



Hosea Doton's
Memorandum for 1883
Transcribed by Scott Fletcher

Preface

In 1883, Hosea Doton and his wife Elvira lived at 34 Pleasant Street in Woodstock, VT in a house that no longer exists. The property extended east to the Ottaquechee River and was large enough for a barn and a sizable garden.

In many entries, Hosea describes working in his garden to produce a variety of vegetables and flowers. Neighbors often visit during the summer to get flowers or cuttings from the Doton garden.

Hosea continued to monitor the weather with daily readings of his thermometer and barometer at 7 a.m., 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. He provided monthly weather reports to the Vermont Standard and the U.S. Signal Service in Washington D.C.

Hosea also provided astronomical data for use in Vermont and New Hampshire almanacs, which were published by the Claremont Manufacturing Company as well as the White River Paper Company of White River Junction, VT.

An article on Charles Darwin prompted Hosea to comment on popular resistance to new discoveries such as the theory of Evolution. "This age may surely be known for the march of science," he wrote, "though every step is opposed and criticized by some among the learned professions."

During the spring and summer, Hosea continued to survey the site for Tribou Park at the corner of Pleasant and Central streets, as well as the site for the new Norman Williams Library, and properties owned by Frederick Billings.

On June 24, Hosea called Dr. Logan to the house as Elvira was unwell. Medications were prescribed and she was advised not to work so hard or attend to so many social calls. Hosea hired women to help with the cooking and housework while he continued his busy schedule of weather reports and surveying.

On August 7, he wrote, "Mrs. D. has been some unwell from hard work and excitement of the last few weeks." Her ailment would continue through the rest of the year. On August 24, Hosea's sister Joanna came to help with care and housework. She stayed for about seven weeks and was replaced by Hosea's sister Abigail who stayed for two weeks. After that, Joanna returned for a time, and then Hosea began to employ other women to help. The illness is never fully explained, but progressed from fatigue and anxiety to sharp and diffuse pains.

Hosea mentions Elvira's health frequently through the fall and by October, she has been prescribed Liebig's Coca and Beef Tonic, which was a patent medicine made from coca leaves.

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

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



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

1883

Monday, January 1

Rested well through the night, and are beginning the work of the new year in very good health and circumstances. The morning was clear and the early part of the day was beautiful. In the forenoon I took observations for computing the time and had very good success. I found our town time more than three minutes too slow, but it can be very easily regulated, for the lower clock is one of Howard's good if not the best movements. The afternoon and evening are cooler and are densely cloudy. I copied weather reports in the evening and found the mean temperature to be lower than some Decembers. Snow fourteen inches deep at the beginning of the year. Brought forward 60.21.

Tuesday, January 2

Worked in my room arranging account books and fixing for drawing. Horace Dunham called with Carlie and Herman. Tomorrow is the day for Herman to go back to his college studies, so they go to Hartland in the middle of the day. I paid five cents postage and mailed letter to Franklin. Got this book and diary of Mr. White, this for a memorandum and the diary for meteorological records. It fills some of these books to keep the records for the year. Ice on the pond seventeen inches in thickness.

Debit – .05

Wednesday, January 3

A cold morning. Ther. 17 degrees below zero, and the falling barometer bespeaks a chilly atmosphere, and people are complaining of the biting cold. Polk and Abbie came from Pomfret in the forenoon to attend the court, as they expect Mr. C.'s case will come on today. I spent much of the forenoon in finishing the reductions and corrections of the barometric readings for December.

Thursday, January 4

I arose quite early and took hold of my drawing work, and continued it nearly through the day. My work today was making a plan of the surveys from the Elm Street bridge along the line of North Street to the Ash tree corner near the cave at the foot of the gorge on the easterly side of Mount Tom. Polk came down from Pomfret and was here till the court adjourned. The day was bitterly rough and piercingly cold. Mr. C.'s case was heard and there was a nominal decision as it was expected on both sides that it would go to the supreme court.

Friday, January 5

The night was seemingly very cold, for the air is filled with a fine and hard snow. The thermometer registered minus 13 degrees and was 10 degrees below at seven o'clock. The weather is very peculiar. It stormed slightly through the day. In the forenoon Mrs. Horace Dunham came from home and made a good and very pleasant visit, such as she has not made for a long time before. Horace called in the morning and called again at night. I sent \$3.30 to the publisher of the Banner at Augusta, Maine, and paid 19 cts at the post office.

Saturday, January 6

Six and a half inches of very light snow and it made only 0.12 of an inch of water. It continued to storm through the day, and about one inch of snow fell, and that made 0.05 of an inch of water. The storm continues. Mortimer Spear came from Pomfret to have a bank note exchanged. I let him have 50 dollars and he is to take the change of the bank note of 50 dollars and I may take a small sum with it from the bank. Paid George Fisher for fixing T square 10 cts, and it is now very nearly a perfect instrument. I called at White's bookstore, but book ordered has not yet come.

Debit – 50.00, .10

Sunday, January 7

A cool night but some warmer than some of the time since the beginning of the month. The thermometer at 7 o'clock was 15 degrees above zero, but had been down to 11 above sometime in the night. The

rapidly falling barometer bespeaks high winds, but they have not come very severely, though this afternoon they seem to increase very much, and make some music with the light and new fallen snow. We are here fully alone today and all seems to be pleasant in the street. The storms have been peculiar this winter, for the air has been humid and some of the storms have been little else but frost. This has made the air very sharp and keen when we are going out of doors. We have been alone through the day, no one having called on us, and we certainly have passed the day pleasantly. I wrote a long letter to Edward Doton of Springfield, Mass. His business is dealing with ice, and I think there must be a body of it on the ponds now, for it is about seventeen inches thick here.

Monday, January 8

Did not start very early this morning for the night was a very good one for rest. Ludlum and Chase came to repair the well or to dig it about two or three feet deeper. They spent the greater part of the day about it, and time will tell as to the value of their work. This morning I saw Fred Doton who brought the package from Edward's family. I received a bundle of Registers from Mr. Farman. It was twelve of the New Hampshire Registers that were not sent before. Paid 15 cts as express bill. Abbie came from Pomfret to do errands and she returned before night.

Debits - .15

Tuesday, January 9

Carried Registers to Mrs. Converse, to Chs. Marsh to Mr. Billings and I sent two to H.B. Smith and one to Mrs. D.C. Gookin. Paid 6 cts postage. Took up my note at the Bank and Mortimer Spear and I take a new sum. I signed with him for seventy five dollars payable in six months. I paid for this two dollars twenty eight cents of which he will pay me one dollar fifty two cents and at the end of six months fifty dollars will be for him to pay and twenty five for me. I received \$22.72 from the bank after the above adjustment. Mrs. D. is copying the weather report for the Signal Service. I have done but little except chores today. A cold and raw day. The thermometer is now about at zero. Leland Doten died.

Credits - 22.72

Debit - .06

Wednesday, January 10

The cold weather still hangs on, the thermometer being some below zero. I went to the post office and to the bookstore, to Paul's, etc. I met Mr. Charles Maxham's team and engaged two loads of sixteen inch wood. I spent some time fixing the windows at the shed so that wood could be thrown in safely. Cousin Leland Doten died yesterday at four o'clock in the evening. He was the last of the family of thirteen children of Isaac Doten and Abigail (Lebanon) Doten, and was born May 30, 1804, and was, of course, in his seventy ninth year. The funeral will be attended tomorrow at one o'clock p.m. at the brick church.

Thursday, January 11

A cold but bright morning. The thermometer reads minus 10. The early wind is from the S. or S.W. but it soon changes to the North and the cold continues. At two o'clock the ther. was only five degrees above zero. This afternoon the funeral of Leland Doten was attended at the brick church. Rev. Mr. Kidder was the attending clergyman who made some very good remarks. There were but few present except the friends and relatives. We went and are glad we did so. Received one load of wood and it looks some better in the shed to have it well filled with good dry wood. Mailed the meteorological report paid postage six cents. Received of White River Paper Co. \$5.46.

Credits - 5.46

Debit - .06

Friday, January 12

Ther. minus 30, but it does not seem so cold as some of those windy days when the ther. was more than 20 degrees higher. Have another load of wood and the shed is very well filled. Paid eleven dollars for the two loads, and paid Woodruff \$2.00 for overshoes, and paid 9 cts for soap and lamp wicks. I received of Mr. Farman by H.E. Richmond \$5.64 and I received of Mortimer as interest paid on bank note \$1.51. The

day has been clear and cold, and such seems much better for health. The thermometer is falling rapidly this evening, the reading being minus 18 degrees at eight o'clock when Mortimer Spear called. Yesterday I paid 46 cts for postage stamps.

Credits – 5.64, 1.51

Debit – 11.00, 2.00, .46

Saturday, January 13

Another cold night; Ther minus 30 degrees, but it began to rise before morning, and it began to snow lightly before ten o'clock. We sent three dollars to the Evening Post, paying 10 cts, and in the afternoon I paid or sent twelve dollars to the Life Insurance of Hartford, Ct., paying fee 10 cts, and to make change I paid Paul 6 cents. The day is too rough and stormy for any kind of work out doors. I got Mr. Bailey to shorten my cane paying him 5 cts. Paid \$1.71 to Murdock for books. The weather seems to be growing warmer very rapidly, and the barometer is falling as rapidly.

Debit – 3.00, .10, 12.00, .10, .06, .05, 1.71

Sunday, January 14

A very much warmer morning, and there was a slight rain and we came very near having a January thaw. The wind was southwest in the morning, but before ten o'clock it was west and soon was from the northwest, and icicles began to form on the eaves of the buildings. The day seemed to be rather dull, and perhaps the atmosphere was such as to make it seem so. I rested the greater part of the forenoon, and can now use my pen with a little more life. The clouds have broken away and the Sun comes out more this afternoon. This is one of the most quiet days that we have known this winter, and in the afternoon we called on Mrs. Perkins and were surprised to find her so feeble. We had not seen her for a long time and we find that her nerves are very much out of tune. She can hardly walk about the room safely as it seems to us, but still she goes about some. The wind is becoming stronger this evening, and the weather is colder and will be colder tomorrow.

Monday, January 15

In the morning I finished the weather report for the Standard. Abbie came about noon on her way to mill and I rode with her as far as the grist mill and home again. I carried the report to Mr. Green and am to write more on the sudden changes of temperature for the last five or six weeks. In the afternoon I called on H.S. Dana and got the appraisal of the Harlow lands, and we had a rich talk on some of the older writers particularly Goldsmith. In the evening I prepared and copied work for Mr. Green. Paid Chapman 15 cts for soap. Mrs. F.N. Billings called here in the forenoon. A pleasant call, for she has devoted her life to the upbuilding of her only son.

Debit – .15

Tuesday, January 16

Another cold morning; ther. minus 20.4 which makes another sudden change in the temperature. Horace Dunham goes to Montpelier today and Carlie came here with him and remained till after the mail came in for the afternoon. She made a very pleasant visit and returned home about four o'clock. I spent the greater part of the day at my drawing table. I cannot drive the work and it moves very slow. Ferry Vaughan came here in the evening and is keeping at his grandmothers for he was exposed to the scarlet fever and they all tell him to keep out of the streets, lest he should spread the disease.

Wednesday, January 17

I went to the post office and to White's bookstore and found the book that I ordered some time ago, Memoirs of Miss Caroline Herschel. The work was out of print in England but a reprint of it had been made in New York by Appletons, and I am glad to find it. The morning was cold but is fast becoming warmer. It began to snow about nine o'clock in the morning and was nearly sleet at first but snow in earnest about two in the afternoon. It was very light and at dark it was about four and a half inches deep and made 0.33 of an inch of water.

Thursday, January 18

A very high wind is raging this morning and all are speaking of drifts on the hills. But we were compelled to spend our time in clearing the sidewalks and making paths about the house and door-yard. I paid Insurance tax to Mr. Hewitt \$5.04. Carried some copy to Mr. Greene, and his paper came out in the afternoon and I think there were but few errors in the weather reports. I carried our calendar clock to Ferry Vaughan to oil, etc. as he is now kept at home on account of the alarm about the Scarlet Fever. He came here in the evening and spent some time with us and we do not yet see much reason for a scare on his account. Paid Todd 50 cts.

Debits – 5.04, .50

Friday, January 19

Another cold morning, ther. minus 14. I mailed six papers that contained the meteorology for December and a part of the month of January. Also mailed a book and letter to Laura Billings of New York. "Memoir of Caroline Herschel," sister to Dr. Wm. Herschel who was with him and assisted him in nearly all his scientific labors. Paid 15 cts postage, and received six dollars bank dividend. Brother Spencer came here about noon and staid till about three o'clock when Fred called for him. I finished copying the poem "The Battle of Niagara" from the "Vermont Republican" printed at Windsor Dec. 26th 1814, and mailed it to the "New York Observer." Brought my clock home this forenoon. Abbie came to mill again.

Credit – 6.00

Debits - .15

Saturday, January 20

Weather mild with prospect of easterly wind. Went to the post office and had a ride and short talk with Mr. Hewitt. Spent the greater part of the day at my drawing table in making a plot of the Mt. Tom lands, by the lines that inclose the south mountain. In the afternoon I went upstreet and paid Richmond 18 cts for meat and I paid 6 cts postage. Mortimer came in the afternoon. Carlie Dunham was here in the forenoon.

Debits - .18, .06

Sunday, January 21

This is a very comfortable morning, the thermometer being some above the freezing point and it had rained through the latter part of the night. I have tried to make this a day of rest, and I have snoozed some of the time at least and am feeling better for the sleep. But there was some work to be done in shoveling the snow from the walks, and the snow was extremely heavy, three inches and three tenths making more than five tenths of an inch of water. But it began to freeze soon after noon and the work of clearing the roofs was some laborious. I have read but little today, and that little was not very deep or searching.

Monday, January 22

A cool morning though not the coldest. Began the drawing work early and continued it the greater part of the day. I went to Paul's and to the post office, and soon found the weather was growing colder. Got Isaac Fisher to make a stand for a bulletin board that I am preparing for noting my morning observations. Fred Doten called soon after noon and Ferry V. and Lizzie Bridge called in the evening. I have too many sample copies of papers sent calling for subscribers. Mailed paper to Mrs. Page at Linden, Mass.

Tuesday, January 23

Ther. minus 18 very nearly and it registered the same. After breakfast I began to write on the meteorological report for the year 1882. A full report for the year, to be at all interesting takes some thought and study. Took a paper to H.S. Dana to speak of an expression I often use, that is expressing decimals of a unit in the plural as 0.25 inches. I have ventured to use it in some cases where I use many of them, and I am not sure but it is better to use the plural where you repeat the form, than to repeat the rather awkward expression as 0.25 of an inch. We had a very pleasant chat on that form of expression.

Wednesday, January 24

Weather cold, Ther. registered minus 9 degrees. I began my writing on the yearly report of the weather, and I also wrote the thermometer readings for Mr. Greene. Got two almanacs from Robert in the morning. Abbie came in the afternoon and I paid her \$1.50 toward Polk's work in the fall, and she paid White for a German grammar. She left for home about five o'clock in the afternoon. Paid 8 cts for ink. Mrs. Russell called in the evening and I spent all the evening on the weather report for 1882.

Debits – 1.50, .08

Thursday, January 25

I went early to Mr. Greene's with yesterday's weather report and came back to work on the yearly report. This I attempted to finish today as it may be needed tomorrow. After the paper is issued and mailed the compositors begin on the matter for the next paper so I must make the report ready before tomorrow. Came home and began the writing again and kept it up till nearly ten o'clock in the evening when it was finished or nearly so. Mr. Gilman called in the afternoon to leave a thermometer to be tested for Mr. McKenzie. There is a prospect of our having a cold night.

Friday, January 26

Cold! The thermometer was minus 30.4 in the night but it was rising at 7 o'clock and it was about eight above zero in the warmest part of the day. I early carried the report to Mr. Greene and can have a proof sometime tomorrow. I got a table for us to work on and Mr. Bradley brought it from Mr. Fisher's shop. We are trying it this evening and it works well. Mrs. D. called on Dr. Williams to have some teeth filled, and paid him one dollar. Horace Dunham called in the afternoon and is some disturbed at the reports on the railroad meetings a few days ago. Ther. minus 19 degrees this evening.

Debits – 1.00

Saturday, January 27

Started early this morning for it seemed to be cold, but the thermometer was rising fast. It registered minus 22 and at 7 o'clock it read minus 7, and it continued to rise through the day, and at night it was nearly plus 30 degrees, making more than 50 degree range in one day. Got proof of the weather report and intended to correct some of it this evening but failed to do so. Mr. Brown brought in more of the proof. The weather is growing warmer and we do not need to move plants from the windows. Am now testing some new glasses and so far they stand the test well for all the purposes that could be expected of them. We are using our new table this evening and how convenient it is!

Sunday, January 28

The night has been warm for the season and slightly stormy, but the snow does not gain very fast on the ground. The storm has continued slightly through the day, and a part of the time it has seemed more like rain than snow. In the forenoon Horace Dunham called to wait for the opening of the post office, and he left soon after noon. We read and corrected the proof of the weather report that will be out in the Standard this week. The printer has given us a very good copy for we find but few errors. This evening I must write the census agent of Hartford, Conn. on the fall of Quechee river, and this I think can be given easily. This morning I paid Mr. Hewitt 5 cts for milk.

Debits - .05

Monday, January 29

Warmer this morning and we arose to our work. Mr. Gilman called and took his thermometer that I had been testing. At nine o'clock I went to the printing office to correct proof and corrected the 2nd proof of my weather article. Got a letter from Herman Dunham, a good one for he had just heard Henry Ward Beecher on the subject of evolution, and he is right. Beecher will fill a house any where and we are glad to have him speak on that subject for he will be heard. The people will hear him. Polk and Abbie were here at noon and left soon after dinner. Wrote to Herman in the evening. How much warmer the weather is!

Tuesday, January 30

Did not hurry this morning for the weather is not extremely cold and house plants will not suffer. Went to work early on the drawing and with good success. About eleven I had a pleasant call from my friend Edward Conant. He is teaching at Johnson in this state. It is one of the state Normal Schools. I learned from him that a height of Killington had been determined by the Coast Surveyors and differed but a foot or less from ours. Got a circular from Prof. Fletcher of Dartmouth on the December storms. He thinks that more rain falls here than at his place, and it certainly appears so.

Wednesday, January 31

A warm cloudy morning; Ther. 34.2 degrees above zero. Arose quite early for us and found it densely cloudy and it began to snow and rain at eight o'clock, and it continued till four in the afternoon. The snow melted almost as fast as it fell but I found 1½ inches of snow and 0.43 of an inch of water. I went up street early. I spent much of the afternoon in chores and errands, and shoveling snow from the walks. Lizzie Bridge called in the evening and had a full and interesting talk with Mrs. D. She is to be pitied being as she is, destitute of a home. I neglected to put down 16 cts paid. The snow is 27 inches deep in the open fields.

Debits – .16

Thursday, February 1

The air is very pure and clear this morning, and it looks like another season. I went to the P.O. and carried Thermometer readings to the Standard. And my yearly report is published in today's Standard, and I think it is free from errors. Mr. Smith of Hartford called and we bought a white moss rose bush and six currant bushes of him, and when they come we pay him two dollars for them. Mortimer came in the afternoon and we have had a multitude of calls. I ruled the sheets for the meteorological records. Brought forward 8.23.

Friday, February 2

Cool this morning, Ther. minus 11 degrees. Went early to the Standard office to get a supply of papers to send away, and soon went again to mail them, and soon got a few more. I mailed eleven to friends and scientific teachers. I paid Woodbury 25 cts for paper, and Billings 10 cts for braid, and 10 cts postage. I worked about the house in the afternoon. In the evening I began to correct and reduce the readings of the barometer in January using the tables that I made from those in the Signal Service directions for Voluntary observers. It will take some time to become interested in the new table of reductions to sea level.

Debits – .25, .20

Saturday, February 3

Was surprised to find a wonderfully snowy morning, and the snow was about three and a half inches deep when I began to clear the walks. The storm continued through the day and I did not go out not even to the post office. I got a receipt from the agent of the census at Hartford, Conn. and was glad to find that he could appreciate a full survey of a river, and not rely on railroad crossings. I spent much of the afternoon in writing on the Billings surveys, and later in shoveling out the paths again. The weather is comfortable now and there are signs of continued storm.

Sunday, February 4

Stormy through the night and it has been rain with the snow, and there is a sharp crust on the snow that makes it very bad stirring or even shoveling. Allen Thompson called in the afternoon and brought home some numbers of the Princeton Review that I had forgotten, and he brought a dictionary for me to examine. It was the one so freely advertised by the Book Exchange Company. There is some value in the book. The wind is getting westerly and soon will be in the N.W. as it appears now. At two o'clock the sky is nearly clear in the north, but the southwest wind is cutting the snow away fast. The storm ended about eleven o'clock a.m. but the S.W. wind continues. Spent much of the afternoon in copying surveys. Have had no calls today except Allen Thompson on his way to and from church. In the evening we got the New

York Observer that had the poem on the "Battle of Niagara" in imitation of Campbell's Hohenlinden, but I cannot say that the changes in it are an improvement.

Monday, February 5

A comfortable winter morning, but the rain of Saturday night and Sunday forenoon made the passing very bad. I went to Paul's and to the post office. Sent a paper to Mr. Crosby at Florence. Have spent some time in fixing the paths and roads so as to make it safe for horses to come into the door-yard. Abbie came down from Pomfret to mill and to do other errands. I paid 5 cts for milk and 10 cts for soap. I prepared and copied a table for the reduction of the barometer and fitted it to my Marsh table of meteorological reductions. The weather seems to be growing colder this evening. Received a paper from Plattsburg, NY in which I find Carter's "Battle of Niagara" a copy that I sent to the "New York Observer."

Debits - .15

Tuesday, February 6

Cooler. Ther. minus 12. Have spent nearly all the forenoon at my table. Received a letter from sister Page and am glad to find that she is pleasantly situated. Wrote to a young man in Brooklyn who asks for a chance for railroad work, and I referred him to Mr. Thompson. Have been copying the surveys on Mr. Billings' land, and I shall find it necessary to make some more surveys. Spent the evening on the corrections of the barometric readings. The day has been rather chilly with a strong breeze from the south, but the evening seems warmer.

Wednesday, February 7

Found three inches of snow that had fallen in the night. It was so dense that the three inches made, when melted, thirty five hundredths of water. This is the day of Probate Court and brother Spencer came to meet our cousin Pliny Vose on a business matter. Cousin Pliny has not called on us for a long time. I spent the day at home copying surveys, and in the evening correcting and copying the barometric readings testing the work for the month of January. Paid Richmond 24 cts for meat. The barometer fell about six tenths of an inch last night, and the severe wind the result.

Debits - .24

Thursday, February 8

Arose quite early this morning and began copying the surveys. I wrote a very hasty letter to our friend Edward Doton of Springfield, Mass. Paid Woodruff eight cents for feed for the hens. I spent all the afternoon in fitting and copying the survey of the north line of the Billings sugar lot next to Mrs. E. Dana's land. Brother Spencer will remain here till Fred calls to go with him to see some cattle that they think of buying.

