



Hosea Doton's Daily Journal
January 1, 1865 to January 16, 1866

Preface

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

Hosea married Lois Paddock in 1834 and they had a daughter named Abba on August 1, 1840. Hosea calls her Abbie throughout this diary. In early diaries, Hosea refers to Lois as "wife," and notes that she often visits her sisters Mrs. A.C. Perkins and Mrs. Nelson Perkins. Hosea also records frequent visits to his home by the Paddock family. There are also visits from his parents, his brother Spenser, and his five sisters. Lois Paddock Doton died on February 2, 1857.

On May 28, 1858, Hosea married Harriet Ware who was a former student and daughter of his neighbor Henry L. Ware. Harriet was gifted in math and became an assistant to Hosea in the classroom. She was one of few people who could help Hosea with the calculations he did every year for the Vermont Almanac. Hosea was devastated when his "dear Harriet" died of fever on November 18, 1858. They were married less than six months.

In this diary from seven years later, Hosea continues to mourn for Harriet as people and places bring her to mind. After Harriet's death, Hosea began exchanging letters with her best friend, Miss Wheelock, who has since moved to Milwaukee, WI. She shares memories of Harriet with him and comforts him through years of sadness and loneliness.

In 1865, Hosea is busy teaching school in Pomfret, and he notes that he is asked to take on surveying tasks nearly every time he visits Woodstock. Hosea's daughter Abbie continues to keep him company through much of the year and sends him frequent letters when she is away.

On April 10, 1865, Hosea says that there was a great celebration in Woodstock over news that General Lee's army had been captured. Then, on April 14, Hosea learns that President Abraham Lincoln was shot by an assassin, and receives confirmation in Woodstock the following day. These are the only news items that Hosea shares in this diary.

Hosea's friends and neighbors elected him to the Vermont State Senate in September, 1865, and he reluctantly agreed to serve. On October 10, he traveled to Montpelier by train and marveled at the beautiful foliage across the state. Hosea enjoyed meeting some of Vermont's distinguished residents, including Lieutenant Governor Abraham Gardner with whom he had a long chat. Before the Senate term ended in November, Hosea helped pass a bill that revised the charter of the Woodstock Rail Road and allowed construction to begin.

At year's end, Hosea reflected on whether he had fulfilled the resolutions he made in January, 1865. Had he "taught error" to anyone? Had he, "left important duties undone and unthought of?" Was his heart, "in closer communion" with God than a year ago?" He concludes that if he failed in these points, it was still his "fervent prayer to be guided aright and to be influenced to come nearer the great fountain of Eternal Truth." Then, on the last night of the year, Hosea tried to write a letter to Miss Wheelock but could not finish because, "the brain was too tired."

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 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.

1865

Sunday, January 1,

Again time has brought us to the first day of another year. The events of the last year are sealed in the past. While others are called away, I am spared with health improved and all that is mine has been blessed and crowned with prosperity. And let us hope in the future with confidence in our Heavenly Father. Wrote a long letter to my dear Abbie.

January 2

Am feeling some better than I did yesterday, but am hardly able to go into school though I try it. – The day has been pleasant and quite warm for such winter weather. – The school is full again, and I wish they could see the importance of more earnest study and thought. We have the elements to make a good school and how I wish they could be made to believe it, so as to put themselves thoroughly to the work. Mailed a letter to Abbie this morning and shall expect to hear from her tomorrow night. I begin the year by getting a new Webster's Dictionary of Mr. Pratt and paid him eleven dollars. It is a work of inestimable worth and cannot be prized too highly. I must buy another copy for Abbie for I know she would appreciate it.

January 3

The weather is some warmer this morning. Carried my new dictionary to school and find it all that we can wish. Received a letter from Abbie this morning and read it with the most perfect satisfaction. She sent a pamphlet that Mr. Goodwin sent to her. Mr. Woodward called this evening. The funeral of Emma Foles was attended today. – Am too tired to write now.

January 4

Am not very well this morning but must go to school. The weather is becoming very cold. Mr. Converse called to see about the Herrick case that is yet in our hands. That case is a very troublesome one for us, and I hope it may sometime be closed. School is going well and the scholars are very punctual in their attendance, and are quite attentive to their lessons.

January 5

The week is drawing towards the close and I am glad for I get very tired. My head and eyes trouble me very much, and I must throw off some of the work that I have on hand. Mr. Kingsbury called at school and staid about an hour, and after school went to Spenser's but soon left for home.

January 6

Am out of wood at the school house but can cut it myself, as we have some four-foot wood on hand. – The scholars have been extremely uneasy today, and I should certainly think a storm was approaching. Close the school for the week, and am glad, for I do not teach small scholars so easily. A little snow in the evening.

January 7

Found the snow eight or ten inches deep this morning and the wind blowing fresh from the N.W. – Was to go to the north part of the town today, but the storm is too severe. At noon the thermometer indicated twenty-four degrees above zero and in the evening it was 2 below. Worked on C. Marsh's surveys and did not go out for the storm was fearful.

Sunday, January 8

Thermometer 15 degrees below zero at sunrise, making a change of 39 degrees since yesterday noon. Rested very well last night, and have spent the greater part of the day in reading and in writing and became very tired before night. The day has been extremely rough and cold. Took supper at Spenser's this afternoon.

January 9 (Maxwell's ink)

This is the most perfectly fluid ink that I have ever used. It flows perfectly and keeps the pen almost entirely clear. I like the color of the Maynard & Noyes ink the best of any that I have used, but this flows the best. This is a very cold morning. School has gone well through the day.

January 10

I have hardly kept my notes full for a few days. I copy the greater part of these from notes written on the dates. – I can hardly find time to write full notes when in school. How pale this ink when I first write with it, but it soon grows dark enough.

January 11

There is a sameness about school days that makes a note book dull. Am trying to find time to visit schools, but dislike leaving my own school to visit others. This school does not need visiting, and there is no one to visit it. My time passes pleasantly.

January 12

Have determined not to teach tomorrow, for I wish to visit some of the schools that I have neglected. Mr. Marsh and Mr. Dana called to get some minutes of their surveys. I hope I have finished their surveying of these lots, but there may be more to be done.

January 13

Started this morning to visit schools. Called at South Pomfret to see Norville Bruce's school. He is doing remarkably well. I then went to the school where Mrs. Elmina (Hewitt) Allen is teaching. Hers is one of the best schools in town though it is very small. Called at the Reed school, then went to Mr. Woods.

January 14

Staid at Mr. Woods last night and this morning began to do errands. Called at Mr. Adams to have him go to the Howard place at the west part of the town. – Got Faneuf to shoe the horse. – A very stormy afternoon, but we went to the Howard place and finished the appraisal there.

Sunday, January 15

Came home in the storm last night and am very dull today, so I stay in my room and read and write. Wrote a long full letter to Abbie, but her letters to me now are shorter. She might have graduated this term, but I preferred that she should not. My lesson today 105 Psalm & John 7th.

January 16

A very high wind yesterday and last night, so that the roads are filled up this morning. Thermometer five degrees below zero in the morning and it remained cold through the day. Went to the school house quite early this morning but did not begin school till 20 min. past nine.

January 17

Another cold morning and the thermometer at 7 degrees below zero. Have worked hard in school though I have felt quite unwell & dizzy from a tired brain. Sent a letter to Lester Miller on the subject of dictionaries. Received a good letter from Abbie. It was mis-sent to Biddeford, Maine.

January 18

Still colder this morning. Ther. 10 below zero. The house was some cold at school but it answers a very good purpose. – Joanna came home from Mr. Bett's. – Sent a letter to Abbie. Got a letter from Mr. Miller on the subject of Dictionaries, and I shall buy his dictionary for Abbie.

January 19

Not so cold this morning. Thermometer at zero. Am very tired this morning. Received a letter from Polk Chamberlin calling for a survey of the Orrin White land. School has gone very well for so near the last of a week. I am intensely tired and should be glad to close the school for the week.

January 20

Not very cold this morning. The hard labor evenings makes school go rather hard towards the close of the week. How much there is to be done in school! This district shows very much want of earnest teaching. Tomorrow I must visit schools, so I close school for the week tonight.

January 21

Went to the Maxham school in the forenoon and the Chedel school in the afternoon. Found both these schools doing very well. Lucia Lamberton in the Maxham school is doing very well. Dana Hewitt's school is a good one for his first, - but it needs experience to make it what it should be.

Sunday, January 22

Am very unwell today. Scarcely able to read or write, but I try to do both. - The hard work of yesterday makes it very bad with me today. I wish I could arrange my work better.

January 23

This is one of the sacred days of my life for it is My dear Harriet's "birth day." She would have been thirty-six years old today. She appeared to me most vividly in a dream last night, but gone on waking. She appeared perfectly natural and the scene was most truly touching.

January 24

There is so much of sameness in these school days that I find but very little to write. Almost every day finds me in the school and a pleasant time we generally make of it. Teaching is the most pleasant work in the world for one that likes it.

January 25

I omitted to write in my temporary blank book for some of these days and, as I did not get the book for some days after, I have nothing written to copy. This cold month of the year is rapidly passing away, and spring will burst upon us soon.

January 26

I am neglecting to answer my letter from Miss Wheelock and perhaps it is wrong. My dear Harriet would be glad to see the correspondence that she began kept up, and I think it will be kept up while we both live to carry it on.

January 27

Today closes another school week, and I am glad to have the weeks pass, though it speaks the flight of time, and tells us that very soon our days here will be ended. I shall receive a letter from my dear Abbie this week, shall I not?

January 28

Worked in my chamber through the day on the Almanac for 1866. Wrote some on a letter to Abbie, and this with my reading made out the day very closely. I am glad to have two days in my chamber to rest me before another weeks school.

Sunday, January 29

Staid in my room and read and wrote all day nearly. Shall get a letter from Abbie soon, for last Friday she visited at Mr. Baileys and the scholars presented their talks to Mr. & Mrs. B. - Doubtless they had a very pleasant time making their presentations.

January 30

I shall almost be glad when this term of school closes for I am getting to be very tired and very nervous. Must spend two days this week visiting schools, and I think it must be Wednesday and Thursday. Have visited but a small part of the schools.

January 31

Have concluded to visit schools tomorrow forenoon, attend the commissioners meeting in the afternoon, and go to Mr. Woods in the evening, so as to visit schools again Thursday. The weather seems quite favorable and hope it will continue to be so.

February 1

A meeting of the commissioners in George Newton's estate was set today and I went to Mr. Chamberlin's to attend it but we postponed it and I visited Emily Ware's school. I then went to Mr. Woods and visited the school a few minutes.

February 2

Staid at Mr. Woods last night and this forenoon visited the school below Snows, and in the afternoon went to the Goff hill to visit Elbridge Bailey's school, and came home in the evening. The weather is extremely cold but I got home quite comfortably.

February 3

Went into school again this morning and am glad to be with the classes again. After teaching a few weeks, I set a high value upon the scholars and do not wish to leave them, but when I get exhausted I do not care very much how soon the term closes.

February 4

Am teaching today and it is the first Saturday that I have taught for some time. But it would not do to have only three days of school this week so I teach today. The term moves at times quite slowly, but it will soon come to a close.

Sunday, February 5

Staid in my room quite steadily today reading, resting, and writing. I do very much of my writing on Sunday except business writing; but it is not right to do that on such days. There is nothing special to be written today, so I leave this page.

February 6

Went into school quite unwell and it seemed as though I could not endure it, but in the afternoon the work went better. I ought to go to the north part of the town today, but cannot. The weather is not very cold and I hope it will remain warm for some days. My work is some too hard this winter, but shall try to keep it all going.

February 7

I ought to go to the north part of the town and visit the school at Snow's Store, for there is some complaint about it. Did not visit it when I was in that part of the town. The day is almost rainy but not quite. School does not go very well when the weather is as warm as it is now. – Received a letter from Mary Wyatt with 4 dollars for Charley's tuition.

February 8

A dense snow this morning about eight inches deep. A warm damp day with very little rain. – Self quite unwell, hardly able to teach school. Willie and Joanna went to Woodstock in the evening. – The day has been a very hard one in school, for the weather is too warm to study. Sent to Woodstock for this notebook for I have been destitute till now.

