placed in the drawer 50 cts and 3 cts making \$1.53 in rare pieces. I went to the post office and to see Mr. Royce on school matters and Mr. James Dana called with me at Mr. Royce's house and had a talk with him. We shall call at the school on Monday morning. Am very tired this evening and have tried to rest me without doing any work. Brightest autumn colors.

Debits - .60, 37.07, .53

Sunday, October 8

The weather is clearer this morning and I am very much rested, but the brain seems quite sore and would become tired very easily. I called to see Robert a few moments and found Mrs. Blake (Cornelia Paddock) there. Concluded to rest me today and not go to church. I have not heard Mr. Hewitt for some days and we must try to hear him as much as possible before he leaves for his home in Massachusetts. The autumn leaves seem to continue their brightness very remarkably, though the brightest day is past. The oaks on the mountain are still very green, and must be some days in changing their color.

Monday, October 9

In the forenoon I went into school with Mr. Royce, and we had some business to arrange. I hope we did this earnestly and faithfully. In the afternoon I made a survey for Mr. McKenzie. It was some of the Southgate land east of the Carpenter lot. Paid Freeman 25 cts for troches. Came home at night. In the evening we paid Paul 65 cts for groceries. I was fully jaded out after getting settled for the evening.

Debits - .25, .65

Tuesday, October 10

In the morning I went with Abbie and then did chores about the house. Had a short talk about school and lessons with Judge Barrett. Have hardly worked today though I did some work in the garden. I sent \$23.25 to Addison Darling which is the interest due on a note that he holds against me. Note \$121.00 dated June 8, 1868. The interest due on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June was \$23.09. The other 46 cts is for interest on the Payment. Paid Paul for Molasses 80 cts. Dana for handkerchiefs fifty cents.

Debits – 23.25, .80, .50

Wednesday, October 11

In the forenoon we took Mr. C.'s horse and got some muck for the flower pots. We got it at the Ware place where the star moles had brought it up on the surface. We came home by way of Spencer's and Mr. Bridge's. The house spot looks extremely vacant and desolate. Mr. B. has been very unfortunate in having buildings burned. His large barn was burned by lightning ten or twelve years ago.

Debits - .08, .32, .18

Thursday, October 12

This was another hard day for school. I was up there in the afternoon and I wish the scholars would do as well as they might. Paid 8 cts for stamps and 32 cts for glycerine, and for watch key 8 cts and 10 cts for bread. The autumn colors are bright now on Mount Tom and the leaves do not fall as early as usual and seem to retain their vitality. Miss Shaw began her recitations here, and may keep them up for some time.

Debits - .08, .32, .18

Friday, October 13

This morning I went with Judge Barrett to the school house, and he made some most thorough and sound remarks to the scholars and I hope they will profit by it. The day was beautiful and the school went nicely. Mr. Hathaway came in the evening and Judge Barrett called. In the afternoon I paid barber 20 cents for hair cutting. Robert called and we had a very merry talk.

Debits – .20

Saturday, October 14

We wrote to Amelia and I called on Mr. Frost who hears our Greek lessons, and he rode down the line starting for Philadelphia. We went to Taftsville. I went to Mr. Hathaway's to carry road petitions and to see his Mills. After we came home, I met Fred and we went to the bank and paid a note of \$150.00. I paying \$50.00. I called on Mr. Royce who had just come home from Boston.

Debits – 50.00

Sunday, October 15

In the forenoon I staid about the house and tried to rest; but spent much time in writing out the meteorology of the past week. It is now very much work to fit all the corrections and reductions to the thermometer and barometer as I am no compelled to reduce the last to the level of the sea. In the afternoon we went to church and heard Mr. Hewitt preach from Rom. XII: 17. "Recompense to no man evil for evil." I must confess that I made very bad work in attempting to follow the particular steps of this discourse, for I have been so severely tried the past two weeks on school matters that I could hardly think at all. After going home from church I went to hear what Mr. Royce had to say on school matters. Mr. Dana called on me in the evening and we had a very long talk on the same subject. He is satisfied that his school was a hard task and would have been some unpleasant, and his resignation is perhaps wise for him and profitable for us.

Monday, October 16

Rested rather badly last night, and this morning I called on Mr. Brooks to get him to go to the school house and take Mr. Dana's place. He went and I hope he will put things down that have been very troublesome. Paid Woodruff \$6.97 in full on account. Paid Richmond 42 cts for meat, and Pomfret school tax \$2.02, and Winslow 10 cts for bread. Amelia paid me one dollar for the keys that she wanted.