Debits - .08

Friday, February 9

Brother S. remained with us last night and this forenoon Fred came for him and after dinner they went out to see some cattle such as they wished to buy. This has been a broken day with us. In the forenoon Mr. F.N. Billings called to learn something of the old Thompson place, now Clifton Richmond place. I hope he will buy it. In the afternoon the pleasant calls were frequent. Abbie came just before noon and left for home. She comes to mill and to do errands such as the family needs to have done. This evening we are alone and are very tired. Wm. E. Dodge died in New York on the 9th.

Saturday, February 10

Cool again this morning. Ther. minus 8 at 7 o'clock and it fell 4 or 5 degrees in the forenoon. I went to the post office and to Paul's and got a new supply of groceries. Paid White 4 cts for ink, the same that I am now using. It is Maynard & Noyes fluid or chemical fluid ink, and I hope it will prove to be what I want. I have spent much of the day on Mr. Billings' plans. We have had less interruptions today than usual, though Mrs. Maxham came this morning on the cars. Mr. Clifton Richmond called in the early evening to talk about the quantity of land in his Pratt lot. Ex Governor Marshall Jewell of Conn. died Ae 57.

Debits - .04

Sunday, February 11

A cloudy and somewhat stormy morning, so much so that the air seems very chilly. We found about one inch and six tenths of snow and I cleared the steps and the side-walks before breakfast., and then sat down to write a letter to my friend Herman Dunham who is in the freshman class at Tufts College, Mass. It seems to take three fires to keep us warm today as the wind is northeasterly and the air seems damp and cool.

Monday, February 12

I rested not quite so well as I have some times, but have felt better today. Mr. Frederick Billings and his brother Frank N. was with him. He wished to ask some questions about the place that he had just bought of Clifton Richmond, and also on the survey and maps of his residence that I am making for him. I mailed the meteorological report to the War Department; the Signal Service part of it, and I also mailed a paper to the "Acadian Scientist" a paper published by a Scientific Club at Wolfville, Nova Scotia. I ought to have that little scientific sheet and think now I shall take it. But must write a letter to the editor.

Tuesday, February 13

Another cold morning. Ther minus 17 degrees, but it does not seem so cold as it did last Saturday morning. I began early to fix the weather report for the Standard, and finished it just before noon. Mortimer came about the middle of the day. In the afternoon I went to the Standard office with the report of January weather, and I called on Mr. Dana and he paid me \$13.90 on Mr. Farman's account, and that pays me the balance for the Almanac computations for 1883. It is singular that those publishers should send a lot of accounts to pay for my work on the registers, but I must send my account receipt very soon.

Credits – 13.90

Wednesday, February 14

Cold this morning. Ther. minus 14 degrees. A very fine winter day. I finished a letter to Mrs. Page and fitted two papers to mail. Sent Mrs. Page's letter this morning and mailed the papers, one to Mrs. Harriman of Elkhorn, Wis. And the other to my old school mate Mrs. Hannah Bayley of Beaver Dam, Wis. I paid three cts for stamps. I spent some time on the surveys but was too dull to write very clearly. Edward Barber came with a load of wood from Mortimer, and I am glad to have our wood-pile increase. The door-yard seems full of snow, about as much so as we have had it for some years. Ex Governor of New York died (Edwin D. Morgan).

Debits .03

Thursday, February 15

A snowy morning but not enough snow yet to need removing from the side-walks. I went to the market and paid Richmond 20 cts for meat and I paid White 12 cts for "Science" & 10 cts for the Tribune that has Young's six lectures on Astronomy. Polk and Abbie came about noon, and after doing sundry errands left for home soon after four o'clock. We were here alone through the evening and I fitted a letter for Mr. Conant and must send it tomorrow. The evening is some warmer and there is some prospect of a winter thaw.

Debits - .20, .22

Friday, February 16 (Mixed inks M&N – A and C equal pts.)

The weather is much warmer this morning and the thaw seems to be coming. Got Hart to clear the roof of the barn, and I took down a part of my hen yard fence lest the snow from the roof should break it down. Paid Hart 25 cts. Paid five cents postage, and Mrs. D. went upstreet and paid out for me three dollars eighty nine cents. There is now every appearance of our having a thaw or a warm spell without much rain. Today I have ordered Sillimans Journal for this year, though it is somewhat expensive, costing nearly six dollars a year.

Debits - .25, .05, 3.89

Saturday, February 17

A very comfortable morning. The snow has been melting all night, and it seems as though the snow must settle very sensibly. Sister Joanna came in the forenoon. I have not been out today, but have got our today's paper from the post office. We have had numerous calls today. Prof. Lyman H. Atwater D.D., L.L.D. died at one o'clock this morning at Princeton, N.J.

Sunday, February 18

Sister Joanna staid with us last night and today. The day is very pleasant, the wind Northwest and the air is very pure and good. My reading is very miscellaneous and I can hardly say that I read at all. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Emery came here to make a short call, and we had not seen them for a very long time. I let them have two numbers of the "Landmark," the paper published at the Junction and perhaps I will continue it for them to read, for the paper may be of some use to them to make the home more pleasant. Mary Barber came down from Pomfret with Joanna and came here this afternoon to ride home with her. Mortimer came in the early evening and they left for home soon after seven o'clock. Our thaw seems to be drawing to a close, and the wind is becoming West, and may be soon in the N.W. The snow has settled about half a foot with very little rain. Lizzie Bridge was here towards night, but we are alone here in the evening, and our writing went well.

Monday, February 19

Cooler. The morning seems like March as the sun shines brightly but the wind from the west is raw & cold. Spent much of the forenoon in writing on the surveys. Brother Spencer called here for a few moments just before noon, but did not stay to dinner. We paid two dollars for money order for Vick and mailed it to him. Paid 10 cts for the order. I paid 75 cts for "Letters of Junius" that Mr. White had sent for. Mortimer Spear drew a load of wood though the sleighing is bad. I called on Mr. Billings and had a good chat with him, and I got the privilege of keeping the paper that has the poem "The Battle of Niagara."

Debits - 2.00, .10, .75

Tuesday, February 20

Ther. minus 8 very near. I fitted my account with the White River Paper Co. and mailed it to the company. We received a paper from friends at Franklin. I spent nearly the whole day in copying surveys, as they needed many corrections and explanations, and these I try to give them. Polk came down from Pomfret a little before noon and returned in the afternoon. In the evening I read a part of the early life of Dr. Chapin, that part relating to his society in Boston, his school days at Bennington, his short stay at Troy and Albany, and his first acquaintance in Utica with Grosh and Hutchinson.

Wednesday, February 21

A pleasant morning but frequent squalls of snow have been coming since they began yesterday. I began writing quite early. Am copying the surveys and arranging them so that they can be easily followed. I went upstreet and had a very pleasant talk with H.S. Dana. He had Whitmore's life of Ballou in four volumes, and was intending to re-read them. In the afternoon I carried a volume of the Cyclopaedia to Mr. White to look over the subject of newspapers. Mortimer came with two loads of wood. Haywood's group are at the Town Hall this evening, but we are at home. Carlie Dunham called here this afternoon.

Thursday, February 22

We rested remarkably well through the night till the early morning. I awoke a little before four o'clock and after that was too much awake to sleep more. After writing for a time I went to the post office and called on my friend H.S. Dana, and we had a remarkably pleasant and interesting talk over N.H. Carter's "Battle of Niagara," in imitation of Campbell's Hohenlinden. In the afternoon I wrote on the copying of our surveys and have got along easily. My friend Mr. McKenzie called on Railroad business, and Horace Dunham called. Polk and Abbie and Mary came. The Supreme Court is now in session and Polk remains here.

Friday, February 23

Cooler. Wind N.W. The Supreme court is now in session, but Mr. Chamberlin's case has not yet been called. The morning is very clear and the temperature is becoming cooler. I kept about my work till about the middle of the afternoon when I went to the post office. I tried to get the time at noon but the clouds interfered, and I was not sure of its being perfectly right. I saw Jason Dunham this afternoon and was very much pleased with his improvement. I saw the watch that was presented to him by his employer. A beautiful present and well merited. We paid \$1.59 for goods at Billings. Dr. Paul A. Chadbourne died at noon. He was Ex-President of Williams College.

Debits – 1.59

Saturday, February 24

Cold this morning. Ther. minus 22. Polk went home as his father's case does not come off this week. We shall all be glad when that case is through. I walked to the post office in the morning and then again in the afternoon. I paid Richmond 30 cts for meat. Have been copying the surveys all the time that I could be at home. We were here entirely alone in the evening and I spent a part of my time in resting. I called on F.N. Billings on his brother Frederick's account, and am to call again next Tuesday. Very dense cirro stratus clouds this evening with signs of storm.

Debits - .30

Sunday, February 25

Found four inches of snow this morning and the storm soon changed to rain, and the rain has continued through the forenoon and still it rains. I have been at my table through the forenoon after shoveling a while to clear the paths. Have not yet measured the rain or melted snow of this storm, but the snow fall this winter amounts to 84.7 inches, and if the same rate should continue, it would be one of our most snowy winters. In the afternoon we called on Mrs. Perkins, and we found her quite merry. She appeared much better than when we saw her a few weeks ago. She appeared very musical today and we saw no particular difficulty from weak nerves. She was 76 years old last October, and she might call herself comfortable. I have read today some of the points in the life of E.H. Chapin and I find there some of my own views reflected. I might say perfectly. Just previous to his settlement at Charlestown he expressed his own views of the doctrine of Universalism and his way of viewing it and of expressing his views seemed to me to be very nearly right. There seemed to be the elements of pure Christianity in them. It is not strange that he did not fail to please and electrify any audience to whom he preached.

Monday, February 26

A very pleasant morning with high temperature, that is 24 degrees above zero at 7 o'clock. I began to finish up the report on the Harlow homestead, and I studied upon it in the forenoon and wrote upon it in the afternoon till nearly night. Polk came in the middle of the day and thinks that his father's case may be on tomorrow. Received a letter from Miss Wing of Charlotte near Burlington on the weather in 1882. I also received a letter from my friend Edward Conant on the subject of Pomfret history. Very light squalls of snow in the afternoon and evening but not enough to be measured.

Tuesday, February 27

Ther. minus 1, and the wind fully N.W. and rather raw and cold, and the cold seems to be increasing. This afternoon the air is very clear and the thermometer about 10 degrees above zero. Mortimer came with another load of wood, and calls this a cold day. The thermometer at the old house was just zero, while here it was 1 degree below. I called on Mr. Billings and paid 40 cents for a thermometer, and Mr. Boyce called in the afternoon and paid me 50.00 dollars for Mr. F. Billings and that makes 250 dollars that he has paid me since last September.

Credits – 50.00

Debits - .17

Wednesday, February 28

Rested badly a part of the night for the strong aurora was too electrical to allow tender nerves to rest. I went to the post office in the morning and sent Postal order to the Life Insurance Company at Hartford, Conn. paying \$12.06 plus 0.10. And I paid Geo. Fisher 4 dollars for table. And I paid for singing school one dollar. Paid White 34 cents for Princeton Review. Elmer Emery and Harriett came in the morning and were about here through the day. Mr. Chamberlin's case was argued before the Supreme Court today and the decision may be given tomorrow. Had paid 12 cts not accounted for.

Debits – 12.16, .4.00, 1.00, .34, .12

Thursday, March 1

Cold again this morning. Ther. minus 17 degrees and was minus 15 at 7 o'clock. Went upstreet and to Mr. Fisher's. Spent some of the day fixing writing works, and in the afternoon I made some tests of the scale for the plans of the small places, as the parks on Mr. Billings' maps and plans. A large meteor was seen from Dewey's Mills this morning, and to appearance was not very far off. I ought to get a more full account of it but I cannot find the time to go to Dewey's Mills for the purpose. Brought forward 42.90.

Friday, March 2

This is the first springlike morning and the air and sky all seem softer and really springlike, and it continued so through the day. I went to the barbers and got my hair cut, paying the barber 20 cts and I paid 7 cts for an orange. Abbie came down from Pomfret and reports the roads rather soft. She comes with a multitude of errands and always does them very faithfully. She left for home about four o'clock. Miss Sarah Houghton called in the afternoon.

Debits – .20, .07

Saturday, March 3

This morning was a little cooler and the cold seems increasing. In the morning I went to the post office and to Paul's. Spent some time on the meteorological work for February and a little on March. Mr. Bradley called and I changed my insurance policy or application to the Vermont Mutual Company. Sister Electa came down in the afternoon and made a good, though short, visit. Horace Dunham called and is some engaged about town meeting. I have worked today on the plans for the Parks, the Denison and the bridge Parks. Paid Paul 5 cts as a balance.

Debits - .05

Sunday, March 4

The morning is clear and cold, the thermometer registering minus 16 degrees and started up but little at 7 o'clock, and later we see that we must call it a cool day though the sun has risen very much to the north and shines with much more power and effect. The snow has settled but very little comparatively. We are here alone today and are trying to rest and read & write carelessly and easily. I have corrected some of the barometric readings for February and Mrs. D. is copying a part of the work. I am glad to get that part of the work done and to get the reports sent off. The weather is growing colder and there is a prospect of a cold night and surely we must be prepared for it. We have had a very quiet day for no one has been here except Allen Thompson who came with some papers for us to read. His papers and books are always interesting. Alexander H. Stephens, Governor of Georgia, died at the executive mansion at Atlanta Georgia, at 3 o'clock 25 minutes this morning. He was born Feb. 11, 1812 and was 71 years and 21 days old at the time of his death.

Monday, March 5

Another cold morning though the ther. was higher than yesterday being minus 8 degrees or a little lower, and the forenoon was very sharp and chilly. I spent the greater part of the forenoon on the meteorology for February, and have now made all the reductions. Elmer Emery came here this forenoon and remained till afternoon. His father brought him down. This afternoon Mrs. D. had a package from Vicks Florist house, roses and geraniums, all sound and healthy though through the frost and freeze.

Tuesday, March 6

The annual Town Meeting or March Meeting for choosing Town Officers, etc. I have not usually attended them and see no reason for making a change this year. This was a very rough and cold morning, and was cold through the day. We were fortunate in having our plants get here from Rochester, N.Y. before this very rough weather and they all look well now. The Vick Company are very careful in packing all plants securely and ours have come as safely as in mid-summer. The people are returning early from the Town Meeting, and as usual some are glad while others are disappointed.

Wednesday, March 7

One of the most boisterous days of the season. Six inches of snow fell in the night. Polk and Abbie and Mary Mayo came down from Pomfret through the drifts and started for home at half past four o'clock. Charles Vaughan and Mr. Maxham came to finish our commission business in the Harlow estate. This we did in a few minutes after meeting at the Probate office. I had a thorough walk through the snow with Chs. Vaughan. We were here alone in the evening and we found the weather not extremely cold after the wind had partially abated.

Thursday, March 8

Though there is some N.W. wind this morning, the weather seems more pleasant. The ther. is minus 14 degrees very nearly. I spent much of the forenoon in shoveling snow and clearing the paths that were drifted with snow last night. The day is cold but nearly clear. About nine o'clock this morning there were polar bands but they had changed before the afternoon reading. In the afternoon I went to the post office and got December Weather Review, a notice from Windsor Co Insurance Co. and postal from Abbie, and I paid White 73 cts for Sillimans and Proctor's Knowledge. Another cold night coming.

Debits - .73

Friday, March 9

Cold. Ther. minus 27 nearly but will be recorded minus 26.4. Surely this will do for March. Received of Augustus Harlow's estate for services as Commissioner to set off homestead five dollars. Mr. Miller called and paid the above as he is the administrator of the estate. I have spent the greater part of the day on the meteorological report of the month of February. Our reports on the temperature are attracting some attention and I hope people will get better instruments for determining the heat. I paid Richmond 9 cts. for lemons etc.

Credits - 5.00

Debits - .09

Saturday, March 10

Though the weather was so clear last evening it began to snow at 10 o'clock this morning. It was densely cloudy at 7 o'clock. Before noon the snow was falling very fast and the barometer was falling about as fast. Paid Richmond 29 cents for meat. Before night I began to shovel the snow and I found about 7½ inches and it made 0.68 inches. It is now ten o'clock in the evening and the storm has ended as the stars are shining, but there was half an inch of snow and 0.04 of water.

Debits - 0.29

Sunday, March 11

I began early to clear the walks of snow, but where to put it is a question not easily disposed of. After breakfast I wrote out the weather report for the Standard and I spent some time in correcting an error in the January report, where one figure was made wrong. There is often more time required to correct a single error than to make the computations at first. I have been at my table the greater part of the day and the snow has prevented much stirring in the street. The weather was warm this morning but the temperatures has been steadily falling through the day and at times there have been thick squalls of snow. Lizzie Bridge called towards night and made a pleasant call, leaving about eight o'clock. I have been resting and snoozing for a part of the evening and now am feeling much refreshed. I began to re-read Wallace's article on Darwin and am sure it will bear a third and fourth reading. This age may surely

be known for the march of science, though every step is opposed and criticized by some among the learned professions.

Monday, March 12

Another job of shoveling snow this morning, for it had blown in rather badly in many places. I carried the meteorological article to the "Standard," and I went to Mr. Eaton's and paid him one dollar for brandy. I worked on Mr. Billings' plans, and found the surveys made with much care. I worked on the bridge park and it all comes with much precision. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Adams called to ask some questions about the Harlow estate and the widow's homestead in particular. Mrs. Fairbanks called to return a book that she had been reading. Rev. Eli Ballou D.D. died this morning at his home in Bethel, Vt.

Debits – 1.00

Tuesday, March 13

Prepared some weather reports for the Standard and walked upstreet, got oatmeal at Paul's and called again at the Standard office and finished the weather article. Paid 60 cts for grain for the hens. The afternoon is very clear and pleasant. Called on Mr. French in the forenoon to talk of temperance commissioner and an agent for Woodstock. Had a pleasant call and I believe it is the first one that I have made there in the ten years that we have been here. Have paid Ferris Vaughan 20 cts for his paying P.O. box rent in Oct. and January. This evening I have a new dressing gown that my wife has been making for me with her own hands.

Debits - .60, .20

Wednesday, March 14

The thermometer went down to minus 9 degrees sometime in the night but was one above zero at 7 o'clock this morning. I went to White's bookstore and got two Nos. of Silliman's Journal paying 96 cts for them. I went to Eaton's to examine deeds and got the last October laws. Came home some tired and began my work on the plans. Mr. and Mrs. Parkhurst came from Barnard in the snow, or rather through it. In the afternoon, Mrs. D. called at her dress-maker, and I worked on the plan of Mr. Billings' barns, and had very good success. The thermometer has been 48 times below zero this winter, that is 9 times in December, 21 times in January, 10 times in February and 8 times in March.

Debits - .96

Thursday, March 15

What a change in the weather. A strong southwest wind began to blow in the night, and it cuts the snow very much. It has settled nearly or quite half a foot since last night. This morning I have paid the interest, \$18.00 on the Mrs. Dana notes. Abbie came from Pomfret this forenoon and finds the roads some soft, and the horse slumps some. She started for home about four o'clock. It began to grow cooler soon after noon. We paid Mrs. Vose in full for work \$4.25

Debits – 18.00, 4.25

Friday, March 16

Cool for March. Ther. 4..4 above zero. I went to printing office and got six copies of the "Standard," and mailed one to Mrs. Gookin and one to Robert at Springfield. Saw Dr. Logan and he brought a vial of pills for me to take to check these nervous spells. A wood-sawer came and began on my woodpile. We have had the usual amount of calls today and some of them very pleasant ones. I paid 4 cts for stamps & 10 cts to our wood sawer for shoveling snow.

Debits - .14

Saturday, March 17

Nathan Cushing saw robins this morning. Went upstreet and mailed paper to Sarah Doton Goldsmith, and one to sister Page. Paid Bradley \$2.52 insurance charge, and paid Richmond 22 cts for meat, and in the

afternoon I paid one dollar to the wood-sawer who is working for George Hart who is engaged to saw my wood. Horace Dunham called in the afternoon. He has hired the Ford place on the south side of Lincoln street. He hires it of Smith Hodges and will move into the house as soon as he can arrange to leave the place where he is.

Debits – 2.52, .22, 1.00

Sunday, March 18

A warm and delightful morning. After breakfast we took a walk over the snow to see the Ford place where Horace Dunham will move in a few days. As we awoke this morning the crows were cawing merrily. For our walk this morning we started about a quarter before nine o'clock and we went as far as the road that led to the Ford place, and took a view of the landscape north and northwest looking over our old place and the school house hill where I had passed every one of my school days. The look was extremely pleasant though the walk was a little tiresome. The blue birds were singing very musically and the peculiar warbling is very pleasant, especially on so pleasant a morning.

Monday, March 19

A cool morning but not so cold as last Saturday and I hope the thermometer will keep above zero till next winter. Forty nine days below zero is quite a number for one winter. Horace Dunham called and is at work on the road to his house. Fred Doton called and was at the depot to see the cattle that were driven in for the market. Our wood-sawer is here and works slow and well. I paid him a dollar at night. Was very dull and sleepy in the evening but would not allow myself to sleep much in that time. Received an Almanac from R.A. Perkins in the morning and in the afternoon I got the Weather Review and a railroad book from Chicago.

Debits – 1.00

Tuesday, March 20

A warm morning; Ther. 30 degrees at 7 o'clock, and this seems some more like spring though the night was stormy with hail, rain and snow. Three inches of snow and hail making 0.57 of an inch of water. But it hardly needed shoveling, and I have let it remain and it has melted some. I had a letter from Edward Doton of Springfield, Mass. and one from Robert Perkins of the same place. He wants my weather touches and I must let him have them for his scrap book. My old wood-sawer has worked here again, and I paid him another dollar.

Debits – 1.00

Wednesday, March 21

Thermometer just at zero, and surely that is cold enough. I went to the post office to mail some letters and papers, and near the middle of the day I went again and called on Dr. Logan. He made some changes about my habits with regard to what he had first directed. Mrs. Dunham and Carlie came in the forenoon and Horace came soon after noon, and they went home towards night.

Thursday, March 22

I wrote a little sketch of the weather and went with it to the "Standard." The weather is fine but cold and some windy. I met Charles Vaughan and he returned eleven registers and paid me \$1.45 for what he sold. I paid the wood-sawer one dollar and I paid 10 cts for stamps. Have letters and papers frequently from our friend R.A. Perkins and he is fully aroused in keeping a scrap book.

Credits - \$1.45

Debits – 1.00, .10

Friday, March 23

Cold! Cold!! Ther. minus 11.4 degrees and the mean temperature of the 22 days of the month is 16.1 degrees that is colder than the cold march of 1872. Horace Dunham has been moving today and they are now in their new place and I hope are pleasantly situated. Mrs. D. called to see if they were comfortable. I

got two papers at the Standard office and sent one to Mrs. Gookin at Franklin and we ought to write to them. Our harsh March winds are now fairly established for the season and we may expect them nearly through the month of April.

Saturday, March 24

Cold again. Minus 7 sometime in the night but the temperature soon began to rise. Carlie Dunham staid here last night leaving their house alone; and she left early this morning. These cruel March winds are out again today. I went early to the post office. Called on H.S. Dana and left with him the amended report in the Harlow estate. Mrs. Emery (Christiane Page) called on us this forenoon. The woodsawer finished his work and I paid him the balance 1.50 and he has probably finished his work for me. It seems strange that a man cannot learn that it is best to be honest. Received of Paul as balance 8 cts and long ago paid White 10 cts for a paper.