February 9

The weather is a little colder and is growing cold quite fast. How little I find to write when in school for there is such a perfect sameness in the routine of daily work. My own health is a little better, but school goes extremely hard. Am at work on the almanac in the evenings, which lengthens the day very much.

February 10

This is a colder day but it is not yet very cold. This week closes the tenth week of school, and I cannot be sorry to see it draw to a close, for I am getting tired of teaching having so much else to do. The school goes pleasantly, but it would be much more pleasant if it was more advanced.

February 11

Started in the morning for the Howard place, but hardly expected to go further than Mr. Chamberlin's or Mr. Woods but the other commissioners had gone and I went too by way of Mr. Clifford's. Found a large gathering at Mr. Howard's and Mr. Chamberlin was selling some of the personal property. A very cold day. – Came back to Mr. Wood's for the night.

Sunday, February 12

Started for home a little before ten o'clock and found the roads some drifted up. Arrived home about noon and found Charles Vaughan there. The day has been very pleasant, but some cold. Came to my chamber and spent the day in reading and in the evening I wrote three or four letters. One to Abbie. She will be home next Friday or Saturday.

February 13

Mailed four letters this morning. Went to the school house quite early. This is one of the very blustering days. Received a letter from Abbie and she will come home next Friday to Mr. Richmond's and Saturday at home. I must be away at that time but can get some one to bring her from Woodstock. Sent 35 dollars to her.

February 14

This is the first day that the air has seemed spring-like, and it is pleasant to have such days come. School has gone well and the lessons have been for the greater part well got. The sky has the appearance of an approaching storm. Got a letter from Abbie yesterday, and she will be here soon and how glad I shall be to meet her smiling face.

February 15

Signs of storm, and I hope it may be rain for the snow is very deep and has not been settled by thaws. This is a marked spring-like day, and I hope it will continue for a short time at least. Oscar Barron called at the school house to see me about the Camilla Ware lot of land where Mr. Howard had cleared and mowed.

February 16

Found about five inches of snow this morning in addition to what we had before. – School is a little troublesome on account of the bad colds that the scholars have. The continued coughing is quite an annoyance. Abbie will come home tomorrow I hope for it seems like a long time since she went away.

February 17

The weather is warmer and for Abbie's sake I am glad, for she comes from Bridgewater this morning to Boston and tonight from Boston to Woodstock. She will be at home tomorrow I do believe. School has gone well today although it has been quite small. William Case leaves tonight for home.

February 18

The wind has blown hard during the night. Got Edward to go to Woodstock for Abbie. Self am compelled to go to the middle of the town to meet the civil authority. Spenser went with me. Worked through the day on the Overseer account. Came home over the hill and over the drifts. Found Abbie when I got home.

Sunday, February 19

The morning is not cold but it seems like winter weather. Am unable to read or write today, for my work yesterday was quite too much for me. Very severe pain in my eyes and head. Abbie is with me and scarcely leaves me at all. I know full well the worth of her society, but she will go back to Bridgewater soon.

February 20

My dear Abbie goes into school for me today and I am obliged to go to Mr. Chamberlin's again, and it will take us full two days to finish up the settlements with the town offices. Went by way of South Pomfret and found the sleighing very good except where it is drifted.

February 21

Went to Mr. Woods to stay through the night. Began to write a Lease for Mrs. Dana & Nathan B. Dana. Came to Mr. Chamberlin's about nine o'clock to continue our settlements with the town offices. Finished about four o'clock in the afternoon, and then came home to meet my dear Abbie.

February 22

Went into school again this morning but was fully tired out from my past two or three days work on the town report. Was giddy and tired through the day. There is nothing of importance to write today. The weather is some clear but there is much appearance of a storm. Mr. Ware is anxious to go to Hartland.

February 23

The air is some purer today though the same appearance of storm continues. The school is quite small now, for seven of the scholars are kept out by sickness. Came home from school and found Franklin Doten here on a visit. Mr. Ware left for Hartland to stay with Henry for a week or two.

February 24

Visited hard with my cousin Franklin last evening and this morning, and at noon went to Spenser's to take dinner with them. John Dana came with his wife. It seems really cozy at home this evening for the house is so still. Abbie is here with me, and all is so still that it is very pleasant.

February 25

Am in my room at work though hardly able to be here. Have resolved to finish the Almanac, except the Moon rising and setting, today. Succeeded in doing it by working very late. Abbie is with me and that is very pleasant. Received a letter from my friend Loyal Wood. A most beautiful and pleasant day.

Sunday, February 26

Had a severe headache through the night, and am quite unwell this morning. Very rainy in the forenoon. Went to Mr. Perkins' in the afternoon with Abbie, and did not come home till night. Had a very pleasant time, though I have an intense headache. Am in my room this evening.

February 27

Very high wind from the north-west, though not yet very cold. The thaw is closed up without settling the snow very much. School has not gone easily today. Wallace Ware called in the afternoon and we had a pleasant visit. He expects to leave soon for New York and then for Colorado.

February 28

Cloudy in the morning with signs of snow. Before noon it began to snow and increased till night. Abbie went to Mr. Barber's with Mr. & Mrs. Hawkins. Got the pay for surveying on the rail road one year ago. Am very much more fortunate than I expected to be, on that matter. Am tired of teaching this school of small scholars.

March 1

This evening, Miss Winchester reads at the Town Hall in Woodstock but I cannot go to hear her. Spenser, Charles and the girls have gone to Moses Paine's this afternoon. The weather is warm. Too warm for hard study. Am very tired and wish I could close school this week. Pliny Vose came here this evening and Mr. & Mrs. Hurd.

March 2

Have agreed to go to Mr. Darling's this evening, but the day is some rough with stormy wind from the S.E. – But we went to Mr. Darling's afterschool notwithstanding the storm. We intended to come home in the evening but the storm was too severe. Had a very pleasant visit in the evening, there being none except Mr. & Mrs. Darling and George.

March 3

Visited a little too hard last night for I am some unwell this morning. The weather is not cold but there is some rain. Walked to the school house and Abbie rode with Mr. Darling. The storm continued till afternoon when the wind became N.W. and was some cooler. Have been in school too long and do not teach easily.

March 4

A very stormy morning. Intended to go to the north part of the town today, but the storm prevents. Abbie and I staid in my chamber the greater part of the day, and I worked on the Almanac. I must get some help about it, as I fear I cannot get it done in time.

Sunday, March 5

The morning is pleasant and some cooler than yesterday. The wind N.W. – Abbie and I started for Mr. Wood's but did not get there till about one o'clock. Found Mrs. Wood at home. Staid till after tea and then came to Mr. Chamberlin's and staid till past seven o'clock. Had a cool ride home but it was pleasant for Abbie was with me.

March 6

Weather quite cool this morning. Lucia and Emma Lamberton visited the school this forenoon. The school is doing very well, but teacher and scholars are getting tired. – Abbie is to start this evening for Bridgewater, and is to ride all night. 'Tis evening and Abbie has started and I am again left alone.

March 7

Town Meeting day. – Did not teach but thought best to attend the meeting. A somewhat noisy day. Some strife for office. Could not get into the spirit of it at all. Paid my taxes for the past year \$65.28 cents. Abbie is probably now at her school again, and I wish I could hear from her this evening.

March 8

Went into school again this morning. The weather is clear and pleasant, but it seems too late to be in school for a winter term. The day has passed off pleasantly. School is not so large as it was the first part of the term. But the scholars are getting tired and can hardly get their lessons.

March 9

Another warm day and some rainy and snowy. About two inches has fallen today. John Carnes & Moses Paine visit at Spenser's today. The scholars begin to regret the close of the school. Mrs. Bridge called in the evening. Have not heard from Abbie since she left home. Have been writing to her this evening.

March 10

Some rainy this morning but the wind is changing to the northwest. This is the last day of the present school term. I close the term with some sadness for there are many excellent scholars, and some that have shown a marked respect and kindness. I shall always be grateful for such kindnesses.

March 11

Am now doing the chores for Charles has gone to Rochester and Pittsfield. – Self have again begun upon the almanac. Have concluded to complete the moon rising & setting myself. Have done two months today. Do not yet hear from Abbie but a letter will come tonight I think.

Sunday, March 12

The morning was cold and blustering for about one inch of snow had fallen. Thermometer at zero. Self did the chores about the house as Charles is away. Have read some today but ought to have read more. Have neglected it too much this winter. Do not get a letter from Abbie yet. Am afraid she is sick. She will let me know if she is.

March 13

Another inch of snow this morning but the weather not so cold as yesterday. Took hold of the almanac most earnestly, and worked four months of the moon rising & setting. Mr. & Mrs. Ware called in the forenoon. I do not hear from Abbie yet. Am feeling quite well after so severe a days work.

March 14

Am some tired today but am still at work on the Almanac. Am expecting Charles home today but he does not yet come. Am doing the chores when Charles is away. Abbie's letter came in the evening and also one from Robt. Perkins, and I wish I could sit down and answer both of them.

March 15

The intense labor of the past few days is sensibly felt but we are made for labor and toil. Finished the work on the Almanac and copied all that before was not copied. Must send it off tomorrow. Have written some for Abbie. The almanac is always a severe task and I am glad to finish it.

March 16

Sent the Almanac to Mr. Wallace. The day is very warm and the snow is leaving quite fast. In the evening, Mr. Herrick of West Randolph came and seemed quite crass because the report in his brother's case with the V.C.R.R. had not been finished and filed in the clerk's office.

March 17

A rainy night last night and the snow has nearly two-thirds gone since yesterday morning. Mr. Herrick left this morning for home. Self was called to make a survey of the factory pond near Daniel's mills. Got books from Mr. Haskell's that he has been binding, also the North American and Silliman's Journals.

March 18

A hard shower this morning, but started for Mr. Chamberlin's and Mr. Clifford's. Found the passing very bad. Rode from Mr. Chamberlin's with Mr. Smith. Had a very easy days work in examining the accounts. Went to Mr. Woods in the evening. The wind blows most fearfully and makes the house tremble.

Sunday, March 19

Rested very well last night and remained in my room and wrote till past four o'clock. Visited that most sacred place, the grave of my dear Harriet: 'Tis sad – 'Tis solemn, but we humbly submit to him who "does all things well." Came to Mr. Perkins in the evening.

March 20

Mr. Freeman called in the morning. Self went to work again on the Herrick case. Am very pleasantly situated for study. Can but spend a little time writing to my dear Abbie. The birds are bursting forth their songs this evening, all fresh and new. Robins, sparrows, and blue birds are joyous to find spring again.

March 21

Am again at work on the Rail road papers, and have finished the Allen computations, and have arrived at almost exactly the same results. Received a letter from Abbie and have one nearly ready to send to her. My brain is some tired but I keep it very busily at work.

March 22

Am very busy on the Rail road computations and I find it very hard work. If I could have some assistance about it, it would be very pleasant. Have scarcely been from home since my school closed, except twice on business, and I am getting tired and gloomy. – I must write to Miss Wheelock.

March 23

Finished a long letter to my dear Abbie, and sent it to the office by Norman Paul. Louisa goes there to stay a few days till Mrs. P's lame arm & hand are better. Mr. Fowler is sawing wood here now, and Mr. Ware is here for a few days. Am getting very lonely and some gloomy. All are very kind to me but "I am alone."

March 24

The weather is now a little cooler, but the sleighing is almost entirely gone. Got a letter today from Miss Carrie Sweet on the subject of schools. Have had a severe headache through the day, but have drawn a plan for Mr. Freeman of Roylton. Am very pleasantly situated but I am alone. My room is very pleasant.

March 25

Paid Charles Vaughan \$106.00 in full on a note that he held against me. The day has been very much cooler. In the afternoon I went to the sugar place to look over the hill. That old place seems to be very pleasant for it brings up childhood days.

Sunday, March 26

Have been in my chamber nearly through the day. – Have been writing to Abbie and to some others. – Ought to write to Miss Wheelock but am not in a mood to begin upon it. The day has been very cool with high winds from the north. Am very much troubled with cold feet.

March 27

This morning I begin again on my Rail Road case, and it is most truly perplexing. It seems almost impossible to believe that engineering could be done by men in so careless a way. But what the result may be. The day is beautiful but some cool. Received a letter from Abbie this morning. – A rich, valuable letter.