Credits – 1.00

Debits – 6.97, .42, 2.02, .10

Tuesday, October 17

Snowy in the morning and cold, but Abbie came down quite early, and called on Mr. Dana. He started for home by the morning train, and I hope the school will go better than before. I paid Randall \$2.25 on account and Fay for team hire \$8.25 in full. Walter Marble called in the morning. In the afternoon I called on Mr. Royce on school matters and I hope we can arrange things better than they are now. Carlie Dunham called in the evening.

Debits – 2.25, 8.25

Wednesday, October 18

I went to the office quite early and carried a school letter to Mr. Royce. I am sorry to deprive any scholar of school privileges, but we are obliged to do it. The school seems to be going well and I hope it will continue to do so. Mr. Brooks will see that order is maintained and it will be well for the school that he does so. Some of the young men have been very abusive to Mr. Dana and perhaps they will realize it now.

Thursday, October 19

In the morning I went to get John Ransom to do some work. I worked on Mr. McKenzie's surveys and have the plan now ready. In the afternoon, Mrs. D. went to South Woodstock with Mrs. Russell. I remained at home alone but I had some calls. Mrs. D. came home just before it was dark and they had a very pleasant ride. The day has been extremely pleasant.

Friday, October 20

Mr. Chamberlin came down in the morning to attend a meeting of the R.R. directors. I worked about the house through the forenoon, and I might say, through the day. Paid Ransom 25 cts for making a top to inkstand. Abigail and Joanna came here in the afternoon and made a very pleasant visit. I gave Mr. Meador the position of the S.E. corner of Miss Carver's lot and he will set the posts soon. Mrs. D. has gone to Dr. Paddock's lecture at the town hall. Mr. Brooks called in the evening. Abbie took the study table that I had used so long.

Debits - .25

Saturday, October 21

Received from the bank \$17.50, and I paid Mr. Winslow 20 cts. In the forenoon I did chores about the house. In the afternoon I met Mr. Frost and he called in the evening and we spent some time talking over school matters. I hope his school will prove a success. Mr. Brooks did a good work for him and for us. I called on Mr. Royce and I find that the two members of the committee will vote against me on important matters that are before us.

Credits - 17.50

Debits - .20

Sunday, October 22

Rainy in the morning. It began soon after midnight and was some rainy till eight in the morning. In the forenoon I worked on meteorological matters, and in the afternoon we went to church to hear Mr. Hewitt. He preached from Luke XII: 16-20. He made a very impressive sermon of it, and his manner was slow, feeling and earnest. Of course it was on putting trust in worldly things, not that being industrious and making money honestly was wrong, but it was wrong to worship our riches or expect we were ourselves any better for our money. But it enabled us to do great good with it that we could not do without. Mrs. John Darling was buried this afternoon. She died at Mr. Richmond's after an illness of only 22 hours aged about 84 years.

Monday, October 23

Mr. Frost called in the morning and Mr. Royce and I went to the school house to assist him in beginning school. I paid one dollar to Hathaway for a fruit knife C. Dunham also paying the same amount. The day is misty & inclines to rain. In the evening, Mrs. D. and Carlie Dunham prepared for going to Taftsville, but it began to rain and they did not go. A very dark and unpleasant night. I tried to do some writing but could not. Wrote a letter to J.B. Crooker of Calmus, Clinton County, Iowa.

Debits - 1.00

Tuesday, October 24

Paid Richmond 30 cts for meat. I spent the greater part of the day at my table. Copied meteorological matter and did chores about the house. We sent the knife to Mr. and Mrs. Marcy by Etta Latimer. Abbie carried the book case last night and now her table and book works are about right. Mr. Frost called in the evening to see about the school house yard, and about the scholars going into the attic of the school house. That must be prevented I think.

Debits - .30



Wednesday, October 25

Sent a letter to Norman Perkins in the morning. The selectmen had arranged to go down the line on the train to look at the culverts that Mr. Fisk has just been putting in on the Porter and Tracy places. I went with them and so did a few of the directors. Took dinner at the Junction and came up on the train in the afternoon. Mr. Chamberlin came down with Abbie and went with the rest. I paid Paul 65 cts for tea & coffee and boy 3 cts for paper. Mr. Frost called in the evening and we had a very pleasant chat.

Credits - .68

Thursday, October 26

Paid Slack for butter 30 cents. Polk came down from Pomfret to settle with Mr. Gillingham, etc. I copied Mr. Hathaway's road petition and the whole is now ready to have the citation served on the selectmen of Hartland. Henry Marsh called to see about a piece of land lying on the side of the road or lane near the Blossom house, now Dr. J.S. Richmond's. Polk and Abbie left for home a little before dark. A very quiet evening as we are alone.