Credits - .08

Debits - 1.50, .10

Sunday, March 25

This is Easter Sunday, the day on which Christian churches commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a noted day among the Episcopalians though I should hardly note it from anything extra being done here. The day opened with beauty, so clear and pleasant, though the snow was somewhat deep. The air has been clear through the day and has been pleasant throughout excepting the northwest wind that is so peculiar at this season of the year. We have been almost entirely alone through the day and have rested very much. Lizzie Bridge called in the early evening and had a pleasant talk about her lonely situation. She received but little of her father's estate and, as I have understood, did not present a claim against the estate for services long rendered. The mean temperature of the first 24 days in March was 15.96 degrees above zero, which is 0.84 degrees lower than the mean of the month in 1872

Monday, March 26

Arose early finding a pleasant morning though not perfectly clear. We are not exempt from some of the unpleasant calls from those who have not much to do by way of elevating mankind. Mrs. Maxham called and perhaps does as well as she knows how, but is not her manner inexcusable? I sent a letter to Franklin and a letter and paper to Robert. Mortimer called in the afternoon and may bring some wood tomorrow or as soon as the road is sufficiently hard. I hope he will bring two or three more cords to make our supply sufficient for the year. Paid postage 6 cts.

Debits - .06

Tuesday, March 27

Weather warmer but cloudy and cool while the snow lies so deep on the ground. Went to the post office and received a letter from Three Rivers P.Q. from Mrs. Quincy Page who is now in deep trouble for her husband cannot be found. She wishes me to write to her and give her some advice. This I cannot do till I know more of them than I do now. Paid White 5 cts for a Darwin picture.

Debits - .05

Wednesday, March 28

Our rainstorm changed to snow sometime in the night and there was about one inch and a quarter this morning but the water was 0.32 of an inch. I went to the post office early in the forenoon and the walking was very bad. The snow, water and mud were common and free. I staid in my room nearly all the rest of the day. Calls were numerous and some of them were very pleasant. I received the Scientific Directory for 1882 & 1883, and I think it an improvement on those that have come before.

Thursday, March 29

A very bright and clear morning, and after breakfast I went to Mr. Billings' barn on the crust to make some measurements that were not fully taken last fall. I then worked at my table and did some work at drawing. Mortimer drew two cords of wood or nearly a cord and a half. Abbie came down from Pomfret but the

sleighing is bad and will soon be gone entirely. Paid Jones 30 cts for goods. The day has been fine and pleasant but is cool towards night.

Debits - .30

Friday, March 30

Another cool morning but not the coldest. Ther. reg. 3.5 degrees, and the crust bears so that the children can slide. I went to the post office, mailed a letter to Mrs. J.Q. Page of Three Rivers Prov. Quebec in reply to one received from her a few days ago. I paid Richmond & Co. 40 cts for bay rum & soap and paid Woodbury 25 cts for paper. I worked on the drawing a short time in the forenoon. Mr. & Mrs. H. Dunham went to Pomfret in the forenoon. The weather is cloudy and the wind easterly making the day rather dull for mental work. But the air improved before night and the clouds have nearly all disappeared. There was a solar halo before the sun rose above the hill and has continued much of the day.

Debits - .40, .25

Saturday, March 31

A cool morning, the ther. falling in the night to 4 degrees, and there was a cloudless sky. This morning I sent \$2.50 by a money order to S.E. Cassino & Co. paying at post office 11 cts. Have spent the greater part of the day at my drawing table, and I have worked with considerable ease. The snow is going slowly for the nights are cold. Our very excellent friend Chauncey Richardson Esq. called this forenoon on some matters of early history. Joanna came in the afternoon and will stay a day or two.

Debits - 2.50, .11

Sunday, April 1

The night was cold, Ther. 0.4 degrees above zero, and the snow is very firm, will in places bear oxen. We took a walk on the crust to Horace Dunham's and had a pleasant walk and a pleasant call. We have read and rested much through the day, and this evening I have worked on the readings of the barometer in March. The mean barometer will not probably be so far from the normal as the temperature has proved to be. Sister Joanna has remained here through the day and this evening she and Mrs. D. have called on Miss Richmond. This is a cold time for the first of April, but we have in the last sixteen years had the thermometer below zero, but it is some years very warm even if cold after it. Brought forward 11.51.

Monday, April 2

Thermometer registered only 2 degrees above zero. Dunbar came to saw wood and I paid him one dollar and I paid 10 cts for post office box. Mortimer called for sister Joanna and she went home in the forenoon. Polk came from Pomfret on the court case that they are about settling up for a final adjustment. We received a letter from Franklin. Edwin Page called this morning. He has become a very nice young man and is somewhat intelligent. Paid Richmond 20 cts for meat.

Debits - 1.00, .10, .20

Tuesday, April 3

The crust was hard this morning and I wished to make some measurements around the garden and the barns below the road. But I did not find any one to help me. In the afternoon I went to the probate office to draw some plans of the homestead in the Harlow estate. One of the plans was in the probate records where it must remain till the books decay. Mrs. Marcy came from Taftsville and was about the village till the afternoon train went out. The first wagons seen in use this spring. Mr. Billings went on wheels to Bridgewater with his "stage load" of passengers.

Wednesday, April 4

Got this bottle of "Stephens Blue Black Writing Fluid," paid 20 cts for a small bottle (1/8 qt.) to try. I have some specimens now where I used Stephens Ink about forty years ago, and the writing is still bright. Paid Mr. Russell 50 cts for Abram Dunbar for his work on our wood, and he is to do some more splitting. I spent the day on the plan drawing and am now drawing the roads and water pipes through the sugar

place and the road to Pogue Hole. How bright the sun light is, and it makes darkness visible when we go into the house.

Debits - .20, .50

Thursday, April 5

It began to rain at five o'clock this morning, and the storm has continued rather slightly through the day. I spent the day on meteorological work. The month of March proves to have been one of the three coldest of that month in the sixteen years, and the sudden changes have been frequent.

Friday, April 6

"Fast Day," by Gov. Burdett's appointment; and the snow is now two feet deep in the open fields. Wagons have been running for the past three days, and now the sleighs run with difficulty. I spent the greater part of the day on the meteorology for March and have finished all the difficult part of the work in the evening. Polk came from Pomfret on foot as the passing is too bad for horses to travel. I walked twice to the post office and it is seldom that we find more unpleasant walking. The air was clear in the evening and Polk came in quite early in the evening and did not attend the Masonic supper at the hotel.

Saturday, April 7

Found the snow falling rapidly, and it continued till some more than three inches had fallen. We kept very busily about our work through the day, and am sure we have enough to do. Paid White for Silliman's 48 cts and 2 cts to Richmond. Paid Mr. Hewitt 6 cts for milk. Polk left for home in the storm, finding a chance to ride to South Pomfret.

Debits - .50, .06

Sunday, April 8

Snow falling rapidly this morning, but 'tis too warm for much to fall. About three fourths of an inch fell before it fully cleared away. The snow that fell was equal half a tenth of water. I kept very busy through the forenoon fitting the weather reports and this afternoon Mrs. D. is copying the tabular work. Mrs. Rosina Winslow called and we had a pleasant chat. She has a good share of common sense and is bright and sprightly, and we might say is alive to the business of the world. The afternoon is very clear and is some cooler but not cold. We have a frequent caller that is willing to take up time to no profit to us, but Mrs. M. does not know that she hinders those who have more sensible and profitable work than she has. I wish she could learn but 'tis too late for that. It is now nearly five o'clock and how pleasant the afternoon is! We are here alone now.

Monday, April 9

Warmer, but some crust this morning. I expected to do some surveying on the crust but failed of having help. Mrs. D. is trying a new soap for washing and gets some tired, for no soap or implement can save the labor of the job of Mondays washing. Paid 18 cts for a tin pail and 6 cts for milk. Carlie Dunham begins her work in Damon's shop this morning and we shall see her more often than usual. We spent much of the day in writing on the meteorological report; and on an article for the "Standard," and I went twice to the Post office. The evening is warm and pleasant.

Debits - .24

Tuesday, April 10

A fine warm spring morning, and I mailed our meteorological report. Got a letter from Herman Dunham and a specimen of the Maine roofing slate. We must write to Herman soon as our correspondence has been rather dull and letters somewhat scattered. He will be at home some this summer during the summer vacation. This has been our warmest day this spring, thermometer 65 or more, and the snow has melted away rapidly. The river must be rising though not yet very high. Mrs. Winslow called in the afternoon, and Mrs. Southgate and Mrs. Blanchard called towards night.

Wednesday, April 11

Have been writing much of the time today, copying the meteorological reports into my record books, and I have now all the reports copied up to the present time, i.e., to the end of the month of March. I wrote a long letter to our cousin Sarah Doton Goldsmith of Lowell, Mass. She is very sorely afflicted with rheumatism, and has been for five months or more. She is a very intelligent woman, is a public speaker at times on temperance and kindred subjects. I paid at Standard office 5 cts for paper.

Debits - .05

Thursday, April 12

Very foggy during the night and it continued so till morning. The day has been spring-like and we have tried to work. I paid Jerome Taylor one dollar for a right to make a washing soap. I took from the safe 20 dollars to pay an insurance assessment of \$12.06 and I paid postage, etc. 16 plus 3 cents. I took eight papers from the Standard office and shall send them to friends abroad. Today I heard from Mr. Safford by Mr. Wilder the teller at the bank who met Mrs. Safford a few days ago.

Credits – 20.00

Debits – 1.00, 12.06, .19

Friday, April 13

The rain ended this morning and the day has been very fine. I went to the Post Office and mailed papers to R.A. Perkins, Mrs. Gookin, Mrs. Bates and to Mrs. Goldsmith. Paid 3 cts postage. We paid 33 cts for handkerchiefs. An agent for the Leader called here in the forenoon and we had a short chat, but it was about dinner time and he was obliged to leave. I ought to have bought the Life of Dr. Chapin, but we had no time to think of it.

Debits - .03, .33

Saturday, April 14

This is a beautiful April morning and the air seems filled with the songs of the birds. The cock that "crows in the morn" crowed nearly half the night for the air was so pure and good that he could not help it. His voice was clear and shrill. The day has been warm, even warm for April. Some years April is a very warm month. Polk came down from Pomfret and returned soon after noon. His father is nearly as well as he was one year ago, though feeble. I am very sorry that Abbie has taken a school, though it is her life to teach. Mortimer called and said the folks there are unwell with colds. I spent the forenoon at my drawing table and in the afternoon cleared snow from the barn and hen yard.

Sunday, April 15

Another beautiful spring morning, and after breakfast we took a walk to Horace Dunham's. They are now so near that it is but a short walk, and the prospect from there is pleasant and rich. The view of our old homestead is almost perfect, and it takes in the whole valley. The school house a very sacred one to me for it is the only one in which I ever attended school. It is true that I never spent any time as a scholar in any other. So I hold it in sacred remembrance. After we came home we took a walk in the garden, and even the hens enjoy the springlike day, but they scratch the garden and the shrubbery too much. I wrote a long letter to Edward Doton of Springfield, Mass. He wrote to us about four weeks ago. I had not found time to give him any reply. In the afternoon Mrs. Russell called, and we had a call from our old caller, the same spoken of one week ago. This has been the warmest day this spring, the thermometer indicating 72 degrees in the afternoon. But the barometer has been falling through the day.

Monday, April 16

Another beautiful April morning tho not so bright as the past two days. I spent much of the forenoon in clearing the snow from the hen yard and in putting up and replacing the fence that was removed last fall. I went to the Post Office in the afternoon. Took a coupon to the Bank and got \$17.50 and I then paid interest to Savings Bank \$15.12 and I paid postage 3 cts and mailed letter to Edward Doton of Springfield, Mass. Sent chair to Mr. Fisher's to be repaired and I called there and had a pleasant chat. In

the evening Mrs. D. was called to see a choice flower that Mrs. Fisher has reared. Slightly rainy this evening.

Credits – 17.50
Debits – 15.12, .03

Tuesday, April 17

A cloudy morning but warm, and the snow is leaving rapidly. I went to the Town Clerk's office to examine records of the Thompson farm or the Pratt lot on Pomfret line. The oldest deed was from Benj. Emmons to James Sanderson, Vol. 1st page 5. I met Eben Bridge and he is to assist me in surveying this afternoon. He came before one o'clock and we went to the Billings garden and took the bearing and distance from the S.E. corner of the garden house to the N.W. corner of the Myers orchard, S. 73 degrees W., 35 rods 5 inches. We also tested the place of the hydrant near the garden road and found my plot all right. We detected an error in a measure of the barn of nine links in the length of the "Is" to the barn. This error cost me much labor.

Wednesday, April 18

The morning was pleasant and at nine o'clock Eben Bridge came and we started to make a survey of the Pratt place. Went to the S.W. corner and took all the measures that we needed there and worked toward the easterly end of the lot. We finished the whole about three o'clock p.m. and found ourselves very tired. But how easy 'tis to get rested when once we get lame and jaded.

Thursday, April 19

A cooler morning. I rested well through the night though jaded when I got home last night; and am wholly indebted to the kind care that I get at home for the rest I got. I saw Mr. Middleton this morning and he is getting ready to move to Proctorsville where he is engaged to work. We are sorry to lose him. In the afternoon Eben Bridge went with me to finish some measurements at the Pratt place. The afternoon was very fine. It was cloudy and very comfortable and we had good success in taking all the necessary measures. Sent two dollars to "The Landmark."

Debits – 2.00

Friday, April 20

Warm and rainy but the storm abated before eleven o'clock. Got some papers from the Standard office and mailed one copy to R.A. Perkins and one to Mrs. Gookin. I called on my friend H.S. Dana, and had a long talk with him on various literary and historical matters, and did not leave him till very nearly noon. My friend Samuel Wyatt called in the afternoon and I laid my work aside and we called up all the old matters of twenty years ago or more. He is a cousin of my late friend Joseph P. Wyatt who was with me on the Northern Railroad in 1847. Paid Billings 2 dollars for flour. Paid 6 cts for lemons.

Debits – 2.00, .06

Saturday, April 21

A most beautiful morning with S.W. wind, but it changed to N.W. at 7 o'clock and the weather soon became cooler. I called again on my friend H.S. Dana but did not prolong our talk as I did yesterday, but left half an hour earlier. Abbie came down from Pomfret about two o'clock. She is to teach in the Bruce district as we used to call it, and will begin two weeks from next Monday. The afternoon is raw and cold, and it continued so till night. Abbie left for home about six o'clock. Soon after she left we went to Horace Dunham's and came home in the early evening.

Sunday, April 22

Northwest wind and clear in the morning, but clouds soon began to form so that before noon there was much appearance of rain. The clouds increased till night when it appeared like clearing away. But the air has been cool and damp, and some might call it an unpleasant day. We have been out but little as the books and mental work claim our attention. Have attended to our meteorological duties; have worked the corrections up nearly to the present time. We find an excellent sermon in the last Gospel Banner from the

text, "If a man die, shall he live again?" Job 14: 14 by Rev. Amory Battles, Orono, Maine Mar 4th 1883. A truly valuable sermon. We have had but few calls today, for there is some sickness in the place and many are busy in taking care of them. The day has been cool for an April day and if this continues it will be a cool April. From the 12th to the 20th this month has been warm, but the weather since has been cooler.

Monday, April 23

The morning is cool and the wind is changing from S.W. to N. or N.W. I worked much of the day on the plan of the Pratt place, bought by Mr. Billings. Eben Bridge called this morning and I paid him two dollars for his assistance on the surveys. He starts this morning for St. Albans thinking of getting into a machine shop, and I hope he will find a place and one that will be satisfactory to him and to his employer. Mrs. Southgate called in the evening. I spent the evening on the reductions of the barometer.

Debits – 2.00

Tuesday, April 24

Another cool morning and the temperature seems to be falling. It began to snow about ten o'clock and some of the time the air seemed filled with the flakes of snow but it has not accumulated on the ground. I have spent the greater part of the day on the survey and plan of the Pratt place. Mailed letter to Robert in the forenoon, paid 9 cts postage and five cents for pens. I began to rake the door-yard and find it a severe job to do it justice for the old grass was long and thick.

Debits - .14

Wednesday, April 25

The ground covered with snow, about one inch has fallen, and it lies on the Pomfret hills almost like winter. I wrote a letter on Capt. George A. Bailey's pension and went with it to Mrs. Baileys and got a letter from her attorney which I took to see what is required for her to show to get her name restored to the pension roll. I called on Mr. White to see about the Nautical Almanac. I spent the greater part of the day on the plans and surveys for Mr. Billings. Began the computation of the Pratt place, and I find some work in getting the contents of these surveys of many sides. Mrs. D. went to see her sister Caroline in the afternoon and came home in the early evening.

Thursday, April 26

Cool as usual this morning and if this weather continues through the month we shall find it a cold month for April. But the middle of the day has been warm and I worked some in the garden, tho only to get ready to plant some currant bushes that we are expecting now daily. I wrote a letter for Mrs. Bailey to send to her attorney at Washington on account of the pension due for the service of her son Capt. George A. Bailey. I believe Henry Hewitt died this forenoon and will be buried Saturday at 2 o'clock p.m. His father was Henry Hewitt and familiarly known as Esquire Hewitt. Henry Hewitt died at eleven o'clock this a.m.

Friday, April 27

This morning I computed the interest on an example given to the teachers at an examination in this town last Saturday, and found that some young lady had done it correctly. Received a card from Charles Vaughan bearing the news of the death of my long tried and honorable friend and associate Henry Hewitt of Pomfret. And so these good old families are passing away. This is a cool day and we rode to Taftsville on the train and returned at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Winslow called soon after we arrived home, and the calls were constant till night. Saw colt's-foot blossoms, the first of the wild flowers that I had seen.

Saturday, April 28

The closing day of the week and the funeral of my friend Henry Hewitt will be attended this afternoon at Pomfret. I hope it will be at the Unitarian Church, now Town Hall, for that is the church that he labored so hard and did so much to build. I removed the fence that ran from the S.E. corner of the house to the street. Mortimer and Joanna came down from Pomfret in the afternoon to see Dr. Logan. Brother Spencer called to send a money order to the New England Farmer. He sent \$2.65 for one year as I suppose. He had not been here for a long time. I am afraid his life is not pleasant as it should be at home, but still I do not know.

Sunday, April 29

The morning was cool and we did not start very early. The day was spent at my table in reading and writing for I cannot read as I should wish, for my brain will not allow it. My work is mostly of a scientific nature and I hope some good may come of it. In the afternoon we walked up to Horace Dunham's expecting to stay only about ten minutes but could not get away till night. The prospect from his place is most truly beautiful. The southerly part of Pomfret and the northeasterly part of Bridgewater are distinctly before you, and at this season of the year or a little later those sections are seen in their beauty. Our old homestead is in full view and I hope sometime to have the view taken, the center of the picture being the school house in which I spent all of my school days. I began there when only about four years old, and I went almost every term till I was nearly 18 when I began to teach, and I can seem to place myself there at any stage of my attendance and see the school and the scholars as they were at the time.

Monday, April 30

A cold morning, ice on vessels of water more than an eighth of an inch in thickness. Spent nearly two hours in raking the door yard, then began to work on the plans of our surveys. Had some tiresome calls in the forenoon. In the afternoon Polk and Abbie came from Pomfret and were here till nearly night. Abbie left her watch with me and 25 cts to pay for a crystal. In the evening wrote a letter to friends at Franklin.

Credits - .25

Tuesday, May 1

Rose early and removed the banking from the house, east side. Went to Mr. White's bookstore and was glad to find the Nautical Almanac for 1884, one that I ordered from London a long time ago. Paid Mr. White \$1.25 for the Almanac, and I came home and began to prepare the Phases of the Moon. I followed this till I had gone through the year. I rejoice to be at this work of astronomical matters. Took off the false windows. Balance 11.24.

Debits - 1.25

Wednesday, May 2

This is a busy and broken day. I worked in the door-yard a few hours in the morning and then went to my table. Mattie Emery came in the morning and was called for soon after noon. Mrs. Dunham came to go to the Billings green house. Mrs. Elvira Washburn came in the forenoon. In the afternoon I got a letter and a pamphlet from Prof. Safford of Williams College Williamstown, Mass, and one from Dr. William Page of Danville, Prov. Quebec. Mr. Safford's letter was very interesting as a scientific letter, and the paper touched on some of the points that I had thought much upon.

Thursday, May 3

This is the most like May of any day we have seen this spring, and I went into the garden and began the spring work, and the spring is not late at all. After ten o'clock I began to work on the Almanac, and I think that such must be my method or habit. We are now much driven about the meteorological report but it is nearly copied. Paid Mr. Fisher for mending chair \$2.85 and the barber 20 cts. Slack 15 & postage 2 cts.

Friday, May 4

I did not rise till nearly six o'clock this morning, and we soon began our work. The meteorology for April is now nearly finished and we must keep our almanac work going. We have spent some time in the garden. Mr. Richmond is clearing the border of his garden by the line fence, and that hedge row is gone.

Saturday, May 5

A refreshing nights rest for the air was pure and good through the night. I have put my time today to finishing the meteorological reports; one for the War Department and one for the Standard. Got the proof of the Standard article tonight and have looked it over. The full report is finished and will be ready to mark early next Monday. Horace and Carlie went to Pomfret to Mr. Chamberlin's. I paid Richmond 30 cts for meat. Mr. Williams of Hartland called about surveying a road line on the Barron hill. It began to rain about one o'clock in the afternoon, and continued till night.

Debits .30

Sunday, May 6

It rained very freely at three o'clock this morning and the rain gauge read at 7 this morning 0.86 inch a part of which fell yesterday. I have been resting very well this forenoon and soon after noon Horace Dunham came with my transit that he had yesterday at Pomfret on a road survey. It is becoming cooler and the wind is now from the North. The afternoon is more pleasant. Horace Dunham called with my transit and made a pleasant chat and before night we walked up there, and in the evening he called with the rest of my instruments. I hoped that he could go tomorrow and do the work for the Selectmen of Hartland, but his work will not permit it. This left me in a study whether to write to them that I could not come, or putting the work off till Wednesday or to refuse to go. So I left it for the night hoping that health in the morning would prompt me to go.

Monday, May 7

Rested well through the night and this morning resolved to try the surveying. Got a horse of Mr. French and Mrs. D. and self started, wife for Taftsville and I for the work on the Barron Hill. I had a very severe days work of leveling and studying grades and routes. There is always more or less of contention about laying out or changing roads and this case was not an exception. This adds much to the perplexity of the work. But I got the line of levels through and I left for home about a quarter before six o'clock; called at Taftsville; took a good cup of tea and we rode home before dark.

Tuesday, May 8

Was very tired last night; but rested well and am feeling well today though some lame. Our currant and rose bush man came from Hartford and I paid him two dollars. The shrubs appear very well so I hope for the best with them. We set them out this afternoon, two of the currant bushes at the north end of the row and four of them next north of the peonies. We set the rose bush at the east end of the row of rose bushes near the alley. Paid 5 cts for postal cards. Mr. Samuel Wyatt called in the forenoon, and I let him have two Vermont registers, one for himself and one for his daughter Mary.