March 28

It seems to be springlike for the air is clear and pure. – the birds are singing sweetly as I write. Am still at work on my R.R. case. The school meetings in this state are holden tonight and I hope they will be fully attended. – Have attended our school meeting and all went off very pleasantly. Mailed a letter to Abbie this morning.

March 29

The day has been warm and some spring like, but there are strong signs of rain. Addison Darling called here in the afternoon and I adjusted my tuition account with him and endorsed the interest on my note to Dec. 17, 1864. Charles Vaughan went to Mr. Chamberlin's and to Moses Paine's. The passing is bad.

March 30

Quite rainy in the morning and it remained cloudy through the day. Am still at work on the R.R. papers and find it very troublesome to investigate. The day is some cooler but not cold. The snow is wasting rapidly and soon will all be gone. Have spent a part of the evening in writing to my dear Abbie.

March 31 (M&N ink)

Have just got a bottle of Maynard & Noyes' "Writing Fluid" of "INK," and I intend to give it a full trial. I have not tried any that was pure for some time. Shall I get a letter tomorrow from Abbie? I am anxious to hear from her often this term, more so than I have been before. She is all of my own that is left.

April 1

A clear and beautiful day. Have not felt like working in my chamber, for I want to rest from it. Self did some chores about the house. Lucia Lamberton called. John Adams came to finish up the writings with Charles Vaughan & to get his money. Have been some absent minded and some desolate.

Sunday, April 2

A very windy day. It is a cold, dry April day. Snow nearly gone; though on the hills south of Woodstock it covers, to appearances, about half the surface. Did not get a letter from Abbie last night for the mail was very late. I wish I could send to the office now but must wait till tomorrow morning.

April 3

Got a letter from Abbie today and must spend this evening in writing to her. Her letter is a very good one, and the little Indian boy's letter is a rare letter for one so young to write. I must mail Abbie's letter tomorrow. Have long been wanting to go to the north part of the town and will go tomorrow.

April 4

Started in the morning for Chamberlin's store – Called at Mr. Perkins', Mr. Ware's and then went to Mr. Woods'. The passing was so bad that I did not go back but concluded to stay till morning in my room. Had a very pleasant call. Found Mr. W. all engaged in sugar-making. Mailed my letter to Abbie today.

April 5

A rainy morning but I started for home. Called at Mr. Chamberlin's, Mr. Ware's & Mr. Perkins'. – Mr. Ware is very sick. I think his recovery is quite doubtful. Am glad to get to my room again to be at work on our R.R. case. Got the school registers and must file the report to Sec. Adams.

April 6

Rested badly last night but must be at my work today. Have been computing for the R.R. report. A showery day but quite warm for the first part of April. Received a letter from Horace Dunham. Am quite tired this evening but must work on my school report.

April 7

Have worked much of the day on the school report and have finished it excepting the remarks of Supts. I hope I can be excused from writing very much of that kind. Am getting tired of this constant table work. Ought to go to Woodstock to see Mr. Converse on the R.R. case.

April 8

Wrote some in the forenoon but rode to the village with Charles in the afternoon. Had a long talk with Mr. Converse on the R.R. case of Middlesex. Mrs. Fisher came here for afternoon visit. Self got North American Review for April. Paid Green for Canada postage on paper. Paid Richmond a small amount. Walked home towards night. A cool chilly day.

Sunday, April 9

A pleasant day with cool wind. Staid in my room during much of the forenoon, then walked out on the west hill. How pleasant to see the bare ground and to stroll over the fields. But 'Tis melancholy, 'tis sad to look on these fields where I have been with friends that were dear to me, but who are gone from me now.

April 10

Have worked through the day on the school report and have finished it, and must send it tomorrow. The day has been stormy. In the morning there was about one inch of snow on the ground but it is now all gone. Great rejoicing at Woodstock over the capture of Lee's army. This crushes the rebellion.

April 11

Sent my school report to Secretary Adams. Worked through the afternoon on the R.R. case and made computations of the different cuts, and shall soon be ready to meet the other members of the committee, to determine all about the facts for report. In the forenoon I made a survey for Mr. Eaton in Woodstock.

April 12

A very rainy day, which gives me time to work on the R.R. case. Have done much of the computing today. I begin to wish this case was off my hands. It is seldom that we have a more steady rain than it has been today. How early this season is! The snow is all gone except some drifts, and grass looks quite green and summer-like.

April 13

Worked in my room in the forenoon & in the afternoon I made a survey for Gen. Mower & R.E. Townsend east of Mower's meadow. Woodland that is worth 90 dollars an acre is worth surveying correctly. Mr. Freeman called again about his law case. He says that the hearing in his case is to be at Royalton next Wednesday. I hope not so soon.

April 14

Fast day in Vermont, and a day of great rejoicing at Charleston, S.C. for the old flag is to be raised over Fort Sumter, and Henry Ward Beecher is to deliver an address on the occasion. President Lincoln was shot by an assassin while attending the theater in Washington this evening.

April 15

Went to Hartland to run some lines for Mr. Perry. Made the survey and finished it about two o'clock & after dinner I left for home coming by the old turnpike to Woodstock. Was surprised to find the distance so short. At Hartland I heard the rumor of the death of the President, but found it fully confirmed when I returned to Woodstock.

Sunday, April 16

Rain nearly all night and cooler this morning. Spent the greater part of the day in my chamber, but did not rest very much. James Miller called about noon. Maj. Paul called in the evening. Have not yet heard from Abbie since more than a week ago. Charles and Joanna went to church to hear Mr. Kidder preach.

April 17

Staid in my room in the forenoon, and in the afternoon walked to Mr. Chamberlin's to attend the meeting of the commissioners on the estate of George Newton who was killed on the first day of the Battle of the Wilderness. Rode back with Henry Vaughan. The evening quite cool.

April 18

Did chores and some writing in the forenoon, and in the afternoon I worked on the R.R. papers and computations. Finished a letter to go to Abbie and enclosed two dollars. I do not hear from her yet. She is very busy I suppose but she will find time to write to her father.

April 19

Started in the morning to go to Smith's & Hodges'. Went to Chamberlin's to examine the records, and then went to Mr. Hodges' to run some lines. Spent the greater part of the day in running out a lot that does not seem to be described by any deeds on record. Arrived home about five o'clock. Am some tired and cold.

April 20 (Arnold's ink)

Awoke with a severe headache this morning, and am hardly able to work today. Did some writing on the Hodges' survey. (Maynard & Noyes ink) There is nothing of importance to write today. The weather is some cooler and there is some appearance of storm. Do not yet hear from Abbie.

April 21 (Arnold's ink)

A very rough stormy day, but I had an appointment to be away to survey the Child's road near Mrs. Dana's. Started about eleven o'clock in the storm and worked in the dense mist through the afternoon, then returned home very cold and wet. Have no letter from Abbie.

April 22

Am quite unwell this morning and have a severe headache. Received a letter from Abbie, a good one, and one from Hattie Freeley. She is doing well at that school, but cannot hurry the course as she did the first time. Abbie's letters are truly consoling and I hope she will write every opportunity. In the afternoon I came to Mr. Woods.

Sunday, April 23

Rested very well in my own bed in my own room last night. The wind blew very hard during a part of the night & it is some cold this morning. My lesson today is Eph. 5th & Psalm 53d. (Maynard & Noyes ink) Am some cold in my room, but have had but little fire. Mr. Wood & Hattie went to church at the Center of town.

April 24

Staid in my room during the forepart of the day. Wrote certificates for a part of the teachers. Called on Lucy Hewitt and paid her \$22.00 for teaching last fall. Went to Snow's and paid postage for the paper and Quarterly to Jan. 1866. Came home towards night. The afternoon is quite cool and windy.

April 25

Did some chores about the house in the morning and before noon went to Woodstock with Joanna. Got a good letter from Abbie, and in the afternoon wrote some in reply but did not send it. I remained about my room in the afternoon. Abbie's letter was a very good one and I must try to answer it with as good a letter.

April 26

This morning I went to Woodstock to run some lines for C.A. Woodbury. And in the afternoon I set stakes for Mr. Bridges' barn, and then made some measures for Lester Miller, and then examined deeds in the Hathaway case. These deeds are old and very imperfect in their descriptions, as most of the old deeds are.

April 27

Started in the morning to carry Mrs. Page to her house, and went to Mr. Chamberlin's and with him went to Mrs. Elisha Hathaway's to make some surveys. The day was very warm and we worked almost in a summer heat. Came home in the evening and called on Mr. King to inquire about the correctness of Judge Winslow's chain, which was supposed to be too long.

April 28

Am not very well this morning but began work again on the R.R. case, and worked upon it nearly through the day. Received a letter from H.N. Freeman on the Howard case. How eagerly we watch for the papers and a week seems a great while. I wish I could hear from Abbie, but I shall expect to hear tomorrow night.

April 29

Am at home but am not very well. Worked in my room and did some chores about the house. Am very tired from my work Thursday. Am getting very good news from the South, and I fully believe that the rebellion is fully crushed, but the little cruelties will be perpetrated.

Sunday, April 30

I remained in my room during the greater part of the day. Polk Chamberlin came in the afternoon and we had a very good chat. There was a cool wind but the day was beautiful and clear. I have not yet got a letter from Abbie for the past few days.

May 1

Rode to Woodstock in the morning to see Mr. Marston. Mailed a letter to Mr. Parker about his school. Walked back and then went with Mr. Chamberlin to the Hathaway estate to make a survey. It began to rain and we walked in the rain till nearly night, and then we walked home, - Wet.

May 2

In the morning I started for Woodstock. Met Mr. Bay with his daughter as a teacher. Her certificate must be dated today. Attended our meeting on the R.R. case at Mr. Converse's office in Woodstock. Was extremely unwell through the day, but made out to work through the day.

May 3

Started early this morning for Royalton and arrived at Mr. Freeman's at about noon. Soon after dinner, we began the surveying. Ran a long line from the N.E. corner of the Howard lot eastward to find the North line of Mr. Howard's land, the 50 acre lot. Came to Mr. Freeman's to stay over night.

May 4

Went to Mr. Adams to do some chaining. Got Mr. Adams to assist me and then staid till after dinner. Started for Royalton but met Mr. Howard returning. Judge Porter came to view the lands and fences in construction. After going over all the grounds, I went to Mr. Howard's to stay through the night.

May 5

Went to Royalton early in the morning and soon the trial began, a confused mass of matter that never should have been thought of. But the difficulties exist and must be met some way. Called at Mrs. Wheelock's and intended to go there to dinner but the associations are too painful.

May 6

Staid at Mr. Howard's last night & go to the village again this morning. Was called to testify today. The dirty case continues and is progressing quite well. At noon it began to rain and was a furious storm till night. Rode to Mr. Howard's in the furious storm, four & a half miles.

Sunday, May 7

Started for home about eight o'clock. Came by the old turnpike and arrived home about eleven o'clock. Staid in my room and tried to write some to Abbie, but the brain is too tired. Went to bed quite early but did not rest very well. Have tried to write some to Miss Wheelock but do not succeed.

May 8

Shirza Allen called for a certificate and then returned immediately to her school in Dist. No. 13. I tried to write some in the forenoon but could not. In the afternoon, I visited the school in Dist. No. 2 and found a very good school. It was some larger than I expected to find.

May 9

Must begin again on my R.R. computations, for I have neglected them for some time, but have not yet rested from the fatigue of my Royalton work. Have not got a letter from Abbie since last week. The weather is now very fine. Have tried to write a letter to Miss Wheelock.

May 10

How rapidly time is moving along. Swallows and the summer birds are here, though not in abundance. The forests are rich in blossoms, much more than I have ever known before. I am tired with the study of this long law case. But I shall soon be through with the computations.

May 11

A kind of rainy day. I went after the cattle and got very wet. Did not get home till dark. Am still at work on computations for the R.R. case. Am feeling quite dull today. Got a short note from Abbie. She is very busy.

May 12

Very rainy through the night and snow and rain this morning. The thermometer stood at freezing point for some time. Am nearly finishing up my great R.R. case and I shall be glad to finish it. Horace Dunham called and made me quite a visit.

May 13

Went to Woodstock in the forenoon with Electa. Saw Norman Paul about the Kimball case. In the afternoon I went to the north part of the town. Paid Mr. Wood 4 dollars for a pig. Came home towards night. Must say that I am glad to have Saturday night come, for I get very tired before the close of a week.