Debits - .30

Friday, October 27

Polk and Abbie came down early and I spent some time finishing up the plans for Mr. McKenzie of the lot surveyed for him a few weeks ago. Got a letter from Hiram Vose who is now at Windsor. Paid 35 cts to Slack for fish. Polk and Abbie left for home a little before dark and must have had an evening ride home. In the evening I wrote a full letter to Hiram Vose, the only cousin I have near me; and Elvira wrote a long letter to Amelia. The evening was very pleasant and nearly clear.

Debits - .35

Saturday, October 28

In the forenoon I worked about the door-yard picking up the old wood and cutting it for the stove. Mr. Frost called in the afternoon and we had a pleasant talk on school books and schools. Paid 20 cents to Mr. Winslow for bread, etc. Polk called in the afternoon but left for home quite early. We were alone through the evening and of course it was pleasant. The weather is growing colder very fast, and soon it will be winter.

Debits - .20

Sunday, October 29

In the forenoon I worked in my room on meteorological matters and in general reading. In the afternoon we went to church to hear Mr. Hewitt's closing sermon. He had been here five years and a half and never could there have been more perfect harmony. For a text he took a part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse of the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy. "Preach the word." From this text he preached the crowning sermon of all that he had preached in the five years. Not that it was a greater one than he had preached before or many times before; but this seemed to be the finishing part of the whole work. I am glad there were so many to hear it, and that they gave such close and critical attention, and I am sure that it will be long remembered by many.

Monday, October 30

I worked about home and at table nearly through the day, but in the evening we walked to Mr. Hewitt's to carry his atlas home. We found his house alone and so we walked back again.

Tuesday, October 31

I spent much of the day on the meteorological report and finished what I could of it. To keep the readings of the barometer corrected and reduced is a vast amount of work when I keep the whole to three places of decimals. Was very tired indeed when it came to be nine o'clock, for then I could get the last readings for the month.

Wednesday, November 1

This morning I went to Mr. Hewitt's to carry his atlas home. I have had it for a very long time; and I got my Kidd's Elocution. I paid 34 cts to White for Naturalist. After the school was out for the night, Mrs. D., Abbie and I went to the Seavey place to see Abigail and the rest. We went to stay through the night and had a very pleasant time. The walk was very pleasant though there was a slight sprinkle of rain. On hand 21.08.

Debits - .34

Thursday, November 2

Sent ten dollars to the Life Insurance Co. at Brattleboro; and I wrote a long letter to Dr. Foster of Boston about Aunt Churchill. I have tried Simeon Dunham to find some facts relating to the Churchill family, and I think the dates of the births and deaths of some of them can be found. Mr. Comings from Bridgewater called to see when I could go to his place to survey a lot of land. Lent 30 cts to Abbie. Fred paid me 3 cts for stamp.

Credits - .03

Debits - 10.00, .30

Friday, November 3

This is Mrs. D.'s birth day and she is to go to Mrs. Dunham's, that is to see her sister Caroline. She walked out and returned again just before night. Mrs. Bridge called in the morning and also Dr. Paddock. I staid at home and Abbie came here to dinner, and Polk came after her in the afternoon. We were here alone again in the evening, and it is very pleasant. Mrs. D. wrote a long letter to Amelia to be mailed in the morning. Paid Cone five dollars for the 5<sup>th</sup> volume of the Cyclopaedia. Paid 16 cents to Fuller for meat.

Debits - 5.00, .16

Saturday, November 4

Arose very early in the morning to go to Bridgewater and Mr. Comings called before 6 o'clock. The morning was cool but the ride was pleasant. I made the survey of his lot as I made it thirty eight years ago and had very good success in finding all the corners. After finishing all the work, Mr. C. brought me home reaching there about five o'clock, and was not more tired than I ought to expect.

Sunday, November 5

We are here alone this morning, and we have no meeting to attend today unless we go to the Methodist house. We shall miss Mr. Hewitt very much when he goes away. He preaches at Pomfret center today and I think some of our folks will hear him. I am trying to get rested today from my severe toil yesterday. But I am compelled to do much writing and computing on my meteorological subjects. In the afternoon I spent much of the time in miscellaneous reading and some in dozing away the time uselessly except for resting. The wind came round to the north and the weather grew cool quite fast. I finished the article for the Standard in the evening. It takes some time to collect the facts for those meteorological articles, and a little time to write them out.

Monday, November 6

A very pleasant morning but it soon began to grow cloudy and the clouds increased till night. I worked about the house and barn in the afternoon and I began to bank the house. Got a letter from Dr. Foster of Boston about the Doten genealogy. Paid Paul 30 cts for two flower pots. We found ourselves very tired at night, but in the evening I wrote a long letter to Dr. Foster of Boston on the Doten family. His mother was a daughter of cousin James Doty of Bernardston, Mass.