Debits – 2.00, .05

Wednesday, May 9

Rose early in the morning and began the garden work. Trimmed the rose bushes and prepared the ground for mulching them. I went to the post office and paid 9 cts for stamps. Sent a letter to Edward Doton of Springfield. Paid Mr. White 86 cts for Sillimans and the Princeton. Mr. Samuel Wyatt called and I sent a Register to Charley who lives near him. In the afternoon I went to the cemetery to take some levels, etc. for Mr. McKenzie who is to move his monument. I could wish to have those lots level but they cannot well be made so, for the main avenue slopes to the north.

Debits – .09, .86

Thursday, May 10

A thunder storm near for it was heard about four o'clock this morning, and I have since heard that a barn was struck in Barnard. This is rather early in the season for such electrical displays. I went in the forenoon to set up the south line of Pleasant street by where the park is to be made, and I moved the point of the junction of lines of the two streets seven inches. I left this and began again on the Almanac and worked at it till late in the afternoon. Paid Barnes 15 cts; post office 10 cts; Paul 5 cts.

Debits - .30

Friday, May 11

It was raining this morning at three o'clock but it broke away soon after day-light. I worked in the garden a short time and then began on the almanac and during the day I finished the column of aspects. Polk came down from Pomfret and wants me to make a survey of their farm, that is, the part belonging to Dennis' estate and we must do it next week, Monday or Tuesday. I mailed four papers this morning and sent one to Mr. Chamberlin.

Saturday, May 12

I went in the morning to set stakes for the east entrance to the Tribou Park. Met Mr. Billings and he spoke of the Williams lot and the disposition to be made of it. A public library is what would meet the approval of Norman Williams' son, if he could now speak for himself. In the afternoon I went to fix the north line of Mr. Billings' Richmond farm, or that part of the town line. This was not a difficult matter but it was unpleasant for the S.W. corner of the Wyatt or Church lot has been changed somewhat, that is, moved to the south about six feet, but the old corner or place is there still.

Sunday, May 13

It is seldom that I pass a day without writing.

Monday, May 14

In the morning I went for Mr. Lockwood to give levels about the Williams lot and town hall, and at about ten o'clock we started for Pomfret. In the afternoon we began to run the north lot west of the garden and barn. We ran the lines about that lot and the range line across it. Mr. Cephas Harding assisted in the chaining. We found Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin rather low, Mr. C. lower than we expected. There are signs of rain and the clouds are gathering up fast.

Tuesday, May 15

It began to rain last evening and continued through the forenoon, or till ten or eleven o'clock. We went out in the forenoon and ran the west part of the line south of the Burns road, and in the afternoon we ran the county road and finished that part of the survey. In the evening we computed the north lot and found that it fell short from the former estimate from 28 to 25 acres and 143 rods. We could not go home tonight and tried to quiet ourselves till tomorrow. Paid Vaughan for rubbers 85 cents.

Debits - .85

Wednesday, May 16

We came home this forenoon and found things all quiet at our very pleasant place. It is home indeed. I immediately went to work on the plan of our surveys, and kept the work till night. We had numerous calls in the afternoon. Mrs. Day, Mrs. Fisher, Lizzie Bridge and Miss Richmond. I did all I could toward fitting the computations of the Chamberlin surveys, but could not finish them. Ferris Vaughan kept my meteorological matters very correctly in our absence.

Thursday, May 17

Mr. Montague called for me to go to the west part of the town to survey a road that they had proposed to lay out. Went up the river, crossed at the Lincoln bridge and went up to Mrs. Minor's place, and then explored the road line up to the Bridgewater or Long Hill road, and then made a survey through a swamp, the R.R. surveyors having taken the only ridge line on that side of the river. Came home just before night and after supper we computed the south lot of Mr. Chamberlin's land and found it to hold out all that we had estimated. Paid Slack 12 cts for figs.

Debits - .12

Friday, May 18

I fitted Mr. Chamberlin's plan and went with it to Mr. Paul's office and to Mr. French's office. Came home and began to work in the garden. Planted our first potatoes, and we call this the first real summer day, but the forest foliage is putting out fast. The commissioners were to meet at Mr. Chamberlin's today to examine the farm and see if it could be divided and to divide it as they themselves were empowered to do it. I paid 15 cts to Woodruff for food for the hens.

Debits - .15

Saturday, May 19

Began early in the garden and have planted our first installment of lettuce, as we wish to have it coming fresh through the season. Sister Joanna came in the afternoon and met Miss Bridge and others. Our

garden at this season has a great attraction for all lovers of the finest of the flowers. I went upstreet in the afternoon and paid 8 cts to Slack for lemons.

Debits - .08

Sunday, May 20

Our walk last evening was some unusual for us, but we rested well through the night. This morning we resolved to rest some today if possible, and we remained at home quietly with but little reading to attend to. I took a little time, however, to work some of the corrections to the temperature as we have taken it this month. The barometer has been falling rapidly since last night, and now at 3½ o'clock, there is much appearance of showers, and a good rain is much needed. The surface of the ground is dry and almost parched from the drying wind of the last few days.

Debits - .65

Monday, May 21

Began in the garden early in the morning and prepared the pansy bed and Mrs. D. arranged the different varieties as she wished. I worked on the almanac through the middle of the day, and in the afternoon I wheeled wood into the woodhouse using Mr. Southgate's wheelbarrow that has a high wheel. The forenoon was beautiful and summer like, but soon after one o'clock the wind came to the northwest and was cold. A very sudden change. We drove our work very rapidly, the garden, the almanac and the wood moving, and of course are both very tired tonight.

Tuesday, May 22

We were greeted in the night with that pleasant sound on the roof of the house, the falling rain. That was always a pleasant sound in our childhood days and it has not lost its soft and soothing sweetness with a slight touch of gentle melancholy. Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Southgate met Mr. Russell at the park and they made some changes, but I hardly know what they are. Mr. McKenzie called to have me measure the length of line around the park as he goes to Boston next Thursday and will contract for the iron fence.

Wednesday, May 23

My work is now divided up between the almanac, the Park, the surveys and the garden; and this morning I worked at my table for a time and then went into the garden and spent nearly all the forenoon in fitting beds and clearing the ground. Mr. McKenzie called and he spoke of his visit to Philadelphia and of his visit at the Baldwin Locomotive Works. He will take the charge of the building of the "Williams Library" that will be put up this summer.

Thursday, May 24

Was called up early this morning to speak with Mr. Foster about the lines of the Park, and afterwards I went with Mr. Russell and took the measures anew for Mr. McKenzie to take to Manchester to order the posts and rails. Went into the garden and spent much of the forenoon on the ground for potatoes. Polk came from Pomfret and left for home about half past three o'clock. There was some rain last night and light showers in the afternoon. Henry Greene is using my transit this afternoon around the Williams lot.

Friday, May 25

Was much hurried with my almanac for 1884 and much of it is now ready to copy. I finished planting the first piece of potatoes, the beauty of Hebron instead of early rose. The season is late though it seemed at first so early. In the afternoon I had Abram Dunbar assist me in wheeling the manure from the hen yard and he did it very thoroughly. We worked in the garden till dark. Paid Dunbar 25 cts for work and 25 for future work. Fitted the west chamber window to open at the top and find it makes the air much clearer.

Debits - .50

Saturday, May 26

Arose early this morning to clear the back buildings and had very good success in it, and then cleared the ground behind the shed and Mrs. D. planted and sowed the ground to screen the buildings. The day was

very warm and I copied the work on the almanac. Paid Paul 6 cents to balance on groceries. Continued the almanac work till the air was a little cooler, then went into the garden. There are strong appearances of rain and I began to put wood into the shed, but night overtook me. Fixed the east chamber window for opening at the top and found the air much more pure. Paid for geranium 7 cents.

Debits - .06, .07

Sunday, May 27

Rested well through the night for the air in our room was much more pure than usual. There are some signs of rain and the barometer shows a lower pressure, the reading before corrections being below 29 inches, and seems to be still falling. I have tried to rest myself today though I have copied much of the almanac matter into the calendar manuscript pages. In the afternoon we went to the bank of the river and we set some firm bouquet plants in the shade near the elm tree on our lot near the river. Late in the afternoon Mr. Abbott called and proposed to carry me to Barnard tomorrow to do the surveying for Mr. A.C. Ellis who called on me one week ago or more. I have a dread of such jobs but can do them and ought to do them.

Monday, May 28

I arose very soon after four o'clock to be in readiness to go to Barnard if called for. I went into the garden and spread the manure to have it ready if anyone can plow it. Saw Mr. Kent and I think he will plow it today. Was called for to go to Barnard and we had a pleasant ride of a little more than two hours. The work was along the easterly of the creek that runs by the old Doton saw mill of long ago. Had very good success and made the line as it seems to me right and all are satisfied I think. Mr. Ellis paid me five dollars for my work and brought me home. I got home about seven o'clock, and Abbie came and took supper with us.

Credits – 5.00

Tuesday, May 29

Rested well last night for I was taken care of when I came home jaded out.

Wednesday, May 30

This is decoration day and is now regarded as a holy day; but I spent all the forenoon in the garden. The beds for vegetables were all ready for raking and we sowed the beets, parsnips and vegetable oysters, and it is now time that all the garden was planted. Sister Abigail came from Pomfret in the forenoon. In the afternoon Benjn. Southgate went with me to run a line of road., etc. from the Pratt place to the Pratt bridge, and beginning at the south corner of the highway we ran as far as the easterly side of Mrs. Moore's lot and left it for the night.

Thursday, May 31

A pleasant rain through the night and this morning.

Friday, June 1

A beautiful morning and the Dunbars came to plant my garden and to put the wood in the shed. They worked through the day and I paid them one dollar and a half and his father half a dollar, and he will come tomorrow to assist in finishing the planting. We paid for handkerchief 20 cents. Paid for milk for last month 90, and for milk last month 57 not accounted for. Balance brought forward 6.44.

Debits – 1.50, .50, .20, .90, .57

Saturday, June 2

Dunbar came this forenoon to finish the planting and I paid him one dollar. Took 20 dollars from the safe and paid Life insurance assessment \$12.06. Fee to the post office 10 cts, and we paid 27 cts for articles to send to Franklin.

Credits – 20.00

Debits – 1.00, 12.06, .10, .27

Sunday, June 3

The year 1883 is nearly half gone, and yet it seems hardly begun. We resolved to treat this as a day of rest and have begun it so this morning, for we did not rise till the sun shined in our room. I cannot say we have read anything very deep or valuable, neither have we read what is light or unworthy. In the afternoon we went to Horace Dunham's and had a feast in the view from his house over the village and the south part of Pomfret, Barnard and Bridgewater. What a beautiful view of our old home, the house of my Father and Mother, and I could say with Watts, I think it was Watts,

"So when the weary traveler gains
The height of the commanding hill
His heart reveres as o'er the plains
He views his home, though distant still."

The afternoon and evening were very beautiful.

Monday, June 4

Rose early this morning and went into the garden, Mrs. D. to setting out her geraniums and I in clearing the alleys and marking out the beds. It began to rain at six o'clock and continued till nearly eleven. I finished copying the moon rising and setting and southing and hope to finish the almanac for next year in a few days. The afternoon was most fearfully hot the thermometer reaching 81 or more above zero. Paid 10 cts for feed for the hens. Late in the afternoon we planted some potatoes in drills at the north end of the garden and set out tomatoes near them.

Debits - .10

Tuesday, June 5

Went into the garden and worked with the eight chickens again this morning, for they come about as early as I can get there.

Wednesday, June 6

A very warm morning and it continued so through the day. The thermometer rose to above 90 degrees. In the forenoon an agent for selling organs etc. called and we had a very nice chat on weather reports, etc. Mr. McKenzie called to have me go to the Williams lot to test some of the earth work and found that Mr. Lockwood had carried the work as how the nature of the soil required and probably as deep as the plan of the building requires. I spent much of the afternoon in the Williams lot but in the forenoon I spent much of the time in repairing trunk lock and trunk for Mrs. Dunham to have to take in her trip to Franklin. We paid the Misses McCollum \$3.08. Paid Woodruff 40 cts for hen feed.

Debits – 3.08, 40

Thursday, June 7

Was called in the morning to go to the Williams lot. Met Mr. Guernsey the contractor to build the Norman Williams Library Building, a most rich and valuable gift from Edward Williams of the "Baldwin Locomotive Works" of the city of Philadelphia.

Friday, June 8

Went again to the Williams lot and worked there nearly through the day. We set off the right angles to all the breaks and projections to the outlines of the buildings.

Saturday, June 9

Rested well for the air in our room is much better than it was before we let the windows down at the top. Mr. Williamson called in the morning to have me go to his school house and examine the lines of his school house lot. Mrs. Marcy called and we paid her seventy five cents for potatoes. Addison Darling

called in the afternoon, and it was pleasant to see him for he was one of our friends of early years, and an old school mate.

Debits - .75

Sunday, June 10

The night was not extremely warm though these are warm days. Arose somewhat early for a day of rest and study. There are a multitude of chores to be done, even here where one might suppose there was nothing to do. We are some disappointed in not having a call from Abbie yesterday or today and have not heard from the folks there for some time. Sister Electa called about noon having attended church at the brick house, and Mr. Leach came a few minutes after. They had not been here for a long time, and we had not been to the old place since last Christmas day. Carlie Dunham called in the forenoon. Her mother is now on a visit to Franklin, N.H. and we hope she will have a pleasant and happy meeting with her sister.

Monday, June 11

A heavy thunder shower at three o'clock in the morning, awaking us from a sound sleep. Only two thirds of an inch of rain fell. Met Addison Darling just before nine o'clock and I paid him \$14.90 as interest on a note to June 8, 1883. Received from the safe \$20.00. Brother Spencer came with letters from Eds wife at Springfield, as Edward is very busy with his ice business.

Credits – 20.00

Debits – 14.90

Tuesday, June 12

What a windy night! About midnight the wind had risen to a fearful height and there was no quiet and resting sleep after it, and today we have felt the need of rest though the air is quite clear. Polk came down from Pomfret and was here to help me about leveling at the library. I paid Mr. Marble for feed for the hens and chickens sixty five cents. Mr. Billings called this morning and spoke a very encouraging word about his plans and surveys and as soon as the almanac is finished I must devote all my time to those plans.

Debits - .65

Wednesday, June 13

This is a very dark and muggy morning, and in the night we had a strong wind from the S.E. and there must have been showers near. It began to rain again about ten o'clock and continued slightly till about three in the afternoon when 0.42 of an inch had fallen. I spent nearly all day on the almanac and on the meteorological report. Much of our work has come this week and it keeps us in a hurry.

Thursday, June 14

Another very windy night, and one in which no one could rest. In the morning I fitted the ground for the row of geraniums on the line between Miss Richmond's lot and ours, and it was soon the busy place for work. There are forty plants set on the line and are one foot apart, the row being the best that I have. Sister Joanna came, and will stay a few days. The row of geraniums were all finished and I think it never looked better.

Friday, June 15

Mowed some in the morning and after breakfast finished the almanac and sent it to the Junction by Mr. Porter. Called on Mr. Kent and paid him 50 cts for plowing the garden. Met my old friend Wm. King and had a long talk with him on the old artillery company and other matters of those olden times. Paid Mr. White 48 cts for Silliman and 10 cents for netting for the vines. Finished my article for the Standard and left it for the outside of the next weeks paper, and can have the proof at mail time tomorrow afternoon. Worked on the hay this evening.

Debits – .50, .48, .10

Saturday, June 16

Began early to cut more of the grass and I cut a part of that on Miss Richmond's lot. Went to the library building and met Mr. Williams and had with him a very pleasant time. Mr. Williams is one of the best of men and in this is fully the son of his father. He is one of the firm of Burnham, Parry, Williams & Co. in the Baldwin Locomotive Works. We paid one dollar for cloth boots and nine cents postage, and Richmond 15 cents for beef. We sent the meteorological report to Washington and were obliged to send the first finished sheet as I could not finish the second in time.

Debits – 1.00, .09, .15

Sunday, June 17

Sister Joanna is still with us and will remain till tomorrow, I think. I have started my pen this morning and have much writing and copying to do. I examined the proof of the article in the Standard. Hurry does not always insure correctness, and I made a little mistake in my Standard article, sending a paper fitted for the Signal Service article. But I soon made the correction, and I hope the article will appear properly corrected. It will not probably be set up till tomorrow, that is, the corrected part, and I may see it before the paper is made up.

Monday, June 18

In the morning I went to the post office and met Mr. Williams and had a chat with him on drawing paper, etc. and I must send to J.W. Queen & Co. for samples. Mr. Williams leaves this forenoon and will return in one month. Mrs. Dunham and Herman are expected this afternoon. They came in the train as expected, and Herman and Carlie called on us soon after; and after supper we called on them on the hill, and are glad to find them well at home again. Our walk was some hard and we were really tired in the evening, so much so that we could not read or write.

Tuesday, June 19

Rainy through much of the night though not hard. In the morning Mr. Jerome Taylor called and we gave him a certificate of recommendation of the Mason Combined washing soap, as we regard it as the best we have used. I worked with my pen copying the monthly meteorological reports, and have just got the pen and ink going well. Carter's record ink runs about as well as the Stephens blue black ink and both are free from that gloss that thickens on the pen and forms a body on the paper. The rain ended a little before noon and this afternoon have worked in the garden, especially this evening.

Wednesday, June 20

A thunder shower at 5 o'clock in the morning and about one inch of water had fallen at seven o'clock, and still the clouds were threatening.

Thursday, June 21

Worked with the wheelbarrow clearing the garden walks, and filling the loose earth and stones about the hitching post. Mortimer came before noon and we concluded to ride home with him. The day was exceedingly pleasant and I had not passed over the road since last Christmas when we rode in a sleigh. How things change! Especially at our old place. The constantly growing trees make much of the change, but folks, too, change. I was some tired and spent much of my time at rest in my chamber.

Friday, June 22

Rested in our old chamber at the old homestead of my father & mother, and did not rise very early. The morning was pleasant and after breakfast I began to range about. I went on to the east hill to find the place of the tall elm tree that stood by the outlet of the pond. The place was there but not a root was to be found. I can see it in imagination as it was in all my childhood days. Brother Spencer called just before night and will come again tomorrow. He has been haying in the field nearly all day and has got to be very tired. He will be seventy two years old in October and is some infirm. James B. Thompson the mathematician died in Brooklyn June 22, 1883. See New York Observer, July 12, 1883.

Saturday, June 23

A clear and very beautiful morning. The garden smiles, or appears to, on seeing us home again. Every thing is growing and all the vegetables and flowers seem to be going forward in a healthy condition. I worked in the garden till it was too warm to work comfortably, the thermometer rising above 80 degrees. I paid 30 cts for oatmeal at Pauls and 10 cts to Slack for vinegar. We had been looking for Abbie all day and she came about five o'clock, but was here not quite an hour, for she must be at home before night. Her school is going finely and if it was twice as large it would be extremely pleasant. Lizzie Bridge came here in the evening. I lent one dollar to Abbie.

Debits - .30, .10, 1.00

Sunday, June 24

A pleasant night for rest, but Mrs. D. has rested badly for the last two nights. She got some tired visiting at the old place, for she was badly worked down before she went. We called in Dr. Logan this forenoon and he made some prescriptions and I hope they will be what is needed. She has worked too hard all summer, for she does much of the work on the almanac and the meteorological reports, and I should be compelled to give them up entirely except for her assistance. For the last two years she has done very much of the hardest part of the work. This has been a great day for flowers as it is the childrens flower Sunday at the Univ. chapel, and there were five calls for flowers to carry to church or to the burying ground or to wear to some of the churches. All sizes were called for from the largest peony to the smallest violet or forget-me-not. Mrs. Dunham came to see her sister in the afternoon, and it seems as though she was much rested by her visit to Franklin. Appears much less care-worn. Lizzie Bridge came here last night and was at Mr. Johnson's at noon and came here in the afternoon, and intends to go to Gardner Winslow's in the morning. She came again in the evening and will remain through the night.

Monday, June 25

A warm but pleasant night and warm this morning. I rose quite early and Miss Bridge started in the Bethel stage for South Pomfret. I worked for a time in the garden but the weather was soon too warm for outdoor work. Soon after noon Mr. Parkhurst came from Barnard and stops with Mrs. Perkins. He says that Dr. Paddock's daughter from Chicago is at Bethel and will be at Woodstock before they return. Prof. Edward Williams of the Lehigh University is here. I met him this morning. A worthy son of a worthy father, as his father was also. I received the June assessment from the Life Insurance Co. at Hartford, Ct.

Tuesday, June 26

The air is much better this morning and Mrs. D. rested some better through the night, and Dr. Logan seems to understand her case and is doing well with it. I got some help in the garden on the potatoes and they are mostly hoed out. Paid Miss Richmond for ashes one dollar. Paid Myers for stove handle 15 cts. Paid Dunbar for work fifty cts and paid for strawberries eighteen cts. Mrs. Fairbanks called this morning to see Mrs. D. They have much sympathy for each other as they are similarly afflicted. We sent letters to Joanna from Mrs. Dunham and I mailed letter to Signal Service to acknowledge receipt of Annual Report.

Debits - 1.00, .15, .50, .18

Wednesday, June 27

Went early into the garden and staid till the heat was too much. Mrs. D. rested some last night and is trying to do much work today. Polk came from Pomfret this forenoon. I spent some time on meteorological reductions but the day is some too warm for mental work. Carlie Dunham was here at dinner time, and it seems quite natural to have her come in with her dinner pail. The evening was some cooler and I worked in the garden as late as I could see to work. Polk left for home about four o'clock expecting to find Abbie on the road from her school.

Thursday, June 28

A slightly rainy morning. It probably began to rain soon after midnight and continued much of the time through the rest of the night. This is too wet for garden work and I called on F.N. Billings and he will pay me next Monday some money on his brother's account. I went to the work on the Library Building and found the work progressing very well and thoroughly. My friend S.S. Thompson called this afternoon and

we had not seen him for many weeks before. Mr. H.S. Dana called to talk about the map of the Town of Woodstock showing the original allotment after the Oliver Willard charter. I must give my time to the plan drawing.

Friday, June 29

I am now beginning to get the facts about the old lines of Woodstock. Found my old Taftsville plans and I took them to Mr. Dana to make sure of their being what is needed to get at certain distances. The plan of the village is as nearly accurate as I could make it if the work was to be done again. Took off the Willard survey of the outlines of the town and have begun to transfer and correct it on another sheet. Allen Thompson called to look up some facts from Thompson's Vermont. Mrs. D. is gaining some, but very slowly. She gets very tired every day.

Saturday, June 30

A slight rain in the morning, but the clouds broke away; the wind changed and the day was a good one for work. In the afternoon I worked busily on the plan of the town of Woodstock, and I find it to be no easy task to compare different events and keep true to facts. Mortimer Spear came from Pomfret and I went to Mr. Dunham's with errand from Joanna. Paid Mr. Hewitt five cts for milk. Abbie and Lizzie Bridge came from Mr. Chamberlin's and will stay through the night.