Sunday, May 14

Very warm in the forenoon. Staid in my room much of the day, but went with Louisa to church in the morning and went after her again at night. Wrote a short letter to Miss Wheelock and also wrote to Abbie, though my last letter only reaches her tomorrow. I do regret that I could not have mailed it sooner.

May 15

Was very unwell this morning but I promised to go to Mr. Bugbee's to measure a piece of land; so I went by way of Mr. Chamberlin's. Made the survey and completed the contents. Was some unwell through the day and much exhausted at night. Came home by Mr. Chamberlin's.

May 16

Have a court with Mr. John Howard today. Went to Woodstock in the morning and from there to Mr. Winslow's. About eleven o'clock, Col. Russell and Mr. Paul came. Mr. Howard plead a continuance, which was granted till next Monday at three o'clock. Hope the whole will be settled before then.

May 17

Worked in my room drawing a plan for the Hathaway case. Have found some very valuable testimony in drawing the place, but we cannot tell who is right in the case. This is a very perplexing suit and I do hope to be able to give facts in the case that will lead to a right decision.

May 18

Started early in the morning for North Hartland. Mr. Marsh wished me to meet him today. Did nothing in the forenoon, but in the afternoon we walked over the Marsh's line. Took supper at Mr. Woods and about seven o'clock started for home. Got two beautiful little pine trees and brought home.

May 19

Staid at home and in my chamber and wrote nearly all day. Find myself very tired and lame. Set out the two pine trees south of the door-yard. Got a long letter from Abbie yesterday morning and have been trying to answer it. Got a full letter from Robbie, a remarkably good one.

May 20

Ought to have gone to Woodstock this morning but was not able to go, but soon after noon I went with my set of rail road papers to Mr. Converse's office. After explaining my computations I left for home. Got the May No. of Silliman's Journal. Met Willie Dewey at Mr. Pratt's.

Sunday, May 21

Staid in my room nearly all day, but towards night I started for the north part of the town. Called at Mr. Perkins' and Mr. Chamberlin's, and then went to Mr. Woods and put up for the night. Have taken quite a long walk for me. My room is very pleasant, but lonely.

May 22

Called on Mr. Adams to get him to go to court to assist Kimball Perkins in getting his pay of Howard. Went to Mr. Chamberlin's and there met Mr. Davis of Stockbridge, another witness in the case. Rode home with him and he put up his team and staid till we went to court. Got judgement for 18 dollars & cost; and Howard appealed.

May 23

County court sits today. Early this morning I went to Woodstock to see if I should be needed as a witness, and very fortunately for me the cases were continued. Saw Mr. Chamberlin and we searched the records for the Hathaway case. Came home feeling released from jail in having the two civil cases put over.

May 24

Last night Mr. Hewitt called and wished to have the Union Store house cleared, and this morning I got Spenser & Edward to go and remove the things to our old homestead, and in the afternoon we cleared the house. That probably will close the Pomfret High School. That is as far as I am concerned.

May 25

The air is very much cooler & better though it is not cold, and I think there is no danger of frost. I have kept busy but have done but little. Joanne and Lucia Lamberton went to Woodstock. Henry Page came here from Peterborough, N.H. and is sick with the measles, but appears to be doing well.

May 26

Started in the morning to visit schools. In the forenoon visited the school at South Pomfret remaining there till afternoon, - Walked to the Chedel school where I remained till night. After school I called at Mr. Chamberlin's and then went to Mr. Woods for the night. Glad to get into my room.

May 27

Some frost this morning, but not enough to do any injury to crops. Staid about Mr. Woods through the forenoon. Mailed a letter to Jim Watkins and one to Spencer Howe. In the afternoon I rode with Mr. Adams to the Howard hill to meet the commissioners in the Lewis O. Howard estate. A stormy meeting. Came to Mr. Woods.

Sunday, May 28

Have taken a severe cold since I left home and last night I took a sling sweat and am some better today. Rainy this morning and I do not go out. - The rain continued through the day and I did not start for home. Have not spent my time so pleasantly as I might wish, for I could not read or study. Wrote some to Abbie.

May 29

Started quite early in the morning for home, and was nearly all the forenoon in going. Found a letter from Abbie and it was a very good one. It seems that she has the valedictory in her class. I am glad for she will feel so much encouraged by it. It is vacation with her now.

May 30

Was to go to Sharon today and tomorrow, but could not go today. Went to Woodstock in the forenoon, & saw Mr. Converse about report. Joanna went with me and we did not get home till nearly noon. In the afternoon, I staid in my room. The day is warm though not so warm as some time this spring.

May 31

Started in the morning for Sharon to survey a piece of land for Zera Watkins. Called at Mr. Howe's and then went to Mr. Watkins' and began the survey. Ran a long series of lines on the Henry Marsh land. The day has been extremely warm and as I rode home in the evening, the air was warm as heated air from a furnace.

June 1

Arose very early to work on Mr. W.'s survey, and about eight o'clock started again for Sharon. Had a very laborious job in running a long line over the rocks and ledges of the mountains south of White River. Finished the work and started for home about five o'clock. Was very much exhausted by the work.

June 2

Arose about four o'clock expecting to go the Mountain with Albro Perkins. Am very lame and tired. Mr. Perkins did not call for me, and I have worked some about the house, and in my chamber. The air is cooler and clearer towards night. Nothing worthy of note taking. Mr. Miller called in the forenoon.

June 3

Started about five o'clock in the morning and rode to Killington. Began to assess the mountain at nine o'clock and reached the summit at twelve. The atmosphere was not very clear but the day was very pleasant. Left the mountain at two o'clock and reached the foot at four and a half. Came home in the evening.

Sunday, June 4

Arose this morning very tired and could hardly sit up. But after moving around a while felt a little more rational. Have tried to read some but make very bad work of it. The weather was very warm in the forenoon, but in the afternoon was showery, but still very warm.

June 5

Started in the morning to run a line between S.L. King's land and Chauncey Child's land. Worked very critically and exactly, and had the best of chainmen, and the whole was faithfully done. Uncle Moore came here from Bridgewater. Am very tired indeed, very much too tired to visit interestingly.

June 6

The air is a little cooler. Mr. Walker came here last night with Mrs. Chandler and remained through the night. Mr. Converse called this morning. Went to Woodstock to meet Mr. Fifield. Met at Mr. Converse's office and heard his (Fifield's) remarks as to the report in the Herrick case. Came home too tired to work this afternoon.

June 7

Uncle Moore left for Plymouth in the morning. The day is extremely warm, thermometer at 87 degrees above zero. Albro Perkins called to see me on political matters, but I think it is useless. Only did chores about house and wrote some letters. Mailed a letter to Norman Perkins. Shower in the evening.

June 8

Took the oxen and two yearlings to Spenser's wood place to pasture. Joanna went to Woodstock with Christiana. Afterwards, I went to Chamberlin's. Mailed letter to Abbie, but my letter to N. Perkins was mailed yesterday. Got silk for cravat. Sent 7 dollars to Abbie. Got a letter from her this forenoon.

June 9

Charles started for Rochester this morning. Self did chores about the house and garden. Cleared the corner of the garden near the willow tree & also cleared the brook and burned the brush. I ought to go to Woodstock but I cannot leave home to go. Am too tired to write this evening. Ought to write to Robbie.

June 10

Did chores about the house and also wrote a letter to Robbie Perkins. Have been quite unwell through the day, but in the afternoon I rode to Woodstock. Judge Porter paid me three dollars for Charlie's tuition. Had a long talk with him on the Howard case. Saw Mr. Day about repairing my wagon.

Sunday, June 11

The air is a little cooler and clearer. Mr. & Mrs. Wood called here yesterday afternoon, but I hardly saw them. Am some unwell and, of course, sad and very sensitive to all impressions of past scenes. In the afternoon I took a walk on the west hill. The virus has called up very much of the past, and it is most painful and touching.

June 12

The air is cooler and clearer. Took the horse to move timber from the chestnut trees. Spent all day in doing such chores about the house. Got a letter from Judge Pingree and one from Elisha Hewitt. Shall expect a letter from Abbie tomorrow. I find no time to read or write now as I should wish to. Am much alone and lonely.

June 13 (Arnold ink)

Today have done chores about the house. Finished clearing away about the chestnut trees. In the afternoon removed potatoes from the cellar. The day was some warm but not extremely so. Air quite clear. Charles came home from Rochester in the evening. I think there was some frost this morning in certain places.

June 14

Started in the morning to go to the north part of the town. Spent all the forenoon in running a line between the Leavitt's place and Harvey Hewitt's. In the afternoon I visited the Goff hill school, found it doing remarkably well. Came to Mr. Wood's at night. Got Faneuf to shoe the horses for which he charged \$1.40.

June 15 (M&N)

Staid at Mr. Wood's last night, and this morning I started to visit the schools. Took bearings of the distant mountains from the Leavitt hill, so as to test them on a map. Called at the No. 11 school and the No. 10 (Bruce school) in the forenoon and in the afternoon at No. 8 (the Maxham school). Came home about four o'clock.

June 16 (Arnold)

Arose this morning with a very severe headache, but tried to do some chores. In the forenoon, Charles and Joanne went to Woodstock. Received a letter from Abbie and one from Ellen Churchill. In the afternoon, assisted Charles in running the cultivator. A little rainy in the forenoon.

June 17

Started in the morning to go to Mr. Chamberlin's to attend a meeting of the commissioners in the estate of Lewis O. Howard. Met Mr. Miller and finished the settlement of the estate of George Newton. Had a stormy time with Mr. Thacher's account. Went to Mr. Woods after adjourning for a further hearing till July 1st at Winslow's.

Sunday, June 18 (M&N)

Staid at Mr. Woods last night, and was very tired and am but poorly rested yet. The weather is too warm for me to go out so I staid in my room and read and wrote nearly all day. Read some of Parson's Essay on the Sabbath. It is the most beautiful of any thing that I have ever read. Walked to the south part of the town.

June 19

In the forenoon I went to Woodstock to see Mr. Converse and to set the cardinal points on the Methodist Church spire. The day was very warm but not as warm as last Saturday. In the afternoon I worked in my room. Wrote some letters and also fixed my account against S. Herrick.

June 20

Another very warm morning. Mr. Converse called on his way to Royalton. Compared and corrected all the footings in the railroad case and I think the report is completed. I am glad to finish up this long and troublesome case, and I hope and believe our results are right.

June 21 (Arnold's)

Rested rather badly through the night and this morning finds me with a troublesome headache. At about noon I started for the school at the middle of the town. Arrived there soon after noon and spent the afternoon there. After school I called at Mr. Chamberlin's and went to Mr. Woods.

June 22

Staid at Mr. Woods last night, and this morning I started for the Howard hill school. A hard shower in the morning. Visited the school in the forenoon and at noon I started for the school at Snow's and spent the afternoon there. After school I went to Mr. Woods. A very warm day.

June 23 (M&N)

In the forenoon, visited the school in Dist. No. 3 and found the best school in town. It is one of the largest and is a superior school. Soon after two o'clock, I started for the south part of the town. Took tea at Mr. Perkins' and arrived home at a little before dark. Found letter from Abbie.

June 24

Late last evening I had a call to go this morning to run some lines for Thomas Pratt. So I started a little before eight o'clock. The morning was cool, and the air was quite salubrious on the high levels in the eastern part of the town. Had very good success in finding this line and in dividing the fence between Mr. Pratt's lot and Mr. Seaver's land.

Sunday, June 25

The morning is very warm. Thermometer 93 degrees at 20 minutes past 10 o'clock. It did not get any higher during the day but was from 89 to 93 through the warmest part of the day. I wrote nearly all day, but it was too warm to write or read with any care at all. But I wrote a long letter to Robbie Perkins and one to Mr. Safford.

June 26

Worked about the house and door yard. Very warm. Dr. Young called to get me to do some surveying for him. Agreed to go tomorrow. There has been a high wind from the south all day and towards night it began to rain. Quite rainy in the evening. Am glad to see the rain coming again.

June 27

Last night was very rainy. The water stood in ponds in the road. It fell probably 2½ or 3 inches deep. Went to Bridgewater to survey for the Mining Company at Bridgewater, Dr. F. Young agent. Spent all day in running a small fence near the crushing mill built by Capt. Payson some years ago. Came home at night. Got letter from Abbie.