Debits - .30

Tuesday, November 7

Presidential election and a stormy day. About one inch of snow on the ground this morning, and a very nice storm of rain besides. I paid Richmond 43 cents for meat. The voters did not come in much till

afternoon, but the storm will cut down the popular vote very much. Of course we shall not get any reliable returns till the latter part of the week when there will be time to get them. In the evening I wrote out what I had learned of the Doten genealogy.

Debits - .43

Wednesday, November 8

The political news are strongly Democratic this morning but they grew less so in the afternoon. I wrote a long letter to cousin Sally Chandler to get more of the genealogy of the Doten family. In the afternoon I worked on the road to the river, and worked very hard for me to work. It seems quite sure now that we are to have Mr. Tilden for President but not certain. We must have a few more returns to make it positive.

Thursday, November 9

In the morning Abbie came down from Pomfret and the school started again. In the forenoon I went with Horace Dunham to assist in laying out Dr. Chandler's house site. The location of his house is pleasant and the prospect to the south and west will be very good. In the afternoon I worked on the road down the bank and fixed up my part very well. Took five cents of Abbie as postage.

Credits - .05

Friday, November 10

Spent the greater part of the day in chores about the house. I paid White 80 cents for the Nov. No. of the International and ten cts for Frank Leslie and 2 cts for the Herald. Abbie left for home as soon as possible after school for the weather is cloudy & dark. This densely cloudy weather is unpleasant after dark for it is extremely dark in the evening. Spencer sent about 20 gallons of cider for sauce, etc.

Debits - .80, .10, .02

Saturday, November 11

Another very cloudy day. Mrs. D. worked in the kitchen making apple sauce and had very good success. I spent the day in work about the garden and door-yard, and find that there is enough for one to do in that place. Another week is passing off and so they go "one by one."

Sunday, November 12

In the morning I went to work quite early on my meteorological matters and I was much of the day in getting all the sums and means so that they would exactly balance. I find this to be no small job, especially if I do not feel well when working the corrections. I finished them up to last night and will keep them corrected each week. In the afternoon I wrote a long letter to Dr. Foster on the genealogy of the Dotens.

Monday, November 13

Worked at house – banking and other chores about the door yard. I paid 20 cts for pen-holder and 45 cts for tea, and 15 cts for shavings. Did not get my accustomed letter from Franklin but it will come tomorrow. We get nothing reliable about the elections, and we may not for some days, and we think it a curious piece of work for our country. The weather seems warm for November.

Debits - .20, .45, .15

Tuesday, November 14

Rested very well and am some better this morning. There is nothing new with regard to the election, all remains in doubt. I still worked about the house and door yard. Got a letter from Franklin and I was sure it would come. Abbie starts for home some earlier than usual for she hears a lesson after 12 o'clock and dismisses the class at afternoon recess. Cloudy but very nice weather for November.

Wednesday, November 15

Am some better this morning and I went into the garden to clear away the old timber, trees and brush. I spent the greater part of the forenoon there. I paid Richmond 40 cents for meat. In the afternoon I received a letter from Dr. Foster of Boston and it seems to be a very valuable letter as he is much interested in the genealogy of the Doten family. I think we have settled the matter respecting the three Johns in our genealogy from Edward Doten of the Mayflower.

Debits - .40

Thursday, November 16

Mr. Dagle came to assist me about building my fence on the west side of the garden, and I use the posts and board that I had of Mr. Thompson last year. Paid ten cents for a loaf of bread. Abbie brought spectacles to be mended and 50 cents to pay it. It cost 15 cents and I sent 35 cents back with the glasses. Miss Shaw is here to recite her lessons every day now and is attending to Geometry and Reading. I worked in the garden and door yard much of the day.

Debits - .10

Friday, November 17

Mr. Dagle worked for me again and finished that part of the fence. The part between the houses is to be a picket fence. Joanna came in the forenoon and staid till nearly four in the afternoon. In the evening Mr. Frost came in and spoke of his salary, and I am sure we ought to pay him one thousand dollars for a year. It is well to be economical but it will not do to cramp the teachers down too much. Paid 10 cts postage.

Debits - .10

Saturday, November 18

I tried to work in the door yard and garden to get ready for winter, and really brought much to pass. Mr. Morgan called in the forenoon and took dinner with us. He is very intelligent in certain departments of science, and we shall miss him if he leaves as he intends for southern Ohio. I spent some time on the meteorology and got the work of the week ready to copy. Mr. Comings called and his case will be ready for hearing on the first day of December.