Debits - .05

Sunday, July 1

Though we retired last night rather late we rested well and are very well for us this morning. Abbie and Lizzie Bridge left for home about nine o'clock this morning and we settled down and tried to rest. Of course we read some, but our reading is somewhat miscellaneous and promiscuous. I could not concentrate thought on deep or intricate subjects for I was too tired and jaded. Mrs. D. was some tired from her visit last night, but I hope she will get rested today. Horace Dunham called on his way to church and in the early evening he called with Mrs. Dunham for a few minutes. They are very anxious to have us go to their house on the fourth and we would be glad to do so if Mrs. D. should be able. The night of the third will probably be a very noisy night with the boys, for they are usually very patriotic at that time. They can make a noise, ring some bells and burn some powder, and that was a sign of patriotism even in John Adams time.

Monday, July 2

A dewless morning, which is one of the signs that bespeak rain, and we hope it may prove so now for vegetation suffers from the drought. I mowed a little about the door, and after breakfast Dunbar came and cut the grass near the river, and he came in the afternoon and raked it up. It began to threaten showers in the forenoon. A thunder shower passed to the south of us, and another similar one in the afternoon, but no rain of importance here. A very peculiar and dark and smoky and muggy day. I paid 50 cts to Dunbar in the morning. In the afternoon I received of Mr. Billings fifty dollars to spend in drawing paper and materials.

Credits – 50.00

Debits - .50

Tuesday, July 3

Another almost dewless morning. The barometer had been falling for a day or two, but has now turned and is going up and I really fear a dry time for the gardens and for all vegetation. I staid about the house through the forenoon and studied on the themes to be mapped for Woodstock and for Mr. Billings. I went to the post office in the afternoon and paid 10 cts box-rent and 2 cts for pens. I will see if I can keep this month correctly. Dr. Logan called this afternoon and warned Mrs. D. to keep quiet as possible; so we shall stay at home tomorrow I think. Soon after 9 o'clock it began to thunder in the southwest and this increased till midnight.

Debits – .10, .02

Wednesday, July 4

This is the fourth of July, and the boys had made arrangements to usher in the day with all due noise and ceremony, but they were soon eclipsed by "heavens artillery" and a flood of rain, a "Noah's flood," all this continued till morning when nearly two inches of rain had fallen. The thunder and lightning were of the highest order, and showers followed each other through the day. Many of the people went to Quechee to a pic-nic, and have just now returned (3 p.m.). This is our fifteenth anniversary of our home life, and it has been truly such to us. We had intended to go to Mr. Dunham's, but Mrs. D. was unable to go, as her physician said, and we spent the day pleasantly at home. Paid Richmond 20 cents. It is now nearly nine o'clock and all is still about the streets.

Debits – .20

Thursday, July 5

Wrote to J.W. Queen & Co. and sent a P.O. order for 9 dollars for papers & drawing papers paying 8 cts and 6 cts postage, etc. Paid Windsor Co. Insurance assessment \$7.10 and \$1.80 school tax to Wm. R. Hewitt. Paid Mrs. Dunham 90 cts milk bill for June.

Debits – 9.00, .14, 7.10, 1.80, .90

Friday, July 6

This is a very warm time, the thermometer rising to 89 or 90 degrees in the middle of the day. Concluded to test some lines near the Cushing and Moore place, and Herman Dunham and Benjn. Southgate are to assist me. Took some measures about the old Darling farm and made the connection with the Billings Richmond farm. In the afternoon we made some lines, etc. to connect the Moore farm with the Ovid Thompson farm at the corner near the large oak tree. At night I received a package from my friend R.A. Perkins, a beautiful Swiss protractor, a six inch instrument graduated to fourths of a degree. Received also a letter from him and he presents me with his drawing instruments, a valuable set that he had selected for himself.

Saturday, July 7

Another warm morning. I paid Mr. H. for milk 5 cts, and Paul 33 cts for tea and paid White for Silliman 48 cts, and paid postage 5 cts, and 15 cts to Woodruff. This has been the warmest day since the warm day in June. Thunder storms began very soon after two o'clock and they continued till night or nearly so. Have felt some tired from my work in the heat yesterday, but have kept my work moving on though some dull myself.

Debits - .38, .48, .20

Sunday, July 8

The air has improved much in the last twenty four hours. For nearly two week the air has seemed to be in a highly electrical state, such as the poet Thomson describes in his "Seasons." This was noticed nearly a week before the very severe thunder storm that began on the night before the fourth, and has almost continued till now. The air began to improve yesterday; and though the early part of the night was very warm, the latter part was very comfortable. I went into the garden quite early to look among the potatoes, etc. I found the potato beetles to be at work in all their splendor. I took the time to destroy many of them and still there are enough left. I went to my table and finished the report to the War Department; at least the first copy, and we can now finish the whole in a few days. Horace Dunham called for a few minutes about noon and Carlie in the afternoon; and Mrs. Russell made a very pleasant call in the evening.

Monday, July 9

Cooler, and a very pure air to breathe this morning and I began my work soon after five o'clock, and I have just put by my garden tools and it is half past eight nearly. I have been putting my Fridays work on to the map and find that it was well done. Received a letter from R.A. Perkins with 10 dollars to renew note at the bank, but too late to attend to it today. Mrs. Dunham came in the afternoon to see her sister, and we are glad to have her call. Sold hay to Abe Dunbar and he got it away without going through our garden.

Tuesday, July 10

I went to the bank this morning and had Robert's note renewed and paid the interest six months from June 5th. I worked in the garden till past ten o'clock when it was some too warm for me to work. Wrote and mailed a letter for Robert Perkins. Received a package from James W. Queen & Co. by express; paper and drawing instruments. Paid 85 cts, and I paid 25 cts to Slack for bananas.

Debits – .85, .25

Wednesday, July 11

We arose quite early and I went into the garden for a time. Mrs. Kempton came to assist in house cleaning and worked through the forenoon, and we paid her 50 cts for her work. We finished the June meteorological report and mailed it to the Chief Signal Officer at Washington. Polk and Abbie came from Pomfret and we sent by them to Mr. Marbles and got feed for the hens paying 66 cents.

Debits - .50, .66

Thursday, July 12

Polk and Abbie left this morning, he for home and she for her school. Soon after they left I called at the bank and paid the money \$100 and took up Mr. Chamberlin's note, and spoke of Mortimer's note that is payable today. I spoke to Mr. Sayward for some planks for a walk from the door to the street, as the old planks are fully decayed. The air was highly electrical in the forenoon, but the thunder storms around us have cleared the air and it is in a much better state this evening. I went to the library building to do some work in measuring the height of the stone work, but I put it off till tomorrow.

Friday, July 13

This morning Horace, Simeon and Herman Dunham came to work on our door-yard fence and walk to the house for it is badly rotted out. In the afternoon we rode to the Bruce school house, calling at Mr. Williamson's. I went to make a survey of the school house lot. We met a severe shower before we got to the Col. Dana place, but we had a very good time to make the survey. Neville Bruce was present, besides many of the members of the district. There was a severe shower while we were at Mr. Williamson's and the thunder was heavy in both the showers. Mr. Williamson paid me \$2.00. The day was so rainy that but little could be done at haying or out of doors.

Credits – 2.00

Saturday, July 14

The men came as usual to work on the fence and worked through the day. I paid Mr. French for horse hire yesterday 1 dollar and 2 dollars for the Hartland trip. Received of Mrs. French for eggs 15 cts. In the afternoon I got Herman Dunham and Benjn. Southgate to assist in putting my level in good adjustment and we took it into the park and worked on the center road, that makes a good place for such a work. The Park seems occupied with the city borders now in place.

Credits - .15

Sunday, July 15

This is a remarkably bright and glowing morning, that is, after the fog had passed away, and between eight and nine o'clock I took observations for the time and had a very good time for it, for the sky was clear and there was no wind to disturb the horizon that I was using. I took four observations three of which we used and the result was very satisfactory ranging over but a few seconds of time. I compared the result with the present time by the Town Clock and I made the clock nearly thirty seconds fast; and by that we should expect to find its rate a very little too slow, for a few months ago it was fifty five seconds fast. After completing this I took a few minutes to rest. Horace Dunham called on his way home from church and was much pleased with what he heard. I think Mr. Crosley is a fine scholar and is improving as others have done before him. In the afternoon we walked to H. Dunham's for a short call, but Dr. Chandler and wife called and as it began to rain we returned home.

Monday, July 16

Soon after eight o'clock I went to the library building and tested the position of the side walls and the levels laid out more than one month ago. Made a new set of level marks and expect the workmen will be governed by them. This morning I paid Sayward \$3.00 for the lumber used about the door-yard; and paid Billings 66 cts for nails used, and I paid White 25 cts for ink, and paid Slack 9 cts for bananas. In the afternoon I sent \$12.06 to Hartford Life Ins. Co. Paid postage etc. 14 cts plus 5 cts equals 19 cts. The historical agent for Windsor County called and I had a long talk with him on the first settlement of Pomfret, and I fear he does not always meet with those who feel perfectly unselfish and totally disinterested. I paid to Mortimer Spear 40 cents toward the interest on bank note.

Debits – 3.00, .66, .25, .09, 12.06, .19, .40

Tuesday, July 17

Arose early and went into the garden. The workmen on the library are now moving the first course of stone above the cellar walls. The day is very warm, though there is a fresh breeze from the S.W. But the air seems highly charged with electricity. A thunder shower came up about four o'clock, and it still continues to rain (8 p.m.). Our Windsor County historian called on me this evening and we had a long talk on Pomfret history. Paid Freeman 10 cts for Siddalls soap.

Debits - .10

Wednesday, July 18

Rested well through the night and this morning I went to the post office and to the library building, as I wished to adjust my level. Here I met Mr. Gay our Windsor County historian, and here too I met Edward H. Williams, the donor of the library building, and his son and son's wife, besides Mr. Guernsey the builder of the library. It is extremely pleasant to meet such spirits on such a day and in such a place. I spent the day on the town map. Mr. Fisher called with a likeness of Mr. Williams and a picture of the Library, presents from my friend Edward H. Williams. The spirit dictating such presents cannot be too highly prized. In the evening we called on Mr. & Mrs. G. Fisher to see their cactus plant whose sixth blossom is opening this evening, the fifth in daily succession. Paid Billings for goods.

Debits – 7.32

Thursday, July 19

In the morning I went to the P.O. and to the Probate Office to meet my friend Dana. Went to the Town Clerk's office and copied notes of the Spencer tract and the Rogers tract and found an error in the bearing of the south line of the latter, tho the first was all right. I began the plan of Woodstock on a large and more perfect sheet of paper. The field notes of the Oliver Willard survey as given in the charter is very correct and I have followed it in giving the outline of the town. Mr. Gay came in late and we spent some time in speaking of the charters of the town, and I lent him what I had written of our railroad history. Paid 25 cts for sugar and postage. Paid Freeman 50 cts for insect powder.

Debits – .25, .50

Friday, July 20

Was called early in the morning to try a new set of levels to get them above the base that is now going on. The cellar walls are finished and are exceedingly firm, strong and substantial. They were built by Mr. H.C. Lockwood and are truly a credit to the builder. Spent a great part of the day on the new plan of the town that I am now engaged in drawing. I have now more than six months of drawing and getting of facts from surveys made nearly or quite one hundred years ago. Paid Murdock 5 cts for filling Abbie's pencil with leads.

Debits - .05

Saturday, July 21

A cool morning and the night was quite cool. We wrote and mailed a letter to friends at Franklin. I worked on the town plan in the forenoon, but in the afternoon I took up the plan of Mr. Billings of the Thompson place, or rather the meadows lot, and found that I could run along with the multitude of offsets. Abbie and Lizzie Bridge came from Pomfret, and remained till night when they left for home going by way of Spencer's. Paid 22 cts for gate hinges. Horace Dunham has worked today on the front gate and Mr. French has painted our front door steps, and I must get him to paint the fence when it is ready to be painted.

Sunday, July 22

We have had a cool and very comfortable night for rest, and I arose quite early and went into the garden and every part was beautiful with a rich, deep green from a fresh and vigorous growth. Of course I took Abbie's little garden hoe and if I saw a weed it received the touch of my hoe. This is nearly a cloudy day and seems more like September than July. We remained at home alone and quiet very slightly reading and writing and resting, this last we need to do. Mr. Dunham called about noon and again towards night, and after supper we must to make himself and family a call. We found the air very pleasant after getting out of the street, and we could breathe it very clearly. Lightning was seen low in the N.W. in the evening, and we had a light shower at eleven p.m. but no thunder was heard here. The shower in the early evening must have been at a great distance from us, as nothing but the faint flashes of light could be seen. In the early evening the air seemed overheated and sultry, but after the shower it seemed very pure.

Monday, July 23

The air is very good this morning and was well washed by the shower last night. I took hold again of the plan of Mr. Billings' meadow and have kept the work going busily. There was a shower about one o'clock in the afternoon. Paid Woodruff for feed 50 cts. This is for the hens and will last them, perhaps, two weeks. I have kept about my drawing work and it has gone very easily and well. This afternoon I received a catalogue of the Dickinson Seminary of Williamsport, Pa. and it is from "My scholar & friend," Jasper W. Feeley, and I am glad to find him in so important a place.

Debits - .50

Tuesday, July 24

Cooler in the morning though early the wind was S.W., but it soon came to the N.W. Soon after breakfast I went to my table and spent the greater part of the day at my drawing. My drawing instruments are very good now, and when I get a few more of the materials, I shall try to make good work. Mrs. D. called on Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Fairbanks, and Mrs. Farman who is with Miss Richmond. Polk called for a few minutes in the afternoon, but left for home about four o'clock. Mrs. Perkins has seemed to be failing for the past week or so, but is rather sinking away rather than failing of any disease. She is nearly 77 years old; was born Oct. 16th.

Wednesday, July 25

"Dog Days begin." So says almost every almanac, old or new, and we may expect cool nights and hot days. These cool nights we have had for some time and may expect them to increase. I have kept myself busy on my drawing work, and I hope I can for weeks to come. I hardly went out of the house in the forenoon except to fix some things about the barn. Late in the afternoon I walked upstreet and got a flower stand for a cactus plant that Mrs. Rowell sent us and we have kept in the garden so far this summer. Paid 6 cts for post cards and I lent Mr. Stearns 50 cts for a few days. The evening was very clear and was so cool that we put a fire in the study, and was none too warm.

Debits - .06, .50

Thursday, July 26

Mailed card to Mrs. Marcy saying that Mrs. D. cannot go with her tomorrow as they expected. I paid Paul 50 cts for flower pot, and Mr. White 17 cts for pencil & pens. Met one of Henry Vail's daughters and found her very pleasant; much as her father was at that age. Received bank dividend 6 dollars. The afternoon

has been very warm, too much so for mental labor and I have not driven my drawing work on that account. But I must send for a few more drawing materials. I think that Keuffer & Esser's colored drawing inks are very necessary for making a good plan. The evening seems much more comfortable and I can write with ease.

Credits – 6.00
Debits - .50, .17

Friday, July 27

The night was very cool for the season, but the day is warm. I sent a money order to Keuffer & Esser of New York for some drawing inks and a german swivel for a T square. The order was for three dollars and I paid 14 cts at the P. office. Paid Fisher for curves 15 cts Chapman 10 cts and paid 40 cts for goods. I called on my friend Dana and found him some unwell with rheumatism, but he could talk on our town map and necessary surveys to make it right; and I must go to Taftsville and have the river up till it crosses the present line.

Debits – 3.00, .14, .25, .40

Saturday, July 28

The night was some unpleasant for the air was warm, muggy and still and hard to breathe. But there is a great rush of people to the Junction to see the great circus and caravan of animals. I have no wish to go, while more than one thousand tickets are sold at the depot here to go at 9 o'clock. At that time the masses started and it seems quiet here at home. Elmer Emery & children came early and left their team. Mortimer and Joanna came and spent a part of the day here. Paid Richmond 14 cts for meat. Thunder showers at 3 a.m. and again at five and six in the afternoon. Emery's folks came from the Junction a little before six and they left for home just before seven after the shower had abated.

Debits - .14

Sunday, July 29

The shower last night seemed to clear the air very much, and the morning is pleasant and fall-like. We spent the forenoon in the house at my table and in the garden. Our excellent friend Robert A. Perkins came in this afternoon very unexpectedly, though we thought he might come on account of his mother's illness. I think I never saw him look better than he does now. There is an appearance of health and maturity about him that he never seemed to have before. He came from Springfield yesterday and to the Junction in the night and came up this forenoon. Horace Dunham came in with a plan of Mr. Greene's barn that they have just now begun to build on the old Day or "Pine Tree lot." We should have one up to see his folks, but we had a call that prevented, and have just begun to count our readings of the barometer.

Monday, July 30

A cool but pleasant morning and I went upstreet to see Mr. Fisher about instruments, etc. Engaged Mr. White to make a note book for the pocket $8\frac{1}{2}$ by $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches so that I can carry a folded sheet 17 by 21 or 22 inches. I met Mr. Cushing and he gave me a photograph likeness of George P. Marsh. A good likeness of the family, that is, we can see the expression of the younger members of the family that we had seen. I spent the greater part of the day at my table, and on Mr. Billings' plans. I prepared the plan of the most westerly part of the farm on the road, and the plan of that part is well begun. I paid Paul 10 cts for soap, and Mrs. D. has tried, I fear, too much of the work about the house. Bright aurora at 9 p.m.

Debits - .10

Tuesday, July 31

A cool and good night for rest, and I improved it. Paid 10 cts to my rare coins. It was a Newfoundland 10 ct piece. Brother Spencer came here this forenoon and will remain a day or two; and Mr. Cummings from Sherburne came here to learn about some of his Bridgewater lands. Those lands that lie south of the old

Bisbee Mill, lands that once belonged to Major Swan. I worked at my drawing table on the lines through Mr. Billings' sugar place. I paid Richmond 13 cts for salmon.

Debits - .10, .13

Wednesday, August 1

The latter part of the night was cool and so was the morning, and it seems to be unhealthy weather. Brother Spencer went home this morning, as he was called for about 9 o'clock. I paid Paul 27 cts and Slack 10 cts for sugar and figs. Polk came from Pomfret, and said his father is more comfortable now, but we cannot call that any real improvement. I had an express bundle from Keuffer & Esser of New York, and I paid 35 cts. I am trying their "Indelible Drawing Ink." I sent too for a swivel for a T square and it seems to be a perfect thing. Robert came in at early evening and we had a very pleasant chat on many good subjects. Brought forward 2.17.

Debits - .27, .10, .35

Thursday, August 2

How frequent the showers! We had a call from Abbie's cousin Mrs. Robinson (Leonora Paddock) and her four children; and Mrs. & Mr. Parkhurst and two or three children, and Dr. Paddock's daughter Nina. We were very happily disappointed in Mrs. Robinson. I had not seen her in thirty or more years, and she has grown from a wild little girl to a noble woman, and her finely trained children abundantly testify to the same. We went on the train to Taftsville to begin a survey of the river by a line on the north side. But the rain began as early as we began our work and we left it and went to Mr. Marcy's and remained till the train came up in the afternoon.

Friday, August 3

A shower this morning and it soon cleared away. I paid Isaac Fisher 50 cts for a T Square and Woodruff 50 cts for feed, and I paid White 25 cts for book covers for note book. I received of F.N. Billings on his brother's account ten dollars that will go into our September account. I have been upstreet three or four times today and have met some fine friends to talk with. Have had some good chats with some of our best scholars such as Dr. Hazen, H.S Dana & others besides having some talk with Mr. Billings about the filling and the roads around Tribou Park. Such chats are extremely valuable for they remove all restraint and leave a kind of social glow that does much for the happiness of this world and perhaps for the hereafter.

Credits - 10.00

Debits - .50, .50, .25

Saturday, August 4

The stratus clouds bespoke rain very distinctly, but we had but little through the day. I got Herman Dunham and Benj. Southgate to assist about the posts at Tribou Park, and we spent the greater part of the forenoon. I paid Paul 85 cts for groceries. I had intended to make the survey of Quechee River from the Cushing place to Taftsville but was detained till too late for the train as I wished to begin at the easterly end of the survey. Flakes of snow were seen in the afternoon in many places near.

Debits - .85

Sunday, August 5

A clear and beautiful morning, wind S.W. with slight fleecy clouds from the west. As the day moved along the wind increased and the clouds also. But there was no appearance of storm at the time though storms of rain have been frequent for the last few days, and it seems as though they might continue. We remained at home and tried to rest. In the afternoon we walked to H. Dunham's and I got him to be my barber in hair cutting, and later we walked to the hill south of the house where we got a good view of our old home in Pomfret. We paid 93 cents to Mrs. Dunham for the milk for the month of July. This is a very easy way of getting milk for we cannot get it now from Pomfret very easily. I worked on the meteorological matters in the evening and must finish the whole for July tomorrow.

Debits - .93

Monday, August 6

The morning was pleasant but cool and there does not now seem like having rain. I went early to Mr. Fishers and got a ruler that he had made for my friend Robert who is now here taking care of his mother. The ruler is made from the oldest and richest piece of mahogany that we could find and is a rich one. He gave me a triangle made long ago, and I went to Mr. Fisher's and they made a new blade for my T square and I paid them 35 cents. The people are finishing the fence around Tribou Park, and the work makes some talk and excitement.

Debits - .35

Tuesday, August 7

The morning is warmer but the thermometer was lower in the night. The sky seems slightly covered with a coating of cirro-stratus clouds. I went upstreet and paid White 48 cts for Aug. Silliman, and paid Richmond 20 cts for meat & Slack 10 cts for bananas. I spent much of the day on Mr. Billings' plans around the greenhouse, and I went alone in the afternoon to measure a test line from the west lamp post to the north summer house. This makes the surveys fully satisfactory. The park excitement still is growing with interest and feeling, but how it will be settled we cannot now tell. Mrs. D. has been some unwell from hard work and excitement of the last few weeks.

Debits - .48, .30

Wednesday, August 8

Went upstreet and met many to talk with. Mailed profile of Hartland road to the selectmen of that town. Paul Norman has a suit for land in Sherburne and wishes to know more of the land in that part of the town. I saw Gates and he has the negative of the view of the Marsh place and the south part of Pomfret. Saw C.M. Marsh about the Gates land and the Smith land. Went to the Town Clerk's office to find deeds of the Cowan land near English Mills, and after much search I found the deed of Lewis Taft & wife to Joseph Hathaway, that conveys five pieces, one of which must be the Cowan land. Polk and Abbie came down from Pomfret and left for home about two o'clock. Worked on the surveys in the afternoon. Abbie paid 5 cts that I paid for leads.

Credits - .05

Thursday, August 9

A pleasant night and warm morning. The weather is more like September than August. After the chores about the house, I took up the meteorology and worked on the report of July and have spent the greater part of the day in that work, and have completed the most difficult of it. The park excitement is truly trouble to the people of this section of the village. I hope the subject will be settled in time so that we can rest in peace and quiet. Mr. Southgate called in the evening and talked over the Park matter.

Friday, August 10

A cool and pleasant night; and I began early on the meteorology for it ought to be forwarded this week. July was a peculiar month with temperatures very nearly the mean of the month. Paid to Addison Palmer \$5.25 for McMaster which pays for the paper till about the first of September. Mr. Smith called to have me make a survey of his land on High Street. The park question seems to be more quiet, though the petition is passing around quite thoroughly. Miss French called in with the paper with our fifty names on it and many of them, or nearly all of them, from those in this part of the village.