June 28

Started early in the morning for my work at the Gold Mine in Bridgewater. Began to run out the French farm about ten o'clock. Kept on the outside of three pieces of land that Dr. Young bought of Hatch & Clarke and Z. French. Took dinner at Mr. Harding's. Left work at night at the S. line of the academy lot, so called, now owned by Hatch & Clarke.

June 29

Came to Carpenter's in Bridgewater and put up for the night last night and this morning took breakfast and started for our work. Ran the south line of the French farm first, and then the west line. Went without our dinner and got very tired. Finished the outlines and took some of the topography. Came home late at night.

June 30 (Arnold)

Am fully jaded out. Spent the day at home and tried to rest, but the labor of the past three days is not to be driven out so easily. – The Republican County Convention is held at Woodstock today. My friends have decided to present my name to the convention for a candidate for senator. – I hope they will not do it.

July 1

This is the day for the Commissioners to meet at Winslow's on the estate of Lewis O. Howard. Rode with Charles Vaughan and was there on time. Examined some of the accounts in the forenoon, and in the afternoon took up the Thrasher account and spent the afternoon closing at a little past five o'clock. Went to Mr. Woods for the night.

Sunday, July 2

Staid at Mr. Woods' last night. A very hard rain. Staid in my room but did not read or write much. The rain continued till about noon when it broke away, and it rained but little more. Started for home and soon got a horse to ride. Finished a long letter for Abbie, and ought to mail it tomorrow. Found a letter from Abbie and one from Dr. Young.

July 3

In the morning I rode to Woodstock and got drawing paper, also a new office chair. I must say that I think very much of it. Charles went to the office at night and I received a letter from Hon. Crosby Miller on the subject of the senate nomination. The nomination was almost entirely unexpected. I did not ask it, but must stand the tides of time.

July 4

A great celebration at Woodstock. – Self did not attend. Have no taste for such gatherings. Mr. Whitmore & Mr. Cook came to Mrs. Pages to repair house. Self went to see if they had things to work with. Went to Mr. Head's and got a load of boards and carried up there. Could do but very little work on the plans that I have to make for Dr. Young.

July 5

Started for Bridgewater quite early in the morning. Met Dr. Young and took him with me. Went to Joseph Harding's and then went on to the mountain to run a part of the north line of the academy lot so called. Did not get home till nearly night, and was very tired. I do not know why I am so much exhausted.

July 6

Took my wagon to Mr. Day's to be repaired. Called at Mr. Bridge's to see his barn. Looked all through it and think it is very ingeniously made & constructed. Thomas Vose, a cousin, came here on a visit. I have a severe headache so that I cannot do much. Ought to be at work every minute on the plans for Dr. Young. I fear that I cannot get them done in time.

July 7

Arose very early and began work on my plans of the Bridgewater surveys. Gordon Hawkins and his cousin Hannah Henry of Rochester came here last evening and left this morning soon after breakfast. Self kept at work on my plans. Started to carry them to Woodstock about four o'clock. Left them with Dr. Young who paid me for the work \$25.00.

July 8

Started in the morning to go to South Woodstock to run lines between Mr. Perry and Mr. Worcester. Electa went with me to Simeon Dunham's. Had a very difficult line to settle, but settled it by proportional distances as the measures did not agree. Am fully satisfied with the decision and think the parties were. Came home in the evening.

Sunday, July 9

The day is quite cool and clear. Thought quite strongly of going to the mountain, but did not get ready as early as we should wish to start and did not go. Charles and Louisa went to church and Chs. and Joanna in the evening at the hall at South Pomfret. Wrote a letter to Rob. And sent a pen to him.

July 10

In the morning I went to the Hatch lot to run a line between Mr. Hand's land and Norman Paul's. Finished it at about eleven o'clock. Came home & did chores about the house. Removed potatoes from the cellar, and also made some repairs about the hay house. A very good day for haying.

July 11

In the morning I went to Charles' place to help them get hay for there are signs of rain. They got seven loads. Came home and began to write. Wrote an agreement for Thomas Pratt. Was very unwell in the afternoon. Edward mowed the lot south of the upper barn.

July 12

Did some writing in the forenoon and remained about the house. In the afternoon assisted Charles about the haying. Edward mowed with the machine. The Ohio or Buckeye machine proves to be a valuable machine and does better work than I ever supposed one could do. Received a letter from Gaysville & answered it.

July 13

Started for Bridgewater in the morning but the weather was bad and I only went to Woodstock and returned soon after. The air changed from very warm to quite cold. – In the afternoon I assisted in getting hay into the barn. A very good afternoon for work, and we used the time earnestly.

July 14

Worked in the garden during the forenoon. The ground is very dry and the plants in the garden suffer very much. Carried water for those in the drier parts of the garden. In the afternoon I started for the north part of the town. Called at Mr. Perkins', and at Mr. Chamberlin's. then went to Mr. Woods' for the night.

July 15

Staid at Mr. Woods last night, and this morning I started for Mr. Clifford's. Had but little to do through the day for the parties were too boisterous. At night I came to Mr. Woods and put up for the night. Tried to write some to Abbie but my room was damp and cool. Am not very well tonight.

July 16

Went to the burying ground this forenoon and found the ground very dry and my valuable rose bushes drying up. Staid at Mr. Woods till nearly noon then started for home and it soon began to rain. Kept along from tree to tree till I arrived at Albro Perkins where I called to get dry. Called at Mr. Perkins', took supper and then came home.

Sunday, July 17

A very rainy night and this morning a severe rain from 3 to 5 o'clock. Am too tired to get to Woodstock and Bridgewater though the weather was tolerably clear in the afternoon. Rode to Woodstock in the evening with Edward to see about wagon and so forth. Am not well but must go to Bridgewater tomorrow.

July 18

Started early in the morning for the gold mines in Bridgewater. Called at the town clerk's office to get copies from the records. Went to Mr. Washburn's to dinner. Began our survey and continued it till late at night. Went to H.B Thompson's for the night. Had a very interesting talk with Mr. T. about mountain measurements.

July 19

Began our work again where we left it last night and we continued it till it began to rain at night. Came in the rain to Thomas Vose's and put up for the night. The rain comes very copiously, and I am glad to be in a good shelter. Wish I could hear from Abbie; but she is well I think, or she would write more.

July 20

Staid with cousin Thomas Vose last night. It rained through the night but is some clear this morning. Started soon after breakfast for home. Called at Woodstock and arrived home about eleven o'clock. Found myself intensely tired and with an intense headache. Made a pencil sketch of the land surveyed yesterday and sent it to Woodstock for Mr. Douglass.

July 21

Quincey Page and wife came last evening. This morning, Quincey & wife rode to Woodstock. Self worked about house but was hardly able to do anything. Received a letter from Abbie and will reply to it immediately. She will be at home before many days I do hope. Am some rested tonight.

July 22

Mailed a letter to Abbie this morning at Woodstock. Got \$252.00 of Mr. Converse as the balance of our money for services in the Herrick case, \$100.00 having been paid to Mr. Adams by my order. Paid some small debts, or rather made some small purchases and came home. Worked at haying in the afternoon.

Sunday, July 23

Have been quite unwell or rather jaded out today. Have read but little and cannot read with any ease at all. Have tried to write some to Abbie, but she will be at home soon I hope, for she has been away since the 7th of March I think, and the time, of course, seems very long to me.

July 24

In the morning I went to Woodstock to mail letters, one to Abbie, one to Mr. Safford, and one to Mr. Hunton. Worked at my drawing table till afternoon, and then I went to Woodstock & Taftsville to survey a road that had been staked out by the selectmen of Woodstock. Mr. Richmond assisted me in making the survey.

July 25

I remained about home but did but little work. The Paiges and Osceola Whitmore perform this afternoon and evening in Woodstock. Self do not go for I have but little faith in the value and usefulness of such things. Some of the young people went in the evening.

July 26

Went to Bridgewater to examine some of the lines of the lands surveyed last week. The day was cool and not uncomfortable. Came back to Woodstock about five o'clock. Received a letter from Mr. Safford and one from Edward Conant on the subject of the new Geography and History of Vermont. A pleasant letter.

July 27

Abbie's senior term closed yesterday, and now I shall expect her home very soon. I have been at work diligently at my table today. Am trying to get up a good plan of the Bridgewater lands that I have just been surveying. Worked quite diligently on the plan, and am getting quite tired.

July 28

Am expecting Abbie tonight and I shall be glad to meet her. Have been hindered very much today. Quincey called in the morning, and at noon I rode to the Wood place. In the afternoon I got Mr. Bridges express wagon and went to Woodstock to meet Abbie and found her very soon.

July 29

Worked nearly all day on the plan and computations. Abbie assisting me. Did not get it done as I hoped to do, but I can get it done Monday morning probably. This is not much of a hay day, and some of the hay is getting wet. Received a steel tape from Norman.

Sunday, July 30

Although I am very tired, yet it is pleasant for Abbie is with me today. She will make us a good long visit this fall as her next term does not begin till Sept. 20th. In the afternoon we were compelled to work on the plans and surveys of the gold lands. Abbie assisted me, but it is not pleasant to be obliged to work Sundays at any time.

July 31

Abbie and I rode to Woodstock to mail the plans to Douglass of New York. Abbie wished to procure a boarding place for Mr. Martin for a few weeks this fall. The day is very warm and I find myself not very strong. Wrote in the afternoon a letter to Robbie, for I have just received one from him. I must keep up the correspondence.

August 1

Yesterday afternoon I worked a few hours wheeling wood, and today am quite unwell. Quincey Page called here and remained nearly through the afternoon. – Abbie visited at Spenser's but came home in the evening. The folks are at work on Charles' haying today. Electa got her teeth that Quincey Page has been making for her.

August 2

Am extremely warm day. Elmer Paddock called here with Henry Vaughan in the morning. Did some chores about the house. In the afternoon, I went to Woodstock. Got a barrel of flour of Freeman for \$11.50. Took the time this morning and found that the clocks had hardly varied at all for many weeks.

August 3

One of the hottest days ever known in these parts. Thermometer 93 degrees above zero and the air very impure and suffocating. Besides this, I am quite unwell and the heat makes it almost impossible for me to do any thing. Although the heat is so intense, our folks have worked all day at haying.

August 4

Another very warm day. The thermometer nearly as high as yesterday, but there is a little more air stirring. I have tried to assist in getting in the hay today but am not able to help much. Louisa was called for in the morning to go to Bridgewater. Mother is failing very fast; the heat affects her so much.

August 5

The air is a little cooler and a little purer than it as yesterday. In the forenoon I went to Woodstock to get my wagon that Mr. Day has been repairing. Paid all concerned in repairing it. Quincey Page called to fill a tooth for me. Our folks finished haying. Mother is failing very fast. It seems impossible for her to live through the night.

Sunday, August 6

Mother has continued to fail since yesterday very sensibly. The day has been cloudy, cool, and showery. Some very hard showers. Louisa has not yet returned. Mrs. Page came to see mother but returned towards night. Quincey & wife came to Spenser's on their way home. They are to take the cars tomorrow. Spenser & Cynthia are with mother this evening.

August 7

In the morning I carried Quincey Page and wife to Taftsville to take the stage. Our mother died at half past nine o'clock this morning, before my return. She lived to a good old age and has left the world in peace. Self went to Woodstock with Joanna and did not get home till nearly night.

August 8

Started early in the morning for the north part of the town. Called at Mrs. Page's and at Mr. Hewitt's. Could not get Mr. Hewitt or Mr. Chamberlin to assist at the funeral. Went to Solomon Harding's for the hearse, and after much time made arrangement to have it brought. The funeral was attended at two o'clock this afternoon.

August 9

Went to Woodstock this morning. Got a letter from Willie Dewey. Shall get his transit to take to the mountain. Got a chain of Mr. Fisher for \$1.50. In the afternoon I staid about home and did some chores. Abbie is with me now and gets very tired with her work. I have written but little today.

August 10

Wrote a letter to Miss Wheelock in the forenoon, and in the afternoon Electa and I went to Quechee. Got Willie Dewey's transit to carry up the mountain. A very little rainy this afternoon. Went with my newly repaired wagon and found it very easy to ride in. Mailed my letter at Taftsville.