Sunday, November 19

Received a letter from Norman Perkins containing a check for \$150.00 to be indorsed on his note that I now have. I am some lazy today and can do but little strong reading. We spent the day nearly alone and we rested what we could. Met Mr. Frost as I came from the post office, and I find him to be a pleasant man to meet. Robert called in the evening.

Credits - 150.00

Monday, November 20

In the morning I paid \$100.00 at the bank which pays a note that I gave them, and I paid 10 cts for bread. I went down the line to White River to make a change in the line over the bridge. I moved the line up, or to the right about 54 inches in the widest place. They are now filling the upper side by the train, so that the track can be moved.

Debits - 100.00, .10

Tuesday, November 21

In the morning I went up street and left meteorological report with McMaster. Paid Richmond & Pinney account \$9.83 and paid for meat 16 cents and postage 12 cents. I went down the line again but failed to see Mr. Thompson though he left there this morning. Came home and went to work in the garden and about the barn. Got straw of Mr. Russell to dress up the rose bushes. Mrs. Russell called in the evening. Abbie is here this evening.

Debits – 9.83, .16, .12

Wednesday, November 22

Another stormy day. Abbie remained here last night and it seemed well that she did. I worked about the garden much of the time in the rain, getting things picked up for winter. I called on Mr. Royce and arranged the vacations for the winter the Fall and Winter Terms. Sent 35 cents to Abbie to get Scribner, and I paid 25 cents for Potters Magazine. This last may be a very good one.

Debits - .35, .25

Thursday, November 23

Got a letter from Clara Vail who is now in Montreal, on the subject of teaching in the High School room. Mr. Joseph Hathaway called for me to go and run out a lot of land for him, and I did it and fixed a corner that was lost near Mr. Hatch's Thomas farm. Abbie went home tonight and will remain here tomorrow night. Mr. Hathaway paid me 1 dollar for going with him to his lot and setting the corner. Paid 10 cts for bread.

Credits – 1.00

Debits - .10

Friday, November 24

Mr. Hewitt left for his home in South Weymouth, Mass, and we were all very sorry to have him go. He has been here a little more than five years and a half and has made many friends and no enemies. I went to the depot to see them start. They will find a letter from me when they get home.

Saturday, November 25

Mr. David Hathaway called in the evening and left with me five (\$5.00) dollars for Polk to pay the cost of the road petition just served on the selectmen of Hartland. – Mr. Ballou examines teachers this afternoon. He took dinner with us. I paid him 65 cts for a book that I bought of him last summer. Eaton school tax \$5.27. Miss McCollum \$1.60 and Mr. Winslow and boy 20. Postage 3 cents. Mr. Leach and Electa called here in the afternoon. Her health seems much better than it has been for a few months past. Abbie paid me 35 cts for what she borrowed.

Credits - .35

Debits - .65, 5.27, 1.80, .03

Sunday, November 26

A cold morning but the air is very good. I spent the greater part of the day at my table. Had some trouble in testing the means of the barometer, but can do it more easily again. In the afternoon Mrs. D. and Miss Latimer went to church to hear Mr. Boutwell from Luke IX: 23<sup>rd</sup>. "And he said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Mr. Boutwell appears to be a very good man and an earnest speaker. I hope they will treat him well, but I think his people here do not always treat their ministers with courtesy. M. D. and A. Ink is an equal mixture of Maynard & Noyes, David's and Arnolds, and that is what I am writing with now. It is kept in the smallest bank inkstand.

Monday, November 27

A clear and cold morning. Abbie left with me \$37.50 to pay towards office rent, and I paid it to Mr. Mellish. I also paid for keys 5 cts and envelopes 5 cts and also to Edward Howland 2 dollars on highway tax. I worked about the barn and door yard putting things in order for winter. We washed and put on the false windows and the rooms seem some warmer. Got a letter from Amelia as usual. She sends me an example to be worked.

Credits – 37.50

Debits – 37.50, .10, 2.00

Tuesday, November 28

Mr. Johnson sent for me in the morning to go to the Cushing place and run out certain portions of it for young Nathan Cushing. I went and Harry assisted us in the chaining. The day was rough and some cold, and the snow began to come in squalls before noon. I worked on the survey till about three o'clock when I left for home. Paid Paul 45 cts for tea and Winslow 10 cts for bread. Mr. Charles O. Thompson called in the evening.

Debits - .45, .10

Wednesday, November 29

This is my "birth day" and I am sixty seven years old; and how rapidly the time has flown away. I celebrated the day by going to the easterly part of Pomfret on a survey for Mr. Johnson. A part of the work was on the granite ledge and was very laborious. The day was rather rough and the evening rather cold. We did not get home till evening for we worked as long as we could see. I paid 6 cents for figs to carry with me on the work.