Debits - 5.25

Saturday, August 11

I arose early and began the work of finishing the meteorological report of July. I finished it and mailed it for the latest mail. I paid Woodruff 18 cts for feed for the hens. Isaac Fisher made a beautiful ruler for me to send to a friend and also some small ones for my own use. The rulers were made from an old piece of

mahogany that was wrought into a piece of furniture more than a hundred years ago. Mortimer came for us to go to Pomfret, and we made preparations to go and went about six o'clock.

Debits - .18

Sunday, August 12

We remained through the night at our old room at Pomfret where I spent very much of my time while teaching long ago. Found my sisters in very good health and Miss Simmons was visiting there. Spencer came in the forenoon and he spent much of the day there, as he can hardly say or think that he has a home at his own place. It is not pleasant to write this, but the reason for it seems increasing quite too fast. I shall write to his son Edward to see if things cannot be improved.

Monday, August 13

A cloudy morning with prospect of rain. There is much stir about the village, though we hardly know why. Lent to A. Dunbar 25 cts. I called on Dr. Logan but found that he was away for the day, and perhaps for a longer time. Norman Paul called in the morning and laid the plan and the survey of the land annexed to Sherburne a long time ago. Charles Marsh called to speak of the Smith survey. My friend Albert Darling called and we had a very social and pleasant chat about olden times.

Debits - .25

Tuesday, August 14

Sent a ruler to N.C. Perkins of Detroit to fill the place of the one burnt in the Chicago fire of Oct. 8 1871. Paid express 25 cts. Paid Richmond 25 cts for meat and paid 10 cts for soap at Pauls. Received of Mr. Billings fifteen dollars. Paid 65 cts for well rope, and I spent much of the afternoon in chores about the house. Dunbar sawed old wood here in the forenoon. At seven o'clock the trustees of the village met at the park to see about the extension of the park towards the large elm tree. They decided that it might be extended and a few of the citizens agreed to be at the expense.

Credits - 15.00

Debits - .25, .25, .10, .65

Wednesday, August 15

I went early this morning to the Town Clerks office to examine the deed of John N. White to Mrs. Ransom, and at ten o'clock I went to High Street to make a survey for Mr. E. Smith who now owns the place where John Fuller built a house a few years ago. We ran the lines on the northerly side and left for the day. Last night the Post Office safe was blown open by burglars, and this afternoon there was an accident by a runaway team by which Clement Healt and two children were badly injured.

Thursday, August 16

Another cool morning. Sent petition to the selectmen on account of the park, etc. A subscription paper was started this morning for Mrs. Norman French. I finished the meteorology for July for the Standard and left it in the evening; and I mailed a letter to the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey. Called at Mr. Fishers and left an old ruler to be fixed and I paid Isaac Fisher 25 cts. This was for a ruler made some time ago and for repairing the present one.

Debits - .25

Friday, August 17

Called on C.M. Marsh to speak with him of the survey of Mr. Smith's land, and also met Mr. Smith and had a very pleasant chat with him on railroads and railroad matters. I think he is a very pleasant and active businessman of strong force of character. Such men make their marks in the world. Albert Darling called and goes in the cars to Bellows Falls and from there he goes home to Aurora. Called at Woodruffs and paid him fifty cents for feed. In the afternoon I worked at the table and tried the new drawing ink and think it will take some practice to have it work well. Received 15 cts of Miss Dunham for postage stamps.

Credits - .15

Debits - .50

Saturday, August 18

We had determined to go down the line to Taftsville with a group of surveyors to run the line on the north side of the river to Cushings corner. Herman Dunham and Benjn. Southgate went with me, and we kept our line and offsets to the junction of Pomfret road near the Cushing place, and finished about six o'clock. We walked home quite rapidly and easily for me, and I have not walked so well for the last five or six years. The dust is troublesome and I never knew it to be so fine as it is now. Polk and Abbie came in the forenoon and returned just before night taking the hens that were selected for them. Received two letters from N.C. Perkins.

Sunday, August 19

We found ourselves some tired last night and of course tried to rest, and I think we succeeded well for it was past seven o'clock before we started. This is rather late for us, but we very seldom let it pass five without being up and about our work. The proof sheets of the almanac are now in our hands, but Mrs. D. is hardly able to assist in reading it. Proof-reading is close work at best and one must have a clear and well head to do it correctly and easily. The day is warm and we keep at home and try to rest. Horace Dunham called on his way to church, and after this rested till night. Mrs. Dunham walked down from home late in the afternoon while the weather was still warm.

Monday, August 20

Arose quite early and finished reading the proof of the Almanac for 1884, and I sent it to the White River Paper Co. or the Claremont Mfg. Co. at Claremont, N.H. as I suppose the printing is done there. Paid Paul 27 cts for sugar and Mr. Kent one dollar for the Tribune one year.

Debits - .27, 1.00

Tuesday, August 21

We could not rest well through the night for the weather was warm and muggy. I went up-street this morning and called on Mr. Gates and can but hope he and Mr. Smith will adjust their land lines so as to be satisfactory to both parties. Called to find Mr. Richmond but failed to find him in the forenoon. Spent much of the day on the survey that we made last Saturday and I find the plotting of it very close work for the scale must be so small. In the afternoon I met Mr. Gay who is writing up the history of Windsor County.

Wednesday, August 22

In the morning I went to my table to look up facts for my survey and for Mr. Gay on his historical matters. But the day is too warm for work of any kind. Mr. Gay called soon after noon and I had a long talk with him on scientific and historical matters. I sent a letter of introduction to Mrs. Miller so that he can get access to Mr. Miller's Scrap Books to glean from them some touches of history interesting for the town of Woodstock. We were some tired in the evening and were glad to get our work for the day done. Mrs. D. wrote a long letter to Mrs. Russell who is at Biddeford Pool at the beach in Maine.

Thursday, August 23

Mrs. D. rested rather badly last night and is some unwell this morning. Dr. Worcester called this morning, and was very emphatic about her seeing so much company and getting her nerves so badly stirred up. Mr. Chamberlin's team came down with apples and Polk rode with Homer Vail in the forenoon. I met Henry Vail in the morning and called with him at Dr. Boyntons, where they board, and there I saw the whole family, a very pleasant group. I worked at my table what I could but the weather is very warm and the air sultry or muggy.

Friday, August 24

There was a sudden change of air in the night soon after midnight, and Mrs. D. rested very badly at the time and is so feeble this morning that we called Dr. Worcester. Sister Joanna is here now and will stay a

few days, perhaps till Sunday afternoon. The air is very clear with west wind. Paid Richmond 23 cts for meat.

Debits - .23

Saturday, August 25

I called on Mr. Gates in the morning and had a long talk with him about his house lot, and I hope he will get it settled before Mr. Smith goes back to Savannah. It seems that so small a matter might be settled very easily. I paid Gates one dollar for two pictures and I got Isaac Fisher to frame one of them, the picture of the Williams house. I paid Richmond 25 cts and 2 cts postage and Freeman 10 cts for soap. Robert called in the early evening and was sent for Dr. Logan. He changed the medicine for Mrs. D. and left some to be taken every ten minutes if the state of the nerves seemed to demand it.

Debits – 1.00, .27, .10

Sunday, August 26

Mrs. D. rested some better through the night. Dr. Logan called in the morning and gave some fresh directions about the medicines and also about her having company as her nerves cannot bear it. Joanna stays with her yet and will for a few days, I hope. Mrs. Marcy called after the forenoon meeting and also sister Electa. The weather is growing cooler.

Monday, August 27

Frost this morning, the thermometer falling to 36.2 degrees. The weather is so very dry that I have thought best to dig the early potatoes in the garden; and in the afternoon I dug about half of the earliest; the "Beauty of Hebron" variety. Mrs. D. has kept very quiet today, and the doctor renews his charge for her not to see company or get in any way excited. Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Payson Pierce called to see her auratum lily, but they did not see her and perhaps it is as well. She is too weak and her nerves are too sensitive and too much exhausted to bear much talk or attention of any kind.

Tuesday, August 28

Ther. 35 degrees which will bring a frost if the sky is clear; but clouds may prevent this morning. I continued to dig the early potatoes and have put some of them into the cellar. I think they will keep better in the cellar than in the ground. Polk and Abbie came this forenoon and remained about the village till five o'clock or later Mrs. D. became very tired though they visited very quietly. She was tired in the evening and retired early to our chamber. Paid liquor agent 35 cts.

Debits - .35

Wednesday, August 29

Mrs. D. was too tired last night to rest well and must remain in her chamber and be quiet. I worked in the garden and dug a small piece of potatoes near the barn and on the easterly side of the alley. These were the Clarke's No. 1 and are an excellent eating potato. We have four kinds, more to dig, as we are trying some experiments on potatoes.

Thursday, August 30

Mrs. D. rested better last night and is apparently much better this morning and does not have any company at all except those who take care of her. I tried to get the facts relating to the Woodstock National Bank for Mr. Gay who is doing the writing for the County Gazeteer and Directories in this state to be published by Hamilton Child in Syracuse, N.Y. I succeeded in gathering the principal facts and have mailed them this afternoon. I paid 5 cts postage and 15 cts for meat.

Debits - .05, .15

Friday, August 31

This is the closing day of August and a very warm day. I went to Mr. Fosters to look at the lines about his barn, and I think there is a mistake about the deeds between Wm. Billings and Wm. D. Foster. If they wish

I can fix these lines as they agree that they should be. I think I paid 19 cts some time this month that I have not noted down, and I have eleven dollars and 20 cts on hand. Mrs. D. seems to be some better and is gaining slowly. Paid six cents for lemons which leaves \$11.14 on hand.

Debits – .19, .06

Saturday, September 1

Received of Mr. Billings 25 dollars. Sent \$12.06 to Life Insurance Company and paid 8 cts for money order. Paid Richmond 25 cts for meat, and Collins 9 cts for meat. Mrs. D. rested better last night and we hope she will be much better in a few days. Mailed a letter to Franklin. I spent the forenoon in chores and in searching the records for Mr. Richmond with G. Winslow. I paid Mr. Fisher \$1.80 for two picture frames; and Mr. French 30 cts for painting steps. This has been a warm day for September the thermometer rising to 80 degrees or more. On hand 11.14.

Credits – 25.00

Debits – 12.06, .08, .25, .09, 1.80, .30

Sunday, September 2

The weather is very warm and has been for the past few days; but how sudden the changes are! Our folks are improving very slowly and we hope they will be about the house in a few days. We have had no company for the past few days and Mrs. Dunham is the only person that calls on Mrs. D. except those who have the care of her. Mrs. Dunham called toward night and went to see her and they could talk some without jarring the nerves at all. We paid Mrs. Dunham one dollar for milk we had in August. The afternoon and evening have been extremely warm.

Debits – 1.00

Monday, September 3

There was a sudden change of weather about two o'clock in the morning, the wind coming into the N.W. and blowing almost a gale. In the morning I called on Dr. McCollum and we gave him the Dr. Russ diploma that was placed in my hands with the books. We are glad to put it among the Drs. Memorial treasures. I paid Paul 13 cts and I paid Chapman's drugstore 13 cts for Cream Tartar. Miss Emily Ware and Maryette Adams called on us this afternoon, and it brought up our old school days in Pomfret.

Debits - .13, .13

Tuesday, September 4

Frost. Ice one tenth of an inch. Heliotropes injured badly. Geraniums saved by water. This was a severe frost for so early in the season and when the ground is so very dry. I paid 10 cts for a piece of mutton but not a very rich piece for a sick person. I also paid 13 cts in rare pieces to the safe or the wallet of pocket pieces. This was a day of re-union of the Vermont soldiers. I spent a part of the day copying the meteorological report for August.

Debits – .10, .13

Wednesday, September 5

We were greeted this morning at about two o'clock with a fine shower, and these continue to be repeated almost every hour. The air has been very good today and Mrs. D. has been improving some, and appears better this evening. Miss Laura Billings called this morning and brought two large bunches of grapes for Mrs. D. and they were most truly valuable, the richest possible. What glowing kindness we find in that family. In the afternoon Benjn. Southgate and I went to Mr. Billings' sugar place and made a few most valuable tests of the lines run last fall. Have a call to go to Hartland next Monday.

Thursday, September 6

The folks rested very well through the night, but we had hardly finished our breakfast before we began to have business calls, and friendly calls and the day became a broken one. Mr. Pratt called for me to go

with John Eaton and himself to set off a homestead for the widow Staples on the old Keyes place on Church hill. We did the work except the surveying part of it. Abbie and Lizzie Bridge came down from Pomfret in the afternoon.

Friday, September 7

Though we were some tired last night, we rested very well through the night; and Mrs. D. seems some rested this morning. Our park workmen are putting in about eight feet on the east end of the Tribou Park near the Elm tree, and this added much to the beauty of the place. I wrote out the weather report for the Standard besides doing chores about the house and garden.

Saturday, September 8

Paid Collins for meat 64 cts, and paid Slack for figs 10 cts, and paid White for Sillimans 48 cts and Paul for soap 10. Mrs. Emery came down to help us again and finished her washing and ironing and much other work and chores. This afternoon I finished and mailed the meteorological report to Washington but have not kept a duplicate for our folks were not able to do the copying.

Debits - .64, .10, .58

Sunday, September 9

The wind came to the northwest at midnight or a little before and this morning the weather is cool, and there are strong signs of having a hard frost in the morning. The thermometer is very low this afternoon for the season. Mrs. D. rested very well last night and is, to appearance, slowly improving. I have been resting and snoozing all the forepart of the day, and as the day passes there is more appearance of frost. But the evening was a little warmer and I went to Mr. McKenzie's for the key to the Town Hall, but got one from Mr. Mellish, and one for the inside door at Mr. Fletcher's. So I succeeded in getting my instruments that I need to use at Hartland tomorrow.

Monday, September 10

Started early in the morning for the Barron hill in Hartland to make a survey of a road to make an easier grade up that famous hill. I had very good success in the work, and will make out the survey bills. I hired a horse of Mr. French and kept on the north side of the river to avoid the trains. Paid Paul for kerosene 25 cts.

Debits - .25

Tuesday, September 11

In the morning I wrote a letter to our friends at Franklin, and we received one from them before mailing ours. I took measures and distances about Mr. Fosters barn and have made a line between the two lots and will make the deeds very soon. In the afternoon I went with Lewis Pratt to take some measurements in the Staples homestead. And in the evening I wrote out the survey. I paid Richmond 20 cts for mutton (or lamb) and paid Woodruff 28 cts for graham flour.

Debits - .20, .28

Wednesday, September 12

I was very late in starting this morning, for my work was rather pressing through the day yesterday. Early in the forenoon I wrote a letter to our friends in Franklin, N.H. a letter of congratulation and I hope it will be a pleasure to them and to all concerned. Polk came down from Pomfret with a paper from his father. He wishes to hire a good hand to work this fall. Paid Richmond 15 cts for potatoes. Late in the afternoon I went into the garden to dig potatoes and found them very light from the dry weather. We set up the middle room stove so as to warm the chamber over it.

Debits - .15

Thursday, September 13

Strong signs of rain, southerly wind and falling barometer. Our frosty season has passed and probably rain will follow. Mrs. Doton rested better last night and seems rested from our work moving and setting up stove. Spent the greater part of the forenoon in chores about the house, but in the afternoon I got Benjn. Southgate to assist me in setting up a line from the west lamp post at the bridge park to the corner of the orchard on the west side of the road northerly of Mr. Moss's house and S.W. of the Green house. We found the bearing to be N. 78 degrees 30 min. W. 43 rods and five links, and we found the distance from the end of Elm Street bridge to the nearest post in the bridge park to be 3 rods 5 links.

Friday, September 14

Found 0.54 of an inch of rain in the rain gauge this morning, and this small quantity has done much to wash the air. In the afternoon I got Benjn. Southgate to assist me in testing the line in the road through Mr. Billings sugar place. We started at the junction of the roads and the aqueduct to the reservoir, and ran the line nearly to Mr. Dana's line. But found no error in the survey. I paid Benjn. Southgate three dollars for what he has assisted me in surveying about the village and on Mr. Billings work.

Debits – 3.00

Saturday, September 15

Early this morning an excursion started for Newport, Vermont; and many of our friends join it. The air seems light and muggy this morning and I was busy with the chores of the forenoon till afternoon. In the afternoon Benjn. being away I staid in my room and tried to fix up work that had been neglected. Mr. Lockwood repaired the road near the elm tree and took up the bridge that had been placed there, so now the passing from Pleasant street to Central and park will be easterly of the elm tree about which there has been so much talk.

Sunday, September 16

We all rested very well last night, and I hope we shall get along pleasantly and comfortably through the day. Mrs. Doton is improving very slowly. Can see that she is better than one week ago. Relishes food better and it does not disturb her stomach so badly if she used due caution. She sits up a short time three or four times each day and we can see an improvement in that respect from day to day. Herman Dunham called this morning and returned some books that he has had to use for some time. He is to start for Tufts College in the morning. I paid him five dollars for his work here and for his assistance two days or more in surveying. Paid 12 cts for stamps. The afternoon is warm but the wind is rising and may be cooler by night. Have just found that Robert will go to Springfield next Tuesday and has got Mrs. Blake (Cornelia Paddock) to take care of his mother. We shall miss his genial face, for we are so long accustomed to see him.

Debits – 5.00, .12

Monday, September 17

Falling barometer and strong signs of rain and it began to rain about nine o'clock. I sent papers to Mr. Williamson and paid 12 cts for stamps and paid 5 cts to Mr. Gillingham for gate latch, etc. Abbie came down from Pomfret with chickens, etc. Took dinner and left for home early in the afternoon. I wrote deeds for Mr. Foster and Mr. Billings. Herman Dunham called this morning as he leaves on the train for Hanover and then for Tufts College.

Debits - .12, .05

Tuesday, September 18

Was rather late in starting this morning for it was a cool and quiet time. Paid Collins 25 cts for meat. I wrote out the road surveys for the selectmen of Hartland, as I hope they will call for it soon. I kept at my table rather close through the day and have prepared a sheet for plotting Mr. Billings' lands on a single sheet. Our very excellent friend Rev. E. Hewitt called on us in the afternoon, and I think he appears as well as he did five years ago. Mrs. Dunham called to see her sister this afternoon and they had a very pleasant time.

Debits - .25

Wednesday, September 19

Rested well through the night and this morning I went into the garden and spent nearly all the forenoon on the potatoes. The air was clear and the sky free from clouds and the middle of the day is very warm. Paid 28 cts for meat and 10 cts for soap. Mrs. D. walked to the thermometer window, and was then looking over the garden fifteen or twenty minutes. But she had some company in the afternoon. Abbie came from Pomfret having a mass of errands to do in the village. Mrs. Cary called and she went to see Mrs. D. for a few minutes, but she got some tired, but still is improving some. After working at my drawing table for a time I went into the garden and worked till past six o'clock.

Debits - .38

Thursday, September 20

No entry.

Friday, September 21

A fine morning with some signs of rain. Mr. Foster called this morning and I went with him to have the corners of their line with Mr. Billings marked and deeds finished Mr. G.B. French assisted in furnishing the deeds. I went home and to my drawing table and spent the greater part of the day at plan drawing on Mr. Billings surveys. Mr. Foster paid me 2 dollars and I paid the two dollars to my sister Joanna.

Credits – 2.00

Debits – 2.00

Saturday, September 22

Spent the greater part of the day at my table on the plan drawing, and have very good success in the greater part of the work. In the afternoon I went to the post office and got letter from Mr. I.G. Bates of Hartland. Paid Richmond 8 cts for meat. Abbie came down from Pomfret.

Debits - .08

Sunday, September 23

The weather is very fine but still a few signs of rain still linger about. The unsteady barometer and also the unsteady temperature, winds etc., all speak of a preparation for a storm. I worked at my table much of the time in the forenoon and had good success in testing the correctness of my meteorological records, and I left it in the afternoon and went into the garden and picked and shelled some of the dry beans that stood the late frosts. Mr. Hewitt preached at the chapel this forenoon, and in the afternoon he was to go to East Barnard I think.

Monday, September 24

I arose quite early and after doing the house chores I went to the garden and finished digging the potatoes. The very dry weather affected our garden very much, but some of our potatoes were very good yet some were injured while setting and so a multitude of small ones was the result. Abbie came down again today, and to mill of course, as I believe she is obliged to be chore boy and do nearly all the errands. I have today received the sixth assessment on our Life insurance and it must be paid in 30 days, I think. Abbie paid me fifty cents.

Debits - .50

Tuesday, September 25

A sudden change in the weather about one o'clock this morning. The wind had been in the N.E. and the rain came from that direction for a time, but the change was to the S.W. and wind strong. This morning there had been 1.16 inches. This is the first day of the "Windsor County Fair," and rainy of course. The people began to come in as early as four o'clock this morning, and were gathering in through the

forenoon. The day has been, so far, wet and unfavorable, and unhealthy. The evening was some rainy, and that continued till late. Paid Paul 26 cts for sugar.

Debits - .26

Wednesday, September 26

This is the second day of the Windsor County Fair. The storm of the last two days closed about midnight last night and the day has been clear and cool, and the people have used it and the fair ground has been well filled. I paid Slack 18 cents. We have had some calls and Mrs. D. has seen only a few of them but has got some tired. Mrs. Woods and her little grandson came in, and they expect soon to leave for Lawrence, Mass. By this afternoon mail I received a postal card from my friend Ezra T. Clark who was here as engineer on the Woodstock Railroad. Was glad to hear from him and get his address.

Debits - .18, .25

Thursday, September 27

Wrote a short note in answer to my friend Ezra T. Clark and shall send a longer letter to him soon. He wishes to know the exact height of Ascutney mountain, and I gave him one height of 3165. I spent much of the day on the plans and surveys, and more particularly on the Barron hill road surveys. This was the third day of the Windsor County Fair and it has been very fully attended, and if reports are true there was much of drunkenness there. When shall we get clear of the misery of intemperance! I paid Richmond 12 cts for best steak. My friend John Dana called for my transit as he wishes to use it tomorrow.

Debits - .12

Friday, September 28

Am doing but little today but chores about the house. I finished the description of the Hartland road surveys on the Barron Hill and mailed it with a plan to J.G. Bates, Esq. I find his address to be Hartland Vt. Paid Mr. Marble 35 cts for graham flour and Richmond 25 cts for meat. Mortimer was here in the afternoon and I sent by him to Mr. Marble's and we are satisfied that Graham flour from the mill is much better than we can buy of the dealers here. Shorts mixed with spring wheat flour and sold at 4½ cts a pound is not the best for the consumer.

Debits - .35, .25

Saturday, September 29

Went to the market in the morning and paid Richmond 13 cts and paid Paul 30 cts for tea. Am some tired this morning and noon came and no work done on my drawing. Sister Matilda and Harriet Emery called to see me this afternoon, and were here till nearly night. My friend S.S. Thompson called to see me this afternoon, and I am glad to see him in so good health. He will call again early next week. He is now engaged in building a large house for an academy or a school building.