August 11

In the forenoon I worked about home. Repaired the braces to my wagon and made it suit me well. In the afternoon, I went with Abbie to meet Mr. Martin. Prof. Safford and his brother called on me and we had a very excellent visit. Hoped to meet them again in the afternoon but failed to meet them.

August 12

Rode to Woodstock in the morning with Joanna. It was nearly noon when we arrived home. In the afternoon we worked about the house. Spenser is finishing his haying at home. The day is very much cooler. How rapidly the days pass away. Abbie is with me and it makes the time very pleasant.

Sunday, August 13

A very pleasant morning. Rode to Mrs. Page's and then went to church to hear Mr. Balek of Ludlow. He is a remarkably clear thinker and eloquent speaker. Rode up the river above the Esq. Duncan place, and to the place where the west meeting house used to stand. A very pleasant ride with Abbie.

August 14 (Arnold)

Started early in the morning for Royalton. Arrived at Mr. Howard's soon after nine o'clock. Went with him to set out the south line of the 50 acre lot. In the afternoon I went to settle a line between Mr. Howard and Mr. Henry. Finished it about dark and then went to Mr. Howard's.

August 15

Staid at Mr. Howard's last night and this morning went to Mr. Henry's to run a line between his land and Mr. Boyd's. Worked through the forenoon and then went to Mr. Henry's and took dinner. In the afternoon I ran a line, the south line of Royalton for Mr. Rand. Staid with him over night.

August 16 (M.&N.)

Started early this morning for home after taking breakfast with my friend Howard. Came by way of East Barnard & Chamberlin's store. Called at Mr. Woods – got horse shod at Faneuf's. Came home in the afternoon – very tired. Got cotton cloth at Chamberlin's – Am very glad to meet Abbie again.

August 17

Rode to Woodstock in the morning with Abbie and carried a letter for Ellen Miller. Came home and worked about home the rest of the day. Electa, Abigail, and Joanna went to Mrs. Page's on a visit. Louisa called at Mr. Barber's and found Mrs. Barber quite unwell. Mr. Barber's mind is not quite right and I wish they would manage him with discretion.

August 18 (Maxwell)

In the forenoon, took the time and found the clocks nearly right. Worked some about the house, and then wrote some letters. Lizzie Doton visited here in the afternoon, and Ellen Churchill called to see her and Abbie. – Am tired and some unwell this afternoon. My brain is severely pressed.

August 19

In the morning I rode to Woodstock but at 9 o'clock we went to the burying ground for our mother is to be buried this forenoon. Assisted in getting the wheat into the barn. In the evening I went to Woodstock again. Called on my friend Leslie Miller and had a very pleasant chat on the Safford matter & mountains.

Sunday, August 20

Cool and pleasant in the morning but the middle of the day was very warm. Charles, Louisa, and Abbie went to church. Self staid in my room and wrote to Robbie Perkins. Received from him a plaster cast of a Fremont medal. This is one of the best medals that I have seen, and very appropriate.

August 21

Started for Mount Killington, and called on Mr. Martin & Miss Woodbury at Mr. King's. Went to Sherburne and took dinner, then went to west hill and took some observations on the mountain, and then went back to the hotel at Sherburne and put up for the night. Rainy in the evening.

August 22

Started for the mountain. Went to Mr. Manley's and left our teams. Chs. Vaughan came also Mr. Perkins and Mr. King, and before we had reached the top, our Quechee company came and reached the mountain long before night. The view was the best that I ever saw. The sunset was beautiful beyond description, - no one can describe it.

August 23

Staid on the mountain through the night and this morning is more clear than last evening but the fog soon began to envelope the mountain. We left some after nine o'clock and before ten, the mountain was clear of fog. Abbie and I called at Uncle Thomas's and took tea and came home in the evening.

August 24

In the forenoon Mr. Martin and Mis Woodbury came and visited till past nine o'clock and I then carried them to Mr. King's. I got home about midnight. Horace Dunham and wife came and visited in the afternoon. Had a very pleasant visit with Mr. Martin in the evening in my chamber alone.

August 25

About nine o'clock I started for Mr. H. Totman's and began to run out his farm. Worked all day on the north and east lines – but did not finish them. Went in very tired and took a good supper and then went to bed. The day was very warm and dry, so as to parch ones skin.

August 26

Staid at Mr. Totman's last night and rested very well. Ran the west line of the lot and a part of the south line in the forenoon. In the afternoon, finished the east line and then ran the road. Came home about three o'clock and called myself very tired. Went to my chamber and began to write.

Sunday, August 27

In the forenoon was extremely dull and tired but in the afternoon I rode to Mr. Perkins' to meet Abbie. Polk Chamberlin came and we had a very pleasant visit. Took tea with Mr. Perkins. Got letters from Mr. Huger and one from Mr. Hunton enclosing \$14.00 for Bugbee estate.

August 28

Started early in the morning for Mr. Weed's in Hartland. Arrived there about nine o'clock and began the surveying. Simeon and Horace Dunham assisted in the chaining. The day was warm but the work went off pleasantly. My work last week was very hard, but am getting over the fatigue of it some.

August 29

Continued the surveys at Mr. Weed's house. Have run three pieces. Finished taking the field notes about noon, and after the testing of the balancing, left for home. Came by Woodstock. Saw Mr. Williams and had a pleasant chat about his son Charles. Came home quite tired and jaded. The heat affects me badly.

August 30

Am to begin school this morning. Joanna carried me to Mr. Wood's and soon after I went to the school house. Took seventeen names this morning and there are two or three more on hand. The day is extremely warm for the season. Corn is getting ripe and is being harvested.

August 31

Martin Snow Esq. died this morning of dysentery. There is very much sickness in some parts of the town. The recitations begin quite pleasantly and I think the school will be very pleasant. My work last week and this has tired and exhausted my nerves very much, but the rest of school and the clear air will set all right.

September 1

Ellen Miller called this morning to see about the teaching and she began to hear the recitations. I heard the lessons in the afternoon as she attended the funeral of Mr. Snow. A slight thunder shower about four o'clock. Started for home at five. Called at Mr. Chamberlin's and at Mr. Smith's. I saw Mr. & Mrs. Elmira Paddock. Stopped at Mr. Perkins'.

September 2

Staid at Mr. Perkins' last night and this morning started for home. Mr. Perkins walked with me and he seemed to be very much better. Came home and spent my day about the room & about the farm. I went after Abbie in the evening. Called at Mrs. Page's. The evening is very pleasant.

Sunday, September 3

The day is very warm and dry. Spent the day at my table mostly. Wrote a long letter to Robbie. The pastures are so dry that the cattle are suffering very much. I am some tired as usual but can get rested. John Adams called to see me about Kimball's work as K. intends to leave him soon.

September 4

Started in the morning for the north part of the town. Found the school in a rather dull state, but it will get going more favorably in a few days. Mr. Brockway called to get a boarding place for his boy but failed. It is a little discouraging to have scholars leave on that account, but so it is.

September 5

Vt. Election. – Self walked from home nearly all the way to the north part of the town. Did not attend the election, but worked on the surveys for Mr. Weed and Mr. Totman. Mr. Amos Wood died today about ten o'clock in the morning. Had a very fine shower about four o'clock.

September 6

Walked to Mr. Chamberlin's in the morning to mail plans, etc. A little rainy in the forenoon. In the afternoon I went into school. Ellen Miller went to the funeral that was had at the church at Snow's Store this afternoon. Went with Abbie to Mr. Thatcher's this evening. Saw & rode with Melvin Miller.

September 7 (M.&N.)

I write this with a quill pen. The day has been some cooler, but has been very fair. I have heard the lessons today, for Ellen attended a sing. I find the lessons very interesting, but it is very exciting to hear them. The brain becomes very much heated when I attempt it. Cool this evening.

September 8

Ellen Miller came to take charge of the school. Self started soon after for the south part of the town. Called at Mrs. Perkins for Abbie then we came to Mr. Perkins, and I came home. Louisa was married last Tuesday and has gone to her new home. Self ran a line for Mr. Barber.

September 9

Found myself very much jaded out this morning. Remained in my room the greater part of the forenoon. In the afternoon I went to Woodstock. Carried plan to Mr. Hatch. Have once been to Woodstock without being called to do a job of surveying. Cannot write easily.

Sunday, September 10 (Maxwell)

Some showers during the night and rainy this morning. Spent a part of the forenoon in watching cattle. Polk Chamberlin came about the middle of the day. The day has been wet and gloomy, and continued so till night. Have read but very little today.

September 11

Charles hauled in his buckwheat with the horses. I spent the greater part of the day watching cattle. Let them feed in the mowing by watching them. Wrote some letters and did a little reading. Abbie assisted about the working. I do not know how I could get along without her assistance. I am too much alone.

September 12

Rode to Woodstock in the morning to mail letters. One to R.H. Paddock, one to Safford, one to Mr. Ware. Paid excise tax. In the afternoon, Abbie and I went to Mr. Chamberlin's and returned before night. Then watched cattle again. The dry weather makes the pastures very poor and cattle suffer unless fed or allowed better feed.

September 13

Charles drew in the corn that is cut. Mr. Hatch called to see about some hay. The weather is very warm and dry and the feed in the pastures is nearly dried up. Spent the day in chores about the house. Charles went away in the afternoon. Dug out the spring by the brook. The evening is warm and pleasant.

September 14

Mrs. Page, Elmer Emery & wife, and Mrs. Whitman and Ellen visited here through the day. Abbie and I stole away for a short time and took angles between Killington and the Dome and between Killington and Saltash. Made the distance between the Peak and Dome 813 rods differing only two rods from a previous measure.

September 15

Started for North Hartland. Went via Woodstock. A very slight shower in the morning. Called at Quechee and found my friends Willie Dewey, Chs. Tinkham, Mr. Wolcott and some others. – Arrived at Mr. Woods and found that my friend R.D. Miller died yesterday and is to be buried this afternoon. Worked alone about Mr. W.'s surveys.

September 16

Staid at Mr. Woods last night, and this morning we went to Mr. Masher's to survey the Hubbard lot so called. How much we miss our friend Miller. He has always been out with me when I have been surveying on their lands. Took supper at Mr. Mosher's and then started for home. But Mr. Wood would not let me come and I put up for the night.

Sunday, September 17

Mrs. Wood is quite unwell this morning. Started about half past eight for home. The forenoon was very warm. Arrived home about noon. Was fully jaded out and I tried to rest some on the lounge. These heated days are too much for me and I have become quite unwell. Abbie thinks that it rained some this afternoon.

September 18

Very rainy through the night and all day. Self worked in my chamber on the surveys made last week. Have read some today. Abbie is not here now and I am alone in my chamber. The rain has continued through the day. Mrs. Bridge visited here, though so rainy. Have very good success with my surveys.

September 19

Rode to Woodstock early in the morning and then took the team to Mrs. Page's for Mrs. Whitmore. I then walked to the north part of the town and got to the school house in time for the lesson in grammar & parsing. The day has been quite cool, and the room is cold without a fire.

September 20

Wednesday we met at Mr. Adams' to talk over the Howard case. Mr. Smith came but was quite unwell and I fear he is to have a run of fever, but he does not seem to fear it much. Went to my room about four o'clock and finished some of the computations on the Howard accounts.

September 21

Rested some better last night, for the weather was some warmer. Soon after breakfast I started for the south part of the town. Called at Mr. Chamberlin's and at Mr. Perkins'. Learned that Abbie had gone down to our house, and so I followed without making much of a visit. Went to Woodstock in the evening.

September 22

Rested badly last night and today am some unwell. Staid about the house in the forenoon and in the afternoon carried Abigail to Mrs. Page's, and then Abbie and I went to Woodstock. Got Nautical Almanac for 1867 and a new Draper ink stand. Paid for it \$1.25 but the Almanac was three dollars.

September 23

In the morning Electa and I went to Woodstock. I telegraphed to Montpelier for boarding place, but could not get one at the Pavilion. Am beginning to think I shall hardly get a place. Bought Charles' coat and took it to Myers to have it fitted to me. Mail very late.

Sunday, September 24

Am very unwell this morning. Staid in my room till nearly noon then rode to Mr. Woods and Mr. Chamberlins'. Brought Abigail from Mrs. Pages. Am feeling some better this afternoon and evening. Am trying to write some letters. Abbie is with me now.