Debits - .06

Thursday, November 30

Thanksgiving Day. Mr. Porter called in the morning to get papers filled out for the P.O. department. We started a little before noon and walked to Pomfret to visit the old place. Had a pleasant walk. Joanna and Mortimer were there. Spencer went to the north part of the town as he is accustomed to do on such days. Paid postage 3 cts.

Debits - .03

Friday, December 1

A cold morning for this year and our pump and cistern froze over and we had a very severe time in thawing it out. I spent much of the day in copying meteorological work, but we did not quite finish it. I paid Mr. Brown 58 cents for lead pipe to use in thawing the pump. In the evening the other members of the school committee came in with plans material as it seems and as I think made a very foolish arrangement, but I expressed it fully that I did not approve it. On hand 31.13.

Debits - .58

Saturday, December 2

Mr. Chamberlin and Kimball Perkins came to see about clothing and some other things. Mr. Chamberlin paid me 15 dollars towards Kimball's wages for the summer and I paid it to John Eaton on his account against Kimball for clothing got over one year ago. I paid Kimball 1 dollar of my own money and postage 9 cts and for bread 10 cts.

Debits - 1.00, .19

Sunday, December 3

Am some unwell this morning but on hearing that Rev. J.O. Skinner is to preach at the chapel, we soon put ourselves in readiness to attend church. He spoke in the forenoon from John IV: 38. He explained the subject by showing that all the important results in the world are from long working influences that serve to fit things for closing in or bringing about the end long aimed after. He brought up Wickliffe, Luther, Huss and others as workers to bring about the Reformation. A very good sermon.

Monday, December 4

In the morning I fitted the marking pins for tallies, and Frank Hatch and I went to Quechee to get distances about the depot and to the Post Office. After getting these we walked to Taftsville and made some measurements there. We came up on the train and I went to the Post Office and got letter from Amelia & Miss Gardner. Worked at my table in the evening. Paid Slack 24 cents. Richmond 5 cts.

Debits - .29

Tuesday, December 5

The County Court sits this morning. Am at work on the surveys and Polk and I measured the distance from the depot to the post office. Sent five dollars to the Life Insurance Co. at Brattleboro. Polk and Abbie came from Pomfret and remained here through the day. Mrs. Henry Page called here in the afternoon. A most confused day among us. Paid Mr. French two dollars for flannels, and also two to Billings.

Debits – 5.00, 2.00, 2.00

Wednesday, December 6

I have worked nearly all day at my table on land computations and doing some railroad work. I paid five dollars for IX Vol. of the new Cyclopaedia, and I wish I could take the rest of them at once. I must make a plan of Mr. Johnson's land, and also copy the survey into a book. Was some unwell in the morning and have not felt able to work through the day. Polk and Abbie came down to court and were here through the day.

Debits – 5.00

Thursday, December 7

I got Frank Hatch and we went down the line and measured the distance from the depot building to the post office and found it to be 2,428 feet by the nearest traveled road, or by the route usually taken in carrying the mail from the Ct. Vt. Station. We went to the Junction and from there we came home on the train.

Friday, December 8

Rested rather badly last night but must finish out some work today. Carried P.O. report to Mr. Porter. And I finished the surveys for Mr. Johnson. Polk rode down with Mr. Whipple and may remain here till tomorrow. Mrs. Wood came here in the evening to see Polk and will remain through the night. There is some snow this evening.

Saturday, December 9

Paid Mr. Dagle for making fence \$3.50. This is one of the roughest storms that we have had for many years. Last evening it was star-light at nine o'clock but it snowed some in the night but it began to fall very fast before nine o'clock, and there was full 15 inches before two o'clock. Two inches more fell in the afternoon, making 17 inches in all. Polk went to Quechee and rode up on the train in the evening. Paid 25 cts to Richmond for steak. Mrs. Wood remained here through the day.

Debits – 3.50, .25

Sunday, December 10

Thermometer minus 9 this morning and it is the first time it has been below zero this winter. Polk and Mrs. Wood remained here through the day, but Mrs. W. went away just before night. The day is cold, the thermometer getting just a few degrees above zero. I spent nearly all day at my table but I have not yet copied any of the meteorology. Abbie sent a team down for Polk but he concluded not to go home, as he must be here tomorrow. I have read but little of stated and substantial reading, but have kept my pen going the greater part of the time. I have written a long letter to Leland Doten on the genealogy of the Dotens, as he sent me the leaves of his bible where he kept his family record.

Monday, December 11

Last evening the thermometer was 19½ degrees below zero but it has grown warmer in the latter part of the day. I copied all the meteorological work to this date and it proves to be correct. It is a difficult work to carry all the corrections along so as to have them all bear the tests that we are obliged to give them. Paid Paul 20 cts for coffee.