Debits - .13, .30

Sunday, September 30

This is the closing day of September and what a changeable month as far as the weather is concerned; but more especially, the atmospheric pressure is concerned. The rain that began last evening continued nearly through the night and was quite strong from two to three o'clock in the morning, though less than half an inch of rain fell. The air seemed very dull this forenoon and I could not write or read at all. But the afternoon has been much better. I wrote a letter to our friends at Franklin, N.H. to mail in the morning, beginning with our two cent postage. This seems a great change from the postage of my younger days when the rates read "For any distance not exceeding 30 miles 6 cents; over 30 and not exceeding 80 miles 10 cts; over 80 and not exceeding 150 miles 12½ cents; over 150 and not exceeding 400 miles 18¾ cents; over 400 miles 25 cents. Such were the rates in my early days and now two cents will pay the same. Brought forward 7.51.

Monday, October 1

After doing the work about the house and garden, I began on the drawing. Mrs. D. came down from her room in the chamber and took breakfast again at the table. When she is in the sitting room we are compelled to use all due caution that she is not too much excited. Friendly calls for all are glad to see her about the house. There was a severe frost this morning, and ice was formed on small vessels of water. Brought forward 7.51.

Tuesday, October 2

This is the coldest morning that we have had this fall, and the cold continued. About eight o'clock it began to rain, and the storm increased and the cold increased so that snow or hail gathered in many places especially on the hills. I copied the temperature for September though the weather made it too dark to do the work correctly. I paid Richmond 10 cts and Mr. Billings paid me \$100.00 on our work business though I have not been able to drive the work very rapidly.

Credits – 100.00

Debits - .10

Wednesday, October 3

Mr. Billings called in the morning and spoke of the railroad time changes that are now being arranged. The first change is to take the 75th meridian as the time for running the trains in the eastern states, and I will arrange our time pieces accordingly. Our time is 9 minutes and 40 seconds faster than Utica time. Today I have paid \$8.55 taxes, 88 cts to White, 10 cts postage on box, 17 cts oatmeal. Polk and Abbie came in the evening and will stay till tomorrow. The day has been windy and cool.

Debits – 9.43, .27

Thursday, October 4

Today I have been exceeding busy with Kimball Perkins and Mrs. Hemenway. Kimball came in the morning and preached to me the rest of the forenoon and left without getting any satisfaction. In the afternoon Miss. Hemenway and Miss Washburn called; Miss H. came to see about her Historical works, but especially the History of Pomfret, so I must have folks at work on the different subjects of the history of our town. Paid Slack 15 cts for potatoes & White 15 cts for binding field notes.

Debits – .15, .15

Friday, October 5

A cold and cloudy morning, with slight touches of snow, and the air feels more like the last of October or the first of November, cold and raw. I called on Dr. Hazen to see James but found him at the office, arranged with him about cooking stove. I paid Lewis Pratt 80 dollars which leaves, by his cast, \$31.66 (thirty one, sixty six dollars) his due. Worked at my table in the afternoon testing the lines over the mountain at the gorge. Aurora low in the north in the evening. Sent one dollar to Mrs. Dunham for the milk in September.

Debits – 80.00, 1.00

Saturday, October 6

Cold this morning. Ther. Reg. 19 degrees, which is the lowest that it has been this fall. Carlie returned 26 cts of which I sent yesterday. Paid Richmond 12 cts for meat in the morning and 15 cts in the afternoon, and 8 cts to Paul for groceries.

Credits - .26

Debits - .12, .15, .08

Sunday, October 7

Did not start very early in the morning for the night was cool, and we would call it cold for the season of the year. We are losing our beautiful Autumn colors, for the early frosts have crisped the greater part of

the forest leaves. The day opened very finely, air clear and no wind sufficient to notice. In the forenoon I arranged to take the observations for the time. I took eight observations on the Suns altitude and found my watch 1 min. 44 sec. fast and I tried the same again in the afternoon with a similar result. It is not often that we can make the forenoon and afternoon observations agree so perfectly, though it might be partly by accident. I called at Mrs. Perkins' and we think her health is improving. Ferris Vaughan called in the evening to get the result of my observations on time. The evening seems much more pleasant, and the sky seems entirely clear. Mrs. Dunham called for a few minutes in the afternoon.

Monday, October 8

A pleasant morning. James Hazen came with a stove in the morning and took away our old one. The one set up was a "gem" No. 8, one of the Troy castings. In the afternoon I went with Henry Green to their house lot, which is the "old pine tree lot." Received a letter from Chs. F. Blood of Windsor on meteorological matters. He wishes to get the mean temperature for a part of the year 1880.

Tuesday, October 9

Mailed letter to Chs. F. Blood in reply to his of yesterdays mail. I spent much of the day on meteorological matters. In the afternoon Mrs. Dunham came here as it was her birth day. She is fifty five years old today and came to visit with her sister on that day. Carlie came soon after noon, but soon returned to her work at Mrs. Damon's shop.

Wednesday, October 10

Weather much warmer. Spent some time with chores about the house. Miss Lizzie Billings called with a nice grape jelly for Mrs. D. How many such kindnesses we meet, and I am afraid we make a poor return. I paid Paul 18 cents for kerosene. Mrs. L.A. Miller called in the afternoon, and spoke of her scrap book that she lent to Mr. Gay of Syracuse. Have spent much time on meteorological work, and I think I shall get the report out in time.

Debits - .18

Thursday, October 11

Mailed a letter to Mr. W.B. Gay to just hint to him about the scrap books and we received a letter from our old and tried friend R.A. Perkins who will be here next week. Joanna was called for this forenoon and we will get Mrs. Fairbanks to come in the forenoon and see that we are all safe. I worked much of the day at my table and have arranged a writing and reading table in the dining room. Sister Joanna has been with us about seven weeks. This is the day of the brightest autumn colors. But the early frosts killed the leaves and the bright colors of the forests are a failure The only place that we have seen them is on the southeasterly side of Mt. Tom.

Friday, October 12

We remained alone in the house as sister Joanna went home about noon yesterday. Mrs. Fairbanks came this forenoon to assist Mrs. D. about the house work and by that assistance we got through the day comfortably. I finished the September meteorological report and in the afternoon mailed it to the Signal Service. Am too tired this evening to write much, although there are four or five articles that are calling my attention. I paid Simmons 9 cents for bread. Mrs. Barron called to talk more of her house lot in South Pomfret.

Debits - .09

Saturday, October 13

Remained alone again in the house and Mrs. D. rested very well through the night though the night was warm and the air rather unpure. Mrs. Fairbanks came again to assist us about the morning chores. Before noon, sister Abigail came to assist us, and Polk and Abbie came about the same time, and Abbie remained with us. I paid Collins 55 cents for meat the past week, and he will continue to furnish a small quantity each time that he comes along.

Debits - .55

Sunday, October 14

Sister Abigail came yesterday and will be here a few days. Abbie came yesterday and is here and will stay till tomorrow and they are assisting us about the housework, and all seems very pleasant. The night was very warm, too much so for sweet and quiet rest and was quite rainy, 0.89 of an inch having fallen since three o'clock yesterday. I have not yet begun to read or write except what is on this page. In the afternoon I took up my meteorological reductions and have tried to bring it up to the present time with both Barometer and Thermometer. We have got along well today, but the calls have been too numerous for Mrs. D's. comfort. She is not yet strong enough to endure so much talk, especially loud talk, as she is sometimes obliged to hear. The day has been very warm for the season and is a strong contrast with some of the cold days of a few weeks ago.

Monday, October 15

The night was cold and there was a very sudden change in the temperature and in the atmospheric pressure. Such changes have been frequent this fall. I staid at home and in my room nearly through the day and was at work on my plan drawing. Miss Laura Billings called in the afternoon to see us and to take her leave for a time as she leaves for New York before many days. I suggested to her the name of Marsh to be applied to the park near the Elm Street bridge and she will make the suggestion to her father.

Tuesday, October 16

Mr. Hathaway called in the forenoon to have me assist him in making an examination of the deeds of his lands near English's Mills. He paid me one dollar but we could find but little light from his deeds. Received \$17.50 from the R.R. Bond coupon and I paid \$15.12 as interest to the Savings Bank, and I paid 2.00 to F.N. Billings for flour, and I paid Simmons 20 cts for sugar.

Credits – 1.00, 17.50

Debits – 15.12, 2.00, .20

Wednesday, October 17

This is the coldest day or morning of the season. Ther. Reg. 17 degrees above zero. I have hurried all the morning. Got money order to send to Life Benefit Company of Hartford 12.06, which I paid to the post office, and 10 cts fee. And I paid Slack 18 cts for potatoes, etc. Norman Paul and a Mr. Daniels called to see me about the Sherburne lands in the old Parkers Gore, as they wish to have some lines examined. Mr. Hathaway, David and his brother Joseph, called and Joseph took the McKenzie Compass that Dunham left here long ago. At one p.m. I went to the Pine Tree lot to measure the cellar for Mr. Lockwood. Received a letter from W.B. Gay now of Syracuse, New York. Mrs. Miller and Miss Washburn called. Fixed thermometer for Mrs. Miller.

Debits – 12.06, .10, .18

Thursday, October 18

Another cold morning. Robert called this morning and soon starts for his work at Springfield, Mass. Mr. Daniels who is engaged in some lands in Sherburne called. I was very busy in doing chores about the home. Mrs. Emery called in the forenoon and Mrs. D. became very tired as she had much more company and was much exhausted at night. I wrote a letter to Mr. Gay of Syracuse, N.Y. I examined the thermometer again and found it fully right and I carried it home and put it in place. Edward and Norman Williams are here now but leave soon for Burlington.

Friday, October 19

Weather not so cold this morning. I took up my drawing early and worked nearly through the day. Sister Abigail is with us now, and is getting along well with the work that is necessary to be done. We have had but few calls today and Mrs. D. has not become so nervous and restless.

Saturday, October 20

A very slight rain in the night, but hardly enough to measure, though it began just before night and ended about six o'clock this morning. Mortimer Spear came this forenoon and we renewed a bank note that we

have in the bank. I paid the discount \$2.29. Spears part will be 1.53 and mine .76. This he will refund to me early next week. Brother Spencer came down in the afternoon and I had not seen him.

Debits – 2.29

Sunday, October 21

A cooler and raw November morning, that is, such it seems to be. The ground now so much frozen as to look like early winter, though the thermometer does not get so low. Mrs. D. does not get along quite so rapidly as she wishes to, and I called in Dr. Logan again. I carried papers to Mrs. Freemans and I hope she will call on Mrs. D. before long, for her account of the late exhibition may be cheerful and pleasant, for it was something new. I have about as much as I can do to keep the house and the hens warm and comfortable. I have written but little this forenoon and must try to do more in the afternoon, after getting some rested. I am trying to get rested so as to write a good article on Annual Rain fall in this section but how much to look over before I can fix a good article. Mrs. D. is appearing to be much better this evening. Horace Dunham and Dr. Chandler called in the evening. I wrote too an article on rainfall for the Age as McMaster wished, but I must revise it in the morning.

Monday, October 22

The night has been cool but we all rested well. I began to move some of the books and pamphlets into the chamber and leave more room on the shelves. The forenoon is clear and apparently warm, but there are strong signs of storm. About nine o'clock in the evening I saw a large and beautiful meteor. It was the first seen near the fixed star Capella in the northeast, and was moving towards the north and slightly descending. It disappeared when about thirty degrees above the horizon.

Tuesday, October 23

Forty years ago, that is, in 1843 there was a severe snow storm. Six inches of snow fell here on "The Green," and more on the hills, and that snow remained on the ground and was part of the winter snows. After getting the chores done I kept at my drawing table till it was too dark to see to do such work. I paid Collins 35 cts for meat. About noon I went to Mr. Dunhams and was surprised to see the hills so brown, naked and winter like.

Debits - .35

Wednesday, October 24

This morning we found it snowing very rapidly and the snow about one inch deep. In the forenoon I went to the Standard office and gave Mr. Greene permission to copy from my diary of 1843, what I there said of the snow storm. The snow fell about two inches deep and the melted snow was 0.51 of an inch in the evening. I took from the safe Twenty dollars and I sent six dollars in money order to the Mutual Benefit Insurance Co. of Hartford, Ct. paying post office 8 cts. I saw my friend H.S. Dana this morning and spoke with him of the Beef Extract that we have been using and he sent a bottle of it to Mrs. D. this afternoon. I worked on the plans in the afternoon.

Credits – 20.00

Debits – 6.00, .08

Thursday, October 25

The hills are white with snow this morning and the weather is not very warm nor very flattering for a pleasant fall. I spent the greater part of the forenoon in chores about the house and dooryard, and it is like fall with short days. Mrs. Emery came in the forenoon, and we learned from her that her brother Quincy had been found. The body was about a dozen miles down the river from where his clothes were found. This removes all doubt about his being away or alive. I wrote a letter to friends at Franklin, N.H. for we had not heard from them for some weeks. I worked at my drawing table in the afternoon.

Friday, October 26

The snow has nearly gone, but there are now signs of rain. I mailed five papers this morning, one to N.C. Perkins, one to R.A. Perkins, one to Franklin and two to Mr. Williamson of Pomfret. Sister Joanna came in

the forenoon to release Sister Abigail who has been here nearly two weeks. Mortimer came and paid me \$1.53 for what I advanced to the bank, and Mr. Wilson paid me as fees on the Staples estate \$1.00 and I paid Simmons for groceries 19 cent and I paid Chapman 13 cents for cream tartar.

Credits – 1.53, 1.00

Debits - .19, .13

Saturday, October 27

Rested in our east room very well. Perhaps we shall like the change for it saves some walk for Mrs. D. Charlie Dunham came with things for Mrs. D. early in the morning. I called on Norman Paul and returned the copy of Porters copy of the survey of Parker's Gore, south part, that is, the part that lies between Killington and Shrewsbury. I now have the survey of those mountain lines that I have so long wanted to get. In the afternoon I went with Benjn. Southgate and corrected some of the omissions made one year ago in the survey of the road through Mr. Billings sugar place toward Pogue Hole. After getting home I went to Mr. Dunhams and then to the Post Office. Ferris Vaughan brought our mail late in the evening.

Sunday, October 28

This is very peculiar weather, the clouds coming from the S.W. and the wind a part of the time from the north or northeast. Was very busy with chores about the house and barn. I went to the market and got some meat for Mrs. D. such as we thought would fit her taste. I paid Richmond 19 cts. Horace Dunham called in the middle of the day, and a short time after, Mrs. Dunham came of an errand with Mrs. D. She does good by coming for she has the right temperament to do her sister much good. Sister Joanna concludes to stay a few days longer. How peculiar the weather! The barometer is rising now and the temperature is falling, but the winds are by no means settled.

Monday, October 29

It began to rain soon after midnight and it continued nearly through the day the principal part coming from the east or southeast. Sister Joanna was here through the day and we took up some of the shrubs from the garden. I paid Richmond 22 cts for oysters. I tried to work some on the plans but the day was too dark and I was not in a very good mood to work easily. I spent much of the day at my table and computed the excavation of Mr. Greene's cellar for Mr. Lockwood. I would like to have had a little better data for that for we could not have any surface levels.

Debits - .22

Tuesday, October 30

The wind began to blow soon after three o'clock in the morning and the barometer had fallen most rapidly and was very low. I paid Collins 18 cts for meat, and Billings 25 cts for kerosene and paid Simmons 10 cts for bread. Harriet Emery came in the forenoon and will stay with us for a time and Sister Joanna went home at night and we shall get along well without her I hope.

Debits - .18, .25, .10

Wednesday, October 31

The wind is abating though it remains in the southwest. I have spent some time in correcting one of my protractors, and I think it is very nearly correct now, for some of my last work has shown it to be right or very nearly so. I spent much of the afternoon on the plan for Mr. Billings land, but I cannot at present work very rapidly. Today I have paid Woodruff 32 cents for feed for the hens, and I am sure it is a profitable investment. The season continues to be like that of 1843, and Vernon might try this and see if it is not one of his periods when the weather repeats itself. I paid for sundry articles of met, etc. 64 cents; not set down.

Debits - .32, .64

Thursday, November 1

The S.W. wind continues with prospect of more storm. I prepared a new sheet of parchment paper so as to transfer the plan that I have been perfecting. I worked on the plans much of the day and think they can be made correctly. Paid Richmond 12 cts for meat. Some rainy in the afternoon and about three o'clock there was a furious snow-squall. These squalls of snow indicate cold weather as approaching. Brought forward 15.93.

Debits – .12

Friday, November 2

Found two inches of snow this morning and it appears as though it began to rain and soon changed to snow, and we can expect more to follow soon. Mrs. D. remains comfortable, sits up about half the time, rests quite well at night and is perhaps improving some. She gets along well with Harriett Emery and I hope she can stay with us through the winter. I have worked about half the day on the plans, and hope I can find more time to work on them. This afternoon we had a letter from Herman Dunham who is at Tufts College, has just entered his second year. H.H. Lockwood paid me 50 cents.

Credits - .50

Saturday, November 3

The Sun was clear in the morning and shone very brightly on the mountain, but the clouds gathered soon, but the day was rather pleasant. I paid Dr. Logan 10 dollars, and I paid Richmond 19 cts for meat, also paid Richmond 20 cts. This was Mrs. D's. "birth day" and her sister Mrs. Dunham called to greet her on her 43d annual round of such a day. They make it a fixed rule to see each other on such days, but Mrs. D. was not able to go to Mrs. Dunham's to spend the day. Paid Mrs. Dunham 1 dollar for milk.

Debits – 10.00, .19, .20, 1.00

Sunday, November 4

How rapidly the days are passing away, and another winter will soon be with us. The day is however more pleasant than any for many days past, and we hope to have a warm time yet before the ground freezes up. Harriett Emery has been with us nearly a week and we all get along finely. She goes home this morning but will return tonight. She started for home at nine o'clock. Mrs. Dunham called in the afternoon and the day passed off pleasantly I worked on the meteorological papers and fear that I have lost some of my papers containing copies of the first part of notes on October, but hope they will come before it is too late to replace them. Harriett Emery returned just before night and we are again provided for.

Monday, November 5

This is a most beautiful morning. The weather not cold and the air slightly smoky. I began early on the drawing, and have succeeded well with it. Paid 20 cts for potatoes at Richmond's and 15 cts for pepper at Freemans, and got 7 2 cts stamps at the Post Office and paid the barber 20 cts. Sent a bill to Hartland for the surveying of the Barron Hill road. In the evening I worked on the reductions of the barometer in October, and have worked quite easily.

Debits - .20, .15, .14, .20

Tuesday, November 6

Easterly wind; falling barometer and partly cloudy weather, giving much appearance of rain. But no rain came. The barometer continued to fall till afternoon. This is the day of election in many of the states, and in some of them remarkably spirited, and the evening will be spent in getting out and hearing the returns. I spent much of the day on the meteorological work. Paid Collins 15 cts for meat, and in the afternoon I paid White 48 cts and 3 cts for yeast at Slacks.

Debits – .15, .51

Wednesday, November 7

I spent much of the time on the meteorological records, in making the necessary reductions and in copying the results into the sheet to send to the department. Brother Spencer called here, and I had not seen him for some weeks till now. I wrote a letter for him to send to his cousin Pliny at Rutland. I hope he will succeed in convincing his cousin that it is better to be an honest man than to suffer his debts to pass statute limitation after being called upon to renew the paper repeatedly.

Thursday, November 8

The night, especially the latter part, was cold and it reminds us of what is to come. I spent the day at my table. I paid Woodruff 24 cts for feed for the hens, and Mrs. D. sent 25 cts by Carlie Dunham to get towels, etc. for the table. My table work was quite difficult for it was in short lines and difficult to plot; for it was about the garden and the rock where the drift scratches are so plainly to be seen. I kept about my work till nearly night when I left it and went to the post office and to Woodruffs to get the feed, etc.

Debits - .24, .25

Friday, November 9

Mr. Billings leaves with his family for New York where he will spend the winter. Woodstock seems almost desolate when he is away, for he employs so many hands when he is here that laborers miss him when he is out of the place. I have spent the greater part of the day in chores and in copying meteorological matters. I paid five cts for stamps and six cents for table linen. It began to rain about one o'clock this afternoon, so I have not banked the house as I intended. Elmer Emery came here in the afternoon to see Harriett who is staying with us a short time.

Debits - .11

Saturday, November 10

A pleasant morning for November, and one third of the month is passing away. I began to clear the leaves from the road and to bank the house and the barn along the west end, and that was my work through the forenoon. Mr. Montague called to have me go with him some day soon, perhaps next Monday, and survey a road on the South side of the river below Bridgewater Village. This morning I paid Collins 32 cts for meat.

Debits - .32

Sunday, November 11

The morning was warm but cloudy at times. The clouds were changeable, with some wind. I was at my table much of the time and I finished the October report and must mail it tomorrow. Harriett Emery went home this morning and we were alone till afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Dunham called here in the afternoon, and at night Sister Joanna came from Pomfret, and later Harriett Emery came from home and our place seemed somewhat more social.

Monday, November 12

We had set this day to make a road survey on the south side of Quechee River below Bridgewater Village but it began quite early to be very rough. Horace Dunham came to take up our cistern, and we arranged to clear it out entirely and to cover it with cedar posts. We arranged to cover it wholly without leaving any opening to get into it.

Tuesday, November 13

A wintry morning, though the thermometer is not so low as it has been a few days before. Horace came again to finish the cistern, but I was called to go to Bridgewater and to make the road survey. Mr. Montague called for me, and we had a cold ride and a cold time to do our work, but we succeeded in doing it.

Wednesday, November 14

The morning was not quite so cold. We prepared our outside windows and put them on, which is some earlier than we usually put them on. Mr. Leavitt of Royalton or Barnard came and paid me ten dollars for Henry J. Adams on Kimball Perkins account, it being the balance due for Kimball's work and I gave a receipt and must put the money in the Savings Bank. I paid Chapman one dollar for "Liebigs Coca and Beef Tonic." Mrs. Emery called for Harriett and they left for home in the afternoon.

Credits – 10.00

Debits – 1.00

Thursday, November 15

This was the coldest morning that we have had this season. Thermometer registering only eight above zero, and so we see it falling slowly and it will soon be at zero. I began this morning to cover the cistern with leaves and matters that will check the frost. I also finished the banking of the house which I finished in the afternoon. I paid Freeman 7 cts for screws to fasten the outside windows. I paid Collins 25 cts for meat, for we can get these small quantities of him more conveniently than at the market.

Debits - .07, .25

Friday, November 16

Spent the morning in chores about the house and dooryard, and I cut corn stubble out of Miss Richmonds garden to put about her cellar windows. Abbie came from Pomfret about the middle of the day with errands at the bank and at the stores and mill. She gave us a copy of Anthony Trollopes Autobiography, a charming book. The day is rough with changing winds from S.W. to N.W. and the reverse.

Saturday, November 17

Thermometer registered 7.4 degrees this morning but was 20 degrees higher at 7 a.m. so it may be a more comfortable day. Horace Dunham called in the forenoon and I engaged him to assist me in making a survey of the Fuller place, and we went in the afternoon and made the corners where they were needed or where they had been destroyed. Mrs. Freeman paid 50 cents for eggs, and I paid 36 cents for kerosene. In the evening I copied the meteorological notes into my record book and copies are all made up to the present month. Paid Collins 15 cts for meat.