September 25

Started in the morning for Ludlow. Called at Woodstock and got slips at Eatons. Took a part of Bridgewater and Ludlow mail and started. Rode through the old neighborhood at Plymouth, but how changed! Arrived at Ludlow about five o'clock, and put up at the hotel for the night.

September 26

Judge Pingree came last night and this morning we started for the mountain to begin our survey. Followed a line about 400 rods to find a corner to begin at. We then ran back on the line, examining every marked tree and taking very full notes. Examined the 400 rods.

September 27

Went back to the Buckmaster clearing and re-traced a portion of the line, and then continued it about 200 rods further; then left the line for the night marking our way out so as to find our place in the morning. We found ourselves extremely tired and lame. Was thrown from the wagon but not much hurt.

September 28

Took up the line where we left it last night and continued it to a corner more than 740 rods from where we started. Went up the mountain about 140 rods and 20 rods north we found an old corner, a birch tree. South of this corner we found an old line which we followed till night.

September 29

Begun again at the 3 birches and followed the westerly line. The older records on this line counted 44 & on the other line 21 excepting a few that counted 32 or 33 and 39. Followed this direction till night, coming again to the Orvis clearing where we left again for the night very tired.

September 30

Went with Mr. Billings to re-examine a portion of the line between the Orvis road and the Buckmaster clearing. Spent the forenoon on this line and this finished a full examination of the east line. After dinner I started for home by way of Proctorsville and Cavendish. Arrived home about nine in the evening.

Sunday, October 1

Am very stupid and tired today for my past weeks work has been extremely laborious. Have been in my chamber much of the time alone for Abbie did not come from Mr. Perkins till nearly night. Joseph and Henry Page came here last night, and have left tonight.

October 2

This forenoon I started for the north part of the town to meet John Chedel on an important case. Went to Ellis Tinkham's & after some talk the case settled. Came back to Mr. Woods and stopped at my room. Mrs. Dana & Nathan Dana came in the evening.

October 3

Mr. Hewitt called in the evening to see me about teaching their school this winter. Perhaps I shall teach for him. Soon started for home, calling at Mr. Chamberlin's and Mr. Perkins' – Went to Woodstock in the afternoon to meet Esq. Chamberlin on the Hathaway case.

October 4

A very cold night has passed and a cold morning follows. Started in the morning for South Woodstock. Called at the "green" and had a long chat with Lewis Pratt. – Met Mr. Thompson & Mr. Shaw at Ann Farnsworth's & proceeded to appraise the real estate of Miss Susan Farnsworth. Came home in the evening.

October 5

Worked at home this forenoon. Shelled my old corn. In the afternoon I went to Woodstock to survey a lot of land for Gen Mower. The day has been cold and wind from the north. Paid George Fisher in full for table and chairs. Did not get home till nearly dark.

October 6

Am not very well, but have agreed to go to Mr. Hathaway's place with Mr. Chamberlin. Started on foot with my instruments. Met Mr. C. and rode with him. Spent the day in running lines but could get but little light on the difficult case. Came home at night with a severe cold.

October 7

Have taken a severe cold and am quite unwell. Worked on Gen. Mower's surveys nearly all day. Abbie came home in the afternoon and I was glad to see her. Elias Royce came here in the forenoon, and in the afternoon went to the village with Joanna. Signs of rain.

October 8 (Arnold's, new)

Spent the day with Abbie in our chamber. Polk Chamberlin called and staid till nearly night. Abbie called at Mr. Barber's and I went for her, but she had returned. Had a dark, gloomy walk but got back safe. The day has been dark and some rainy, but we can bear much more rain. (The following is in red ink between the lines.) The foliage is now very beautiful but such has been the season that we shall not see the forests as bright and glowing as usual.

Sunday, October 9

Staid at home in the forenoon and in the afternoon went to Woodstock. Got overcoat at Myers' and pants that he had been making. Got a hair brush for Abbie, and I was glad to get something for her to please her for she has done so much for me. The evenings are quite cool and have been so nearly through the season. (The following is in red ink between the lines.) The 9th day of October is usually the day on which we can see the most beautiful forest colors but it may be one or two days later this year. Last year it was on the 6th day. I love the melancholy of these fall days. They seem to call up the dear, lost one, who was so dear to me.

October 10

Got up early in the morning and Abbie and I started for Mr. Wood's. Here I picked up some things that I wish to take to Montpelier. Then rode to West Hartford with Harding. Took the train for Montpelier where I arrived about five o'clock, then I put up at Burnham's for the session. (The following is in red ink between the lines.) I could but admire the beauty of the foliage as I passed along the route to the state capitol. They are now at their highest beauty but I cannot observe it as I wish for I change places so often. There is some of this beauty about Montpelier, but the valley of the Winooski does not compare with that of Quechee.

October 11

Rested very well last night, - slept nearly all night. Spent the day in running about and in viewing the Cabinet, - but I became some rested. The members of the House go in this forenoon to choose their seats. The day was exceedingly fine till nearly night.

October 12

The morning is cold and some rainy. Took my seat in the Senate for the first time and found it to be very pleasant. Was appointed on the Canvassing Committee, and after the session for the day we repaired to the General Committee room and made up the list of votes. (The following is in red ink between the lines.) Those beautiful colors are beginning to pass away and fade. The brightest hues are past and soon the trees will be stripped of all their foliage.

October 13

A very bright, pleasant morning, and so it has continued through the day though quite cool. It is a little past four o'clock. The Senate and House adjourned about three o'clock. The Senate went into the Governor's room to see him take the oath of office. A great trust, truly.

October 14

What a beautiful day! The air clear as crystal and all the face of nature so lovely. It speaks of days when my dear Harriet was with me, but those days are shrouded in deep melancholy. – The members of both houses scatter away and the place appears quite desolate.

Sunday, October 15

Arose this morning and found it raining very beautifully. Went into my room soon after breakfast and hardly left it till night except for my meals. Wrote letters to Abbie & Lizzie Doten and one to Miss Wheelock. Have felt quite well through the day but became a little tired before night.

October 16

Cloudy and cool this morning. Mailed the letters that I wrote yesterday. The weather is not unpleasant though cooler than before the rain. There was hardly a quorum this morning at first, but soon the senators came in so fast that a little business could be done, though they are hardly at work earnestly yet.

October 17

The houses are both full or nearly so and there seems to be a little more done. The Historical Society hold their meeting today, also the State Medical Society are holding their annual meeting. In the evening I heard Judge Cutts and Mr. Cheney at the Representatives Hall. Quite interesting.

October 18

This is fall weather. We cannot expect the best of weather this month. This is the great day for the medical fraternity. Their annual address was in the evening. Did not attend. Saw Mrs. Dr. Sperry this morning as I went from my room. Had quite an interview with Mr. Hazen. (The following is in red ink between the lines.) Gen. Phelps called this morning before he left for home. I wish his time had not been spent by a discussion on the war; or rather on the militia law.

October 19

Many of the members are beginning to grow uneasy and are beginning to run home. Both houses met this afternoon in joint assembly to choose the judges of the Supreme Court; and all passed off quite harmoniously. A very severe thunder shower passed over Montpelier this afternoon about five o'clock.

October 20

Went into the Senate chamber but there was no quorum for some time. But after some time a quorum having come in some little business was done and the senate adjourned. Nearly all the members have left. Did not go to the senate chamber in the afternoon. Perhaps shall be called to answer for my absence.

October 21

First snow this fall. Sent a letter to Abbie and one to Lizzie. Sent to Mr. Bailey for spectacles. Cousin Joel Doty called a little before noon. Took a walk to the state house with Mrs. Wood, Ellis, & Mrs. Dana. Staid in my room the greater part of the afternoon and evening and am alone. Got a letter from my dear Abbie.

Sunday, October 22

A hard freeze last night. This forenoon, Mr. Wood and I went to the cemetery and returned about ten o'clock. Went to my room and he went to church. Spent nearly all the day in reading & writing. Wrote to Gen. Phelps, to Abbie, and to Polk Chamberlin. Have enjoyed myself quite well though I have seemed alone.

October 23

A pleasant day but there are but few members here. The house met at two o'clock and the senate were to meet at four o'clock. I did not go up to the State House though I think there were enough to adjourn till tomorrow, and so we loaf about again. But I have much to do yet. Mr. Bailey sent spectacles.

October 24

Both houses met in sufficient numbers to transact business; and there was more work done than on any three previous days. We get very tired of course and when I have much writing to do it seems to exhaust the nerves very much. I am pleased with the business.

October 25

A remarkably pleasant day and our work is going on finely. In the afternoon we had a short session for at three o'clock, Dr. Stone of the Hartford Asylum for the deaf & dumb gave an exhibition of his pupils at the state house; and it was a most brilliant exhibition. They are thoroughly educated; and what a blessing to them.

October 26

Today I presented a bill to amend the charter of the Woodstock R.R. Co. and it was opposed by Senator Crane of Chittenden County. A question of order came up and the speaker decided that the bill could not have a second reading and referred it to the committee on roads. A curious decision.

October 27

The snow this morning covered the ground though the weather was not so cold. Had a very pleasant session in the senate today. At noon had a telegram from home that Lizzie died last night and is to be buried tomorrow. It was too late for me to get home in time.

October 28

Both houses of the General Assembly were rather thin today, though in the Senate we had 22 members. A most exciting debate was called out on a resolution to change a rule, and it totally failed. This was noted as a divided victory over all opposition and was almost gloriously done.

Sunday, October 29

There has been a strong N.W. wind and it is cold. In the afternoon I went with Judge Upham and Mr. Chapman to the cemetery. The wind was very raw and cold there, and I took some cold. I wrote nearly all day on letters to my friends at home. Lizzie was buried yesterday.

October 30

In the morning there was no quorum for some time; but enough came in to do business, and the work of the week began. The reading and passing of bills goes rapidly, but every bill that is read does not become a law. How much of legislation is lost, but every one must be heard.

October 31

Had a good long talk with my good old friend Judge Upham. Dr. Powers came last night and it seems quite refreshing to have him around here with his congenial face. – There is a new project on first about the railroad from Woodstock. October closes and how rapidly time passed.

November 1

The air is alive about Railroads & other business. Mr. Pratt introduced his railroad bill and it passed to its second reading without opposition and was referred to the committee on roads. It will be in the senate tomorrow. Well we would like to see them try to stop that bill before it gets to its 2nd reading.

November 2

Business is moving with extreme rapidity in both Houses of the legislature and I hope will close before one week more. The Woodstock R.R bill came to the Senate and was referred to the com. on Roads after the usual readings. The committee will report on it in the morning.

November 3

The R.R. bill was expected and after the third reading passed without opposition so the Woodstock folks will breathe clear again. Had a long and pleasant chat with Lieut. Governor Gardner. He is a very pleasant man. Got a letter from my friend Conant on the subject of recommended books and I must see to it.

November 4

No quorum in the senate in the morning, but some came soon so that the business goes rapidly again. There is much stormy weather at this time and the weather is gloomy. In the afternoon, the senators began to leave for home. Received a letter from Miss Wheelock & a photograph.

Sunday, November 5

Strong appearance of rain in the morning and it soon began to rain. Took a walk with Judge Upham to the deer park and this is the first time that I have ever seen a deer. I do not call them handsome by any means. Wrote a long letter to Miss Wheelock in reply to her last.

November 6

Am receiving more letters than I can easily answer. The work of the session is going on rapidly. I hope we shall get away Thursday but I cannot tell. This is a cold and stormy time. Sent home by telegraph for my note book in the Warren Adams case.

November 7

Weather very cold and some snow continually falling. Mr. Converse came from Woodstock and brought my note book of the Adams survey. The Agricultural College bill does not get called up today. The militia bill is before the committee and will be taken up tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

November 8

A very cold morning and it seems like winter. The work has gone very briskly in the senate today for there is much to be done. It is now decided that we adjourn on Friday morning at 8 o'clock. And that will be time for me to go home.

November 9 (M.&N.)

It is now quite certain that the legislature will adjourn before tomorrow. The business is going very rapidly. In the afternoon, the senate voted to have an evening session. Met at seven o'clock and went to work most industriously, and soon after midnight finished the work and adjourned.