Debits - .20

Tuesday, December 12

Arose quite early and began to clear away the snow, etc. I turned my thoughts to making out the railroad report for another annual meeting. I paid Winslow 25 cts for materials for the festival tomorrow night. Simeon paid me five dollars on our account, and in the afternoon I tried to do some writing. Abbie came down from Pomfret and will stay until P. comes from the office. Mr. White and another man called to get me to do some surveying. I went to the office in the evening.

Credits – 5.00

Debits – .25

Wednesday, December 13

Rested very badly last night and I did not start very early. Have not been very well today and I concluded it would not do for me to go to Sherburne tomorrow so I arranged with Mr. White. It may be some disappointment to the man who was with him, for he seemed like a working man, and was looking out for a winter's job. Polk and Abbie went home this afternoon. Mrs. Bridge came in the evening to go to the festival. Mrs. D. and myself called on Robert in the evening.

Thursday, December 14

Rested well last night. Mrs. B. came here from the festival and remained through the night. In the morning she went to the block, etc. We paid Paul 45 cts for tea.

Debits - .45

Friday, December 15

Spent the day in my room except to go to the office in the morning. Was not very well and did not do much real work. Mrs. Henry Page came about noon and staid till towards night. Miss Marcy called early in the evening, and Mr. Frost later. He has some very good properties as a scholar and teacher. He will probably remain here till he gets a little more accustomed to teaching.

Saturday, December 16

Paid Richmond 28 cts for meat. Were driven from our sleeping place by the odor of rat or mouse near the chimney. I spent much of the day on R.R. report. The day is very cold and the cold increases so that it is quite cold this evening. I mailed a letter to Amelia, one to Ebenezer French on the Aunt Churchill family record, and I hope he will copy it and send it to me. Paid 15 cts for postage stamps.

Debits - .28, .15

Sunday, December 17

A very cold morning, thermometer 30 degrees below zero, and it continued below zero through the day. The highest that it reached was 3 degrees below, and that will pass for cold weather any year. I staid in the house all day for I was not able to go out. There was a meeting at the chapel but I could not go. I hope there were enough to make it appear social to a young minister. The speaker was a stranger in the place, and came to see and be heard. I do not know as he wished to supply the place left by Mr. Hewitt. Not much wind but very cold.

Monday, December 18

Found it snowing and was about three inches deep, and it was falling very fast. Sixteen inches fell during the day but it was very light making only about .85 inches of water. I staid in my room nearly all day and was not very well. This is a nice N.E. snow storm and it is very interesting to watch the progress and to study the nature of these storms. The storm moves towards the wind and when it passes us, the wind comes to us from the other way, and is colder.

Tuesday, December 19

Some squalls of snow today so that it adds about three fourth of an inch to the amount already fallen. Spent much of the forenoon in clearing the snow away from the paths and from the roofs. Paid Billings 77



cents for kerosene and towels. Paid 10 cents to Mr. Winslow for bread. Mr. Frost called in the evening and so did Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lockwood.

Debits – .77, .10

Wednesday, December 20

Was called into court this morning and got \$1.06 for it, but it is not pleasant to leave work and spend half a day on such business. I paid Richmond 25 cts for meat and paid 30 cts for washing powder and 10 cts for bread of Mr. Winslow. In the afternoon I visited the school at River Street, and found a pleasant school. I was very tired at night and could not work much.

Credits – 1.06

Debits - .25, .30, .10

Thursday, December 21

A rough day. Mr. Newcomb called in the morning to have me go to Barnard to make a survey of his buildings and lot. His barn was burned down last August. I tried to put myself in readiness to go. I paid Smith two dollars for overshoes.

Debits – 2.00

Friday, December 22

Arose quite early and took the stage for Bethel. Went to Mr. Newcomb's to make a plan of his buildings to be used in the case of "State vs. Lynch." The day was not quite so cold, but surveying is hard work for winter. I got there at about ten o'clock and went immediately at the work and continued till past 4 o'clock, when I put myself in readiness to go home. Paid Mr. Winslow 10 cts for bread.

Debits - .10

Saturday, December 23

Was some tired and lame but tried to keep the wheels moving. Fred brought the rest of my wood today and I must have it sawed soon. F.S. McKenzie paid me \$7.50 for surveying the Carpenter lot, and I paid 28 cts for meat and \$1.50 to William Billings for fare to Mr. Newcomb's in Barnard. Miss Houghton came this evening. She and Mrs. D. called on Mrs. Perkins in the evening. Paid Winslow 20 cts for bread.