Credits - .50

Debits - .36, .15

Sunday, November 18

This is the day set by Scientists and railroad men to set their time to what they call "Standard Time," and the Woodstock clocks are set today to correspond with the Five hour time on the 75th meridian. This makes our time 9 minutes and 42 seconds slower than the true Solar time of the place. There are some conveniences about this change but not without some inconveniences that will be felt in the meridian in the state of Maine and of Ohio where the differences are about half an hour, and the mean Solar noon is about half an hour faster than the time west of it and slower than the time east of it. I do not yet discover an easy remedy for this inconvenience but such may be found. In the forenoon I went to our jewelers to see if their times were correct and I found that Mr. Murdock had already set his clock as nearly as he could to the time, and I gave the time to Mr. Moore who will set the church clock. Mr. Moon set the clock this afternoon and our town time corresponds with the time urged by Scientists and Railroad men. Mrs. Dunham called this afternoon.

Monday, November 19

I spent much of the time today in writing for the meteorological reports; in part for the Standard and in part for filling the blanks for the Signal Service. So nearly the whole day was spent at my table.

Tuesday, November 20

Finished the Standard article and left it at the office, and then I saw my friend E.H. Williams of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. I saw him but a few minutes as we were in some haste. I called on Dr. Logan to

consult him about carrying Mrs. Doton to Pomfret, and he offered to carry her himself. She started at two o'clock and had a very comfortable time. Sister Joanna went with Miss Barber soon after, and I went in the evening. The day has been exceedingly fine for November.

Wednesday, November 21

We rested very well in my old room that I had not been in for a very long time. I worked on the corrections and reductions of the temperature and pressure and have had very good success. Before noon I started for our own place and I got there about noon. Worked at my drawing table a great part of the afternoon, and taking care of the hens. Mortimer went to the mill and at night I rode home with him. In the evening I worked at my old table where I had been for many days long ago.

Thursday, November 22

Soon after breakfast I started for Woodstock. Mr. Leach offered me his horse and wagon to ride down and keep it till night. It was a generous and kind offer and I readily accepted it. I went to our room and did chores about the house & barn till noon, and after dinner I went to the Fuller place and took some bearings about that lot that finished the descriptions that I needed.

Friday, November 23

Today I took Mortimers horse and went to Woodstock in the forenoon and I worked on the plans perfecting the lines and angles by plots and by re-surveys. There are some things rather difficult about the surveys of that lot and it has taken some re-surveys. There was a fine rain that began soon after midnight. I paid Paul 9 cts for sugar.

Debits - .09

Saturday, November 24

I again took Mortimers horse and rode to the village, and after doing all the chores about the house and barn, I worked on the survey of the Smith house lot, and have got all the lines correctly made. But was obliged to go to the lot to test some of the angles. Mortimer used his horse in the afternoon to go to the "Flat," and about five o'clock we started for home. We find that Mrs. Doton has been gaining strength and improving generally since she came from the cares and perplexities of her life about home.

Sunday, November 25

The weather is much cooler this morning and the wind is now nearly in the north or northwest. There were in the morning some beautiful polar bands, but they did not cover all the face of the sky. Mary Simmons and Harriett Emery called in the forenoon. I got in readiness to ride to our place with Mr. Leach as he goes to church this afternoon and to see things there. I can do but little in the time that I can be there while Mr. Leach attends the afternoon services at the church, but I can see that things are safe at home. We returned to the old place about three o'clock and I found myself very tired. Mrs. Doton is improving daily and how glad we shall be when she gets to be able to return to our home and keep there quietly and attend to our own work in our own way at our own home. This has been one of the most pleasant days ever known in November. In the middle of the day the sky seemed perfectly clear just before sunset the whole face of the sky seemed a peculiar glow of reflected light of an orange color slightly touched with red opposite the sun.

Monday, November 26

Got Mortimers horse and went early to Woodstock to see that all things are right there. I took up the plan of the Elton Smith lot, or the Fuller lot, and finished it about two o'clock, and I took it to C.M. Marsh who has the care of the Smith's business here, and he paid me fifteen dollars for all that I had done on the surveys. I paid one dollar and sixty eight cents insurance tax to C.M. Marsh and I paid Woodruff twelve cents for shorts for the hens.

Credits - 15.00

Debits - 1.68, .12

Tuesday, November 27

Had Mr. Leach's horse to go to Woodstock, and I took it to Mr. Williams lot for shoeing. I made a close survey of the Fuller house on E.A. Smith's lot. Called on Charles Marsh and got the plans I left with him yesterday and will make the additions to it tomorrow if possible. I spoke to Mr. Boyce to have an account of fifty dollars called for next month and if it comes it will be a very great help about my work. I paid White 12 cts for two H pencils, as that goes with the F. or Nos 4 & 3. The weather is some cooler and the ground will freeze some tonight. There was a remarkably beautiful sunset tonight. The sky was beautifully shaded with red and orange in the southwest. Received of Mrs. Freeman 54 cents.

Credits - .54

Debits - .12

Wednesday, November 28

Started to walk to Woodstock or a part of the distance, but rode the rest part with Mr. Leach to our house. After doing many chores about the house and barn, I plotted the buildings on the Smith plan of his house lot. I am satisfied with the survey of the lot and buildings. Paid five cents for meat for the cat and eight cents for knitting cotton. The day is inclining to storm; dense squalls passing by us north and south and going from east to west. The wind was S.E. in the morning, but changed to N.W. Cold and rough this evening. I rode back from Woodstock with Mr. Spear starting about four o'clock.

Debits - .05, .08

Thursday, November 29

This is Thanksgiving Day and is my seventy fourth birth day, that is I am seventy four years old today, and it seems but a few years since I was a mere child playing about here protected by my father and mother, whose very selves seem before me vividly as I write. I have just returned from a walk over the Ware place that I sold to Mortimer Spear some years ago, and how changed! The small trees are now large ones, and the large ones are passed away. But we seem nearly the same.

Friday, November 30

This is the closing day of November, and the month has been extremely changeable as far as weather and temperature are concerned. I started for Woodstock taking Mr. Spear's horse and carrying Miss Louise Burnham to Dr. Jewett's and seeing her on the way to the old place again. It began to snow as early as six o'clock and it continued with a little rain till night. I paid at the Post Office \$12.06 plus 10 cts equals 12.16 for money order and 4 cts postage, and Paul 3 cts for lamp wick. I fitted up our desk lamp with Argand burner and hope it will work better than ever before. Carlie Dunham came in the evening and I fail to go to Pomfret on account of the snow. Paid 2 cts for stamps not reported. Herman Henry died at South Pomfret, Vt. Aged 77 years.

Debits - 12.16, .04, .03, .02

Saturday, December 1

The night was colder and I slept in our chamber, but it was a lone and wakeful sleep, and was glad when morning came. Carlie got breakfast for me and after that I was alone anxiously expecting my wife to come and she came at noon or a little after, and was glad to get to our home again. I have tried to keep the hens well fed. Paid Woodruff 36 cts for bone meal and shorts and they, the hens, admire the feed. My wife was some tired in the evening but went early to rest. I am glad she is able to be at home. Brought forward 2.47.

Debits - .36

Sunday, December 2

A very slight storm of snow this morning. A rapid fall of the barometer so we may expect high wind. In the forenoon. I went to the market and paid Richmond 23 cents for meat. We are alone here today; not having any one to disturb or make us afraid. This half an inch of snow makes rather dirty walking. It is now five o'clock and we have been alone till now when Miss Richmond came in and she is now speaking

of plants and geraniums. The weather is now growing colder and we may expect a little more winter weather. Carlie Dunham came as Miss Richmond left and Ferris Vaughan nearly the same time. Our evening proved to be a very pleasant one.

Debits - 23

Monday, December 3

A cold morning. Ther. 4 above zero. The coldest this season. We are here alone and but few calls, as the weather is so cold. Paid Woodruff 25 cents for corn for the hens, and Simmons 11 cts for bread; and paid Mrs. Dunham one dollar for milk. But I think we must be owing her more than that, for she has been at work for us very much the past month. Mr. F.N. Billings bought us fifty dollars from his brother Frederick. I received a dun and card from the publisher of the Landmark, and I am glad to get it, for I shall now stop it. My friend H.S. Dana had such a card and dun and has stopped the paper. These are very pleasant little patches of mud and filth, but do not injure any one.

Credits – 50.00

Debits - .25, .11, 1.00

Tuesday, December 4

Thermometer Registered 2 degrees above zero, but at 7 o'clock was much higher. Carlie Dunham came in the forenoon to assist in putting our house in order, for we had been here alone the last two days, and things were some out of order. I sent a line to the editor of the Junction paper calling for his bill, as he seems to have omitted two dollars that I paid him in April last.

Wednesday, December 5

This forenoon I received a line from the publisher of "The Landmark" and of course another specimen of his impudence. It is unfortunate for a man to have such a temperament. Mr. Samuel Gilbert brought us a load of best dry wood and I paid him five dollars for this and another load to come. The wood is the best I have seen for a long time.

Debits – 5.00

Thursday, December 6

Carlie Dunham staid here last night. Mrs. D. seems much brighter when she is here. This morning I sent a money order to A.A. Earle, publisher of "The Landmark" for one dollar and fifty cents to pay him the balance of his bill, for this I paid at the Post Office one dollar and fifty eight cents. I hope this will satisfy the publisher of that paper and I ordered it discontinued from my list of papers. I also paid Richmond 18 cts for meat and Paul 10 cts as a balance due him, and I paid Simmons 10 cts for bread.

Debits - 1.58, .18, .10, .10

Friday, December 7

This morning I called at Mr. Jason Hewitt's to find Miss Julia Switzer to see if she will come and assist Mrs. Doton a few weeks. But she does not give us much encouragement about staying very long if she can come at all. Mr. Thompson called in the afternoon and he called on Miss Richmond and paid her \$12.00 for chamber rent till the 16th day of January next. Miss Switzer called in the afternoon with but little hope that she can come to assist us. Mrs. Southgate called in the early evening. Daniel Stearns died at Chicago, aged 63 years.

Saturday, December 8

Arose one minute before six o'clock so I gained one minute. Paid Woodruff 12 cts for shorts. Paid Chapman for a bottle of coca beef tonic one dollar, and paid Paul thirty cents for oatmeal, and paid Simmons for bread 10 cts. Mrs. Flora B. Tracy died at Taftsville, Vt.

Debits - .12, 1.00, .30, .10

Sunday, December 9

A warm morning, and we are having a similar time to that the first week in January 1863, when President Lincoln's proclamation setting the slaves free came into force. We often associate peculiar events, and by that means fix them in memory. I spent the greater part of the day at my table testing and correcting, or rather reducing the barometer's readings for the month of November. These I found to be very well taken. This work lasted till late in the evening. Mrs. Fairbanks called in the morning, Miss Emma Marcy in the middle of the day and Mrs. Russell in the evening. Mrs. Doton is improving very slowly. She can walk about the room and can sit at the table and take her meals, but not strength to cut with small shears very thin cotton cloth; but when she attempts any such work it produces a severe pain in the base of the brain or in the back of her neck that spreads entirely over her and very painfully affects the nerves. This morning I mailed letter to Franklin, New Hampshire. This morning I paid Richmond 15 cts.

Monday, December 10

Cooler this morning. I went to work as soon as the chores were done, at my table on meteorological work and general intellectual work. Met James Leonard, and he wishes to have his sister Susan take lessons in the higher mathematics. I do not see how I can spare the time. I went upstreet and paid Paul for groceries 30 plus 36 plus 10 cents equals 76 cents. Miss Julia Switzer came in the afternoon to assist us a few days, and Carlie went directly home from her shop work. It seems quite pleasant to have a strong and capable woman to manage the house at this time. Polk came in the forenoon; says his father is more comfortable.

Debits - .76

Tuesday, December 11

The weather is some cooler but not cold. I let Abraham Dunbar have 25 cts to get his saws filed so that he can come and saw my wood. His promise is not always good. Paid 5 cts postage, etc. Received of J.G. Bates fifteen dollars in full for surveying the Barron Hill road. There has been a general time of calls this afternoon. Sister Joanna called with some of our things from Pomfret. Miss Susan Leonard came and wishes to take lessons in Geometry. I must try to hear her lessons for her mother has been very kind to Mrs. Doton and worked for her when she was too unwell to work.

Credits – 15.00

Debits - .25, .05

Wednesday, December 12

Another cooler morning, but the appearance of storm does not bring one. I called on Willie Hewitt and paid him six dollars for a pair of pants. Paid Richmond 25 cts for beef, and I paid Miss Switzer one dollar for helping us through a hard pinch about the housework. She left this evening after Miss Etta Spaulding came. Received a letter from Edward Doton but the business was with brother Spencer instead of me. Miss Spaulding came this evening to work for us for a time.

Debits – 6.00, .25, 1.00

Thursday, December 13

A remarkably mild and pleasant morning. I took pants to Myers and by his advice I changed with Hewitt & Co. and all is right or nearly so now. I paid Dunbar 50 cts the balance for sawing a cord of wood, a work that he finished this afternoon. I paid White 50 minus 2 for Silliman, that is 48 cts for the Silliman & 2 cts for postage. Received a letter from the White River Paper Company that the registers would be sent out tomorrow. If so they are nearly two weeks earlier than usual.

Debits – .50, .50

Friday, December 14

Slightly rainy this morning. I have spent all the spare time after doing the necessary chores about the house, on the meteorological report, as I am obliged to do all the copying of the work, the principal part after the computations myself. I put the work on a new blank that the signal service have been getting up.

The plan of the new form is very good one, and I sent the report off this afternoon. I also sent in the Standard report and I hope it will appear satisfactory. I have begun to hear Miss Leonard's lessons in Geometry. She appears to be a very bright scholar. The Register has not come today.

Saturday, December 15

A very sudden change in the weather, thermometer falling rapidly. At 7 a.m. it was 4 above and about 9 it was 1 below zero. Paid French 2 dollars for his horse to Hartland, and Richmond 30 cts for steak. Received of Mrs. Freeman 50 cts for eggs and 2.10 to send for the "Banner." Paid for money order to send for the "Banner" 2.08 postage 2 cts equals 2.10 and I paid 6 cts for stamps, and 38 cts to Woodruff. There is a cold night in prospect. At 7 this morning the thermometer was 4 degrees above zero and at about 9 o'clock it was below zero and has been so all day. At 7 o'clock this evening it is minus 8 degrees and falling. Wrote and mailed a letter to Miss Latimer who is teaching at Smithville Burlington Co. N.J.

Credits - .50, 2.10

Debits - 2.00, .30, 2.10, .44

Sunday, December 16

This is the coldest morning of the season; ther. registered minus 15 degrees and was minus 12 at 7 o'clock; yet it grew warmer so that it was 14 degrees at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The house cooled down so low that the thermometer read full ten degrees lower than is usual in cold spells. We have remained here nearly alone through the day. Dr. Logan called in the afternoon and found Mrs. Doton getting along as well as he could expect; for these spinal troubles are a slow working disease and time is always required to make an impression on them. I went to Horace Dunham's in the afternoon.

Monday, December 17

About one inch of snow fell this morning but it seemed too cold for any kind of storm. It began quite early this morning and ended about one this afternoon. My friend Wallace Ware called a few minutes this forenoon and left on the train at 11 hr-10 min. He is still living at Georgetown Colorado, and will be here probably next summer. I mailed a letter to R.A. Perkins this forenoon. I paid Paul 25 cts for kerosene. My cash account is right this month to this date 70.17 minus 24.98 equals 45.09 which is just the sum on hand.

Debits - .25

Tuesday, December 18

Another cold morning. Ther registered minus 5 but at 7 it read 9 degrees above zero. Nearly all the forenoon was spent in chores about the house and barn. But I finished a description of my meteorological instrument station for the Signal Service, and mailed it in the afternoon. My Vermont Registers came this afternoon, 120 of them and I took 20 of them to Mr. White and 12 to Mr. Burdette, for which he paid me \$1.20. Miss Leonard came to her recitation and I think she will make a very good scholar in that science.

Credits - 1.20

Wednesday, December 19

Snow this morning and the first sleighs were seen out. The storm increased all the forenoon, and this afternoon we are having a real winter snow-storm. I gave a Vt. Register to my friend and scholar H.S. Dana, four to Mr. Billings and one to the County Clerk and one to each of the Judges of the court. I sent 12 registers to Charles Vaughan and one to Mr. Chamberlin. We paid Miss Spaulding \$1.75 for one weeks work. About three and half inches of snow has fallen today. I omitted to say above that the Vt. Registers came this afternoon and I paid 25 cts express bill.

Debits - 1.75, .25

Thursday, December 20

A cool morning, the thermometer only four degrees above zero, and the wind changes very rapidly from north to south. At last it rested northeasterly and was so till afternoon when it got round to a westerly

quarter. I carried thirty more registers to Mr. White so that he now has fifty. I paid White 15 cts for a rose card and I paid Simeon Dunham two dollars for work here on the fence last fall. Paid Paul 10 cts for matches.

Debits - .15, 2.00, .10

Friday, December 21

This morning Mr. French brought me a book, a present from Judge Pingrey, a genealogy of the Pingrey family. A valuable book, and the source from which it comes makes it much more valuable. Mr. French paid me 10 cts, and I paid 20 cts for postage stamps. The forenoon was very stormy. Six inches of snow fell during the storm. Paid Christiana Emery 5 dollars for what she had done for us this fall & winter. Miss Leonard came to her recitation and I am very sure that she is a very good scholar. We were obliged to get out our snow shovels and scrapers for the snow is about one foot deep around and on the buildings.

Credits - .10

Debits - .20, 5.00

Saturday, December 22

Full winter weather, but not so cold as December usually is. This morning I mailed away the papers that contain our meteorological article. Mr. Mellish called in the morning to speak of the Chamberlin note, and he left it with me to arrange with Mr. C. Abbie came from Pomfret soon after noon and was here till past two in the afternoon when she started for home. I paid Paul 28 cts for groceries. The weather grew cold fast late in the afternoon and early evening. Between seven and eight o'clock it fell to minus 14 degrees but at eight it read only minus 10 degrees.

Debits - .28

Sunday, December 23

An extremely cold morning, one degree colder than any we had last winter. The temperature was falling till after eight o'clock this morning when it read 32 degrees below zero which is 64 degrees below freezing point. Surely a very cold day. It was about as much as I could do to keep the household comfortable and the little domestic animals that can feel and suffer with cold as we can, though perhaps not so much in degree, to keep them from freezing and suffering with the cold and frost. I wrote a long letter to Dr. Page of Danville Prov. Quebec, and I hope he will reply to it, and get in the habit of writing more. His mother is anxious to hear from him and to get letters from her children often, but they are truly negligent about writing.

Monday, December 24

A snowy morning and it probably began to snow as early as two o'clock. Christmas is now drawing nigh and the streets are filled, or rather, lined with teams from the surrounding country. I mailed a letter to Dr. Page, and I received a surveying instrument circular from J.F. Randolph of Cincinnati. Such notices come frequently, and are at times quite convenient. This evening we received a letter from Miss E. Latimer with Christmas cards, and Mrs. D. received an Almanac from our friend R.A. Perkins. Also an assessment from the Benefit Life Co. of Hartford, Conn. We are here alone this evening, and it passes off pleasantly for the weather is growing warmer.

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas. We did not hurry ourselves about starting this morning, and I had expected a pleasant day, and it has come and the morning is beautiful. I mailed six registers this afternoon to friends abroad, and I gave away about as many at home. I paid Myers 35 cts for fixing pants and I find them much more comfortable if such weather is to continue. The weather has been much warmer today and there has been much appearance of rain. Paid Woodruff 10 cts for short.

Debits - .35, .10

Wednesday, December 26

This morning I sent one Register to Gen. Hazen and one to Edward Conant, and I must send one to Prof. Gugot as I do not recollect of ever sending one to him. Paid George Fisher \$1.25 for high chair and paid Etta Spaulding \$1.75 for the last weeks work, and we must continue to close up her work account every Wednesday night. Dr. Randall called and I let him have a Register and an old copy of "Scott's Lessons." He paid 17 cts.

Credits – .17

Debits – 1.25, 1.75

Thursday, December 27

The weather is warmer and there is some appearance of rain. This is the day that is set for Mrs. Doton to go to Mr. Dunham's as Herman is now at home on his winter vacation. She rode up there in the forenoon before it began to rain. I went there just before noon and was there to dinner, and came home soon after three o'clock. The rain began to fall most plentifully. Charles Darling was at Mr. Dunham's and Tufts College was quite well represented.

Friday, December 28

The wind came round to the northwest not far from midnight, and the morning is another Dakota "blizzard." I paid Richmond 20 cts for a steak piece. I saw Edward Bailey in the street and Mary Billings. It is pleasant to meet the Billings folks, but how lonesome seems the place on the hill.

Debits - .20

Saturday, December 29

The morning is pleasant and not very cold, the thermometer being eleven degrees above zero. The sky is not so gorgeous as it was last evening but still is brilliant. The cause of this rich display is not known, but I think it is wholly confined to our atmosphere. Today I have paid one dollar to Chapman for a bottle of Coca beef tonic. 30 cts to Woodruff for feed; eight cents to Paul, and 50 cts to Richmond. Dr. Logan called in the afternoon and I paid him ten dollars on his account.

Debits – 1.00, .30, .08, .50, 10.00

Sunday, December 30

The last Sunday in the year 1883. My friend Mr. Crosby preaches his last sermon to this Universalist society today as he soon leaves for Brunswick, Me., and we hope he will find a good society and be duly appreciated for we find him to be a remarkably good young man, a good scholar and thoroughly established in pure Christian principles, and fully consecrated to the work of the ministry. On leaving us here he carries with him for himself and worthy companion our best wishes. I had never been able to hear him preach but Mrs. Doton has heard him a few times but for many months has not been able to hear him. We regret this much for we are sure he is a studious and worthy young man. It began to snow lightly this morning about eight o'clock, and now at three p.m. it has become a real snow-storm.

Monday, December 31

We have now come to the closing evening of the year 1883, and I am now making the closing memorandum in this book that is filled with the more common incidents and occurrences that have fallen in my path or my notice. In whatever I have written I have endeavored to state facts as they appeared to me and I trust it will not be found worthless to any one. Whether we have grown wiser we perhaps should not be the ones to know but we can hope the year has not been spent wholly in vain. Today I have paid A. Dunbar for work on wood one dollar, and I paid Paul 25 cts for kerosene and I paid 3 cts for yeast. Received about 10 days ago 63 cents from the Windsor Co. Mutual Fire Ins. Co. as overpaid. An error of 4 cents, probably for postage stamps. Balance carried forward 20.37.

Credits - .63

Debits – 1.00, .25, .03, .04

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.

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

Abbie Doton was the daughter of Hosea Doton and his first wife, Lois Paddock Doton. She married James Knox Polk Chamberlin. Abbie was a teacher who became the first librarian at the Abbott Memorial Library in Pomfret.

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 Spencer Doton's wife Charlotte. He sometimes worked for Spencer 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

Ague – Shivering that sometimes accompanies a fever or Malaria.

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.

Dower – A widow's share for life from her husband's estate.

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.

Nol Pros – When a prosecuting attorney drops charges against a defendant.

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.

Rowen – A second growth of hay or grass in a season.

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.

Zodiacal - A faint, diffuse glow visible in the night sky, extending from the Sun's direction and along the ecliptic.