Credits – 7.50

Debits – 1.50, .20

Sunday, December 24

A cold but pleasant morning. Miss Houghton went to church in the forenoon, and in the afternoon Mrs. D. went with her. They did not hear a sermon, but only some general remarks by Mr. Kidder. Miss H. went home from church as I suppose for Mrs. D. came home alone. I remained at home at my table through the day, and had a fine Christmas Eve alone. I think my own quiet home is as good as a sermon at any time.

Monday, December 25

Charles Winslow called to see about his lessons and will recite in Algebra, Geometry and surveying three times a week. Robert brought some drawing paper for me to make a plan of the Newcomb case. I am anxious to have justice grow out of that case for such cases are very apt to go by a previously formed feeling. In the afternoon I went to the office and got a letter from Amelia, and in the evening I wrote a long letter to her answering some of her questions about Mrs. Welby ("Amelia"). Robert called in the evening.

Tuesday, December 26

Rested rather badly last night but I do not know why. In the forenoon, Mrs. Henry Page came down from Pomfret, she being on the way home to Canada. She has been about here three weeks or more, on her way home from Boston where she has been on a visit. In the afternoon I called on Frank Billings to see

about the report for the railroad meeting in January. Got pamphlet from Wallace Ware of Georgetown, Colorado.

Wednesday, December 27

Rested badly last night and arose with a severe headache, but I have tried to write and study some today. Am looking up facts for the R.R. report. I have concluded to have the three reports put together and have one respectable book. Charles Winslow came to his recitation at three o'clock. Robert called in the evening. I am too tired and have too severe a headache to work much this evening.

Thursday, December 28

Got the International and Naturalist for Oct. and paid White \$1.14 and I paid Richmond 31 cts for meat. Mr. Smith came to saw wood. I paid Woodruff a bill of account for groceries for two months \$6.14. I went to the depot and met Mr. Thompson when the train came in. I went to the office and the post office. Got a letter from Albert Darling of Aurora, Illinois. I must look up some of his letters and write an article on his little steam engine that is now in Paris.

Debits – 1.14, .31, 6.14

Friday, December 29

Mr. Smith is sawing wood. I worked on the report for the Railroad meeting and it must be ready early next week. The weather has been cold and very chilly, while the barometer has been falling very rapidly, and it is very low this morning. It began to snow about noon, and we are having a fierce storm, about half a foot having fallen now. Spent the evening in reading and did not write at all. This is a severe storm and the snow is very dense.

Saturday, December 30

Found 4.3 inches more of snow and it is very dense, the amount making 0.4 inches of water. I spent the greater part of the forenoon in shoveling and scraping snow to make the roads so that we could get out. Mr. Smith came and finished sawing the wood, and I paid him \$2.25 for sawing the pile which was two and one fourth cords. Took the time this afternoon and found my watch 1½ minutes too slow, and it has been nearly three months in making that variation.

Debits – 2.25

Sunday, December 31

I worked at my table the greater part of the day and it is so now that it seems as though my time was lost if I am spending it in any other way. This is the last day of the year 1876, and in many respects it has been a remarkable year. There was no snow on the ground at its beginning yet the amount of snow that fell during the year was very great for this latitude and situation being 158.7 inches or 13 feet 2.7 inches. This is the greatest amount that I find in any one year in the last 15 years in which I have kept a record of all the storms of snow. The years are passing rapidly, moving us forward in their ever-revolving circles. How many closing years we have noticed, and how many new resolves we have made as a new one begins! My yearly memoranda will speak on this point, and may be viewed for years to come.

## 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 helped him publish in a magazine called Godey's Ladies Book. Norman Bridge 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 Doten 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 in 1846. He kept the portrait the rest of his life, and his widow Elvira presented it to the Abbott Library in Pomfret in 1909.

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

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

Etta Latimer (1851-1914) was a frequent visitor of Hosea and Elvira Doton. She opened a Literary School for Young Women in Woodstock.

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, born in 1845, 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.

Rev. Russell Streeter was a Universalist minister who came to Woodstock from Massachusetts in November 1834. An obituary called him one of the founders of Universalism. On December 9, 1834, he conducted a wedding for Hosea Doton and Lois Paddock. Rev. Streeter retired in Woodstock and remained a friend of Hosea Doton until he died in 1880.

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.

Caroline Wyatt visited Hosea and Lois Doton regularly. In 1846, she painted a portrait of poet Felicia Hemans that Hosea framed and kept for the rest of his life. His widow Elvira presented it to the Abbott Library in Pomfret in 1909.

## 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.

Galvanic soles – Insoles for shoes with a copper plate in the right sole and a zinc plate in the left. They are thought to increase blood circulation in the lower body.

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.

Spider pan – A frying pan with legs.

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.

Troche – A small tablet containing medication designed to dissolve slowly in the mouth.

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.