November 10

A telegraph dispatch brings the news of the death of Judge Collamer. At nine o'clock we started for home. A very cold day and I was very cold in coming from West Hartford to Mr. Wood's. Went to Mr. Hewitt's to see Abbie and found her well.

November 11

About noon I started for the south part of the town. As I went, I called at M. Perkins' and Mrs. Page's, and towards night, I got home and was quite tired from so long a walk. It seemed a long time since I left from Montpelier.

Sunday, November 12

The day is very cold. Self staid in my room and was not very well. Charles & Joanna went to church and to the funeral of Judge Collamer. It was conducted in the most simple manner in every respect. How appropriate such simplicity seems to be.

November 13

Went to work in the forenoon to prepare for banking the house. Prepared boards and stakes & then began by banking around the cellar windows. In the afternoon I went to Mr. Hewitt's and then with Abbie to Mr. Woods, but it was so late that we did not go from there.

November 14

Started in the morning for home. Walked as far as Mr Chamberlins and Mr. Perkins. Had a very pleasant chat at each of those places. Got home soon after noon. Mrs. Churchill visited here in the afternoon. I ought to have gone to Woodstock to do some surveying.

November 15

Was very tired and some unwell this morning Electa, Abigail, and Abbie started in the morning to go see Louisa. The day has been very pleasant and the girls will have a fine time for visiting. Self worked about home, doing not much but chores.

November 16

In the morning I was called to go to Woodstock to make a survey for Chs. Blossom. The day was very pleasant and I had very good success. In the afternoon I finished banking the house, and I must call it late for such work. Abbie and I had a fine visit in the evening.

November 17

Started for Sharon early in the morning, and went to Mr. Dimick's Hotel and found that the court had adjourned, but they took my deposition and released me. After dinner I went to Mr. Seavers by way of Woodstock. Met Mr. Miller and Mr. Paul there to appraise land damages.

November 18

Worked about home in the forenoon and in the afternoon staid in my chamber. It is seven years this evening since the death of my dear Harriet, and the time has passed heavily since. Her friend Miss Wheelock continues to write, and almost keeps her memory vividly before me.

Sunday, November 19

Abbie is with me today and spends the evenings with me in my chamber. – This is a very snowy morning. It continued to snow nearly through the day and fell about four inches deep. We remained in our chamber the greater part of the day, and I wrote a long letter to my friend Henry C. Denison.

November 20

Worked at my table the greater part of the day. Computed land surveys for H.L. Marsh. Abbie did my washing that I should have done at Montpelier. The day is not cold but is very snowy and wet passing. Abbie and I spend our evenings in my room, which is most truly pleasant.

November 21

A rough, stormy morning, but not cold. There is about two inches of snow on the ground, and the air is so near freezing point that it does not melt very fast. Mrs. French worked for the girls today. Some rainy during the afternoon, but very rainy in the evening. (The following is in red ink between the lines.) Abbie has been with me all day in my chamber and is by me this evening as I write. 'Tis almost too pleasant to be true, but it is true that her affections are with her father, and I do know its worth bereft as I am of all that I claim as my own besides. Seven years ago today was the funeral of my dear Harriet.

November 22

Went to Woodstock in the morning to see about Kimball's case with John Howard. Got a subpoena per Mr. Davis and tried to find Kimball to send him to serve it. Went to Mr. Woods in the afternoon and carried Mary Dana, but could not find Kimball. Got Charles Vaughan to go to Stockbridge and I remained at home and did chores. In the afternoon I went with Spenser and Martin to get out some logs from the Ware woods. A mild day. Saw Mr. Thacher as I was coming home. Charles found deep snow drifts in Barnard, but he got home safely.

November 23

Not quite so stormy now and we may expect more at the institute. The day is somewhat pleasant. Have some 30 in attendance, nearly all teachers. Called at Mr. Adams at noon, sent by him to West Hartford for a bag of flour. The exercises of the Institute have been very interesting and almost exciting.

November 24

Joanna went with me to Woodstock and I spent the day attending Kimball's event. Saw Mr. Marsh on the Hathaway case. Went with Wm. Collamer to see his father's books and got a large volume of meteorological observations and a volume on our foreign economic relations.

November 25

Started in the morning for North Hartland and arrived there a little before noon. As Mr. Wood was from home, I got such assistance as I could and made the measurements that I wished to make for the Wood and Willard case. Some cold.

Sunday, November 26

Staid at Mr. Loyal Woods last night and this morning started for home. There was a very chilly north-west wind. I was quite unwell in the morning, and very cold coming home, but am better this evening. About four o'clock, I started for the north part of the town and Abbie went a long distance with me.

November 27

Began my winter term of school at the Dana school house, and had a beautiful day for it. Had 34 Scholars. There are many small ones, but they are all good, very good, scholars. Kimball called in the evening and was the most uncomfortable that I ever saw him.

November 28

The weather is very much colder. Kimball called again this morning and I spent some time with him. I wish he was more rational, but it cannot be so. School has gone well, but there is hard labor in teaching so many small scholars. Am tired this evening.

November 29

My birth day! How rapidly has time flown for the last eight or ten years. I am now fifty-six years old and am, of course, on the down hill of life on earth but drawing nearer to the real life in the spirit world. School is pleasant but there is real work in having so many small scholars.

November 30

The weather is warmer this morning, and the ground seems to be thawing out again. Went to the office this morning to mail a letter to Miss Wheelock. Got two Registers for 1866, and I send one to Miss Wheelock and the other to Robbie Perkins.

December 1 (M.&N.)

Warmer this morning with a little storm. Mary Gibson and one of the Wood girls staid at Ellis Wood's last night. The school has been a little more noisy today for the weather is not cold and a little stormy. Walked home after school but did not find Abbie.

December 2

Started in the morning for Mr. Rogers to meet Judge Porter, but did not find him. I walked across the hill and back, getting home about noon. Mrs. Perkins visited here. In the afternoon I worked on the shed. Abbie has not yet come home and I do not know where she is though perhaps at Mr. Hawkins.

Sunday, December 3 (Arnold ink)

A very warm day. Have been very tired and lame through the day owing to my hard walk yesterday, and my work upon the shed in the afternoon. Charles carried me as far as Mr. Leonard's, and from there I walked to Mr. Wood's. Very tired. Did not see Abbie.

December 4

A very dark, rainy morning, but a greater part of the scholars are at school. The rain continued through a great part of the day. The air is so light and humid that the school is very noisy, and of course I get very tired. Have tried to get through with the lessons in time but could not. Snow all gone except on the highest hills.

December 5 (M.&N.)

Very clear and some cooler this morning. The air is changed and school goes better. I have too many pressing calls for surveying, etc. There is a prospect of a singing school at Snow's, but I do not think it will influence our day school much. Our scholars are very attentive to their work.

December 6

Another very pleasant day. These days are remarkable for this season of the year. These calls for surveying continue. I cannot attend to them. School has gone well; and this evening I went home, walking all the distance on the rough ground.

December 7

Thanksgiving Day. – Abbie is here with me now and it is pleasant. In the morning I went to Woodstock with Martin Gilbert, and then I went to get Mrs. Page and Abigail to take supper with us. Edward Doten was with us. Last night I received a letter from Dr. R.H. Paddock of St. Louis.

December 8 (Arnold)

Started very early in the morning with Spenser to go to Sherburne and determine the south line of the town with reference to the highest peak of the mountain. Had very good success in finding the corner of the town, and in determining the line and found it to be 40 or 50 rods south of the peak. Snow all gone except on the mountains.

December 9

The day yesterday was very clear and cold, and today I am quite unwell from the chilly ride from Sherburne. Today I rode to Woodstock with Abbie and then to Mr. Cone's where I met Mr. Chamberlin coming from Mr. Hathaway's. A cold day. Attended Kimball's court, but it was adjourned till next Saturday.

Sunday, December 10

Did chores in the morning and about noon started for Mr. Woods. Abbie went with me to Mr. Perkins'. Called at Mr. Chamberlin's and then went to Mr. Wood's. Saw Charlie Wyatt and Ellen Miller. Found the walking very bad, there being about two inches of snow. (Lesson – I Cor. 11th and Psalm 130.)

December 11

The last snow still remains on the ground. Air is clear and cold, and of course school goes not easily. I am quite unwell, but keep in the school house. Mr. Dutton and Mr. Hazen called for school teacher certificates in the evening. Was too tired to enjoy the examination. Had a very pleasant chat with some of the scholars.

December 12

A very damp morning with some rain and it continued so till night. It is very bad weather for schools for the smaller scholars are very much more uneasy. In the evening it began to rain and was quite rainy. Some of the scholars went to Snow's for a sing. Received a letter from Milwaukee.

December 13

Rainy through last night and this morning; the snow all gone. – the roads are quite muddy. The wind westerly and the air clear. School opened better but I get tired before night. Some of the listers called in the evening on their way to Mr. Miller's. Walked some on school matters.

December 14

Ought to write a full letter to answer one just received from Milwaukee. School goes very well but I get tired every evening. Have much work on hand besides school work. Last Saturday Kimball's court was adjourned to next Saturday and I must be sure to attend as usual.

December 15

School has gone well but the weather is much cooler. After school I went to the south part of the town. Called at Mr. Chamberlins. The walking was extremely hard for the ground was rough and frozen. Arrived home about seven o'clock. Found that I had been called for to go to Ludlow next Monday.

December 16

In the forenoon worked about the barn and shed. In the afternoon went to Woodstock to attend the Kimball court. The day was cool and the walking very hard. No snow on the ground. Got a letter from Mr. Safford that tells me that Henry is appointed Director of the Chicago Observatory.

Sunday, December 17

Remained at home till noon & then went to Mr. Perkins' and to Mr. Woods to see about leaving school to go to Ludlow; but Mr. Hewitt does not wish to see the school stop. Sent Martin Gilbert to Woodstock to carry note book to the stage office to send to Ludlow tomorrow.

December 18

Staid at home last night and this morning went to my school, Joanna carrying me to Mr. Perkins'. Arrived at house a few minutes past nine o'clock and found the school house cold and the scholars going home but at last collected a good number.

December 19

School full again. Went to the office in the morning. Sent letter and Register to Miss Wheelock. She will get them before Saturday night. Ellen Churchill called to work on her lessons. The day has been very profitable for a school day, for the scholars have been attentive.

December 20

The day is clear and cool and school must go well. Mr. Barber called at night for the stove for Abbie's room. – A sing at Snow's in the evening and some of the scholars go to it. Am alone this evening in my room. Am extremely tired for school has gone extremely well.

December 21

Snow through the night and this morning very rough. The greater part of the scholars got to school but the wind was very high through the day, and it is called one of the most blustering days of the season. Am very lame from too much walk on the frozen ground.

December 22

Another cold night and rough day. The school is nearly full and the day passes pleasantly. Closed school for the week and feel some relief from the weight of care. A singing school tonight but few scholars attend. Mr. Tinkham is the teacher this winter.

December 23

Am feeling well this morning but am troubled with cold feet. Staid in my room in the forenoon and wrote letters. In the afternoon I went to Mr. Chamberlin's and Mr. Miller's. Came back to my room very tired. Am glad to meet my friend Melvin Miller. Was mostly alone in the evening.

Sunday, December 24

Had a severe headache through the night and it does not leave me today. Have been alone through the middle of the day, and was hardly able to sit up. Received a letter from Abbie last night, and wish I could see her today but the snow is falling too fast to allow me to go out.

December 25

The snow is about seven inches deep this morning, and if it should be cold there would be some sleighing. The weather is quite warm. School is not quite full today, for the holidays have come and every one went home; a pleasant and good time.

December 26

The weather is warm and almost rainy, so much so that the snow is leaving very fast. The passing is very bad and is becoming worse. Am extremely busy at school, and on school matters. I read very little, but all my time is devoted to school matters, except to write a very little.

December 27

A rainy night and this morning the brook is very high and the roads are filled with water so much as to render walking very bad. Have heard nothing from Abbie for some days. 'Tis not pleasant to be separated from her so much. The streams very high – weather warm.

December 28

On the first assembling of the scholars, I knew there must be a storm approaching, they were so very uneasy and restless. In the afternoon it began to snow and continued so till late in the evening. Worked on the Algebra lessons some in the evening.

December 29

Am very tired this morning and have been some hurried to get to school in time. School goes very well today, or rather it would if I were not so tired. Received four letters by last night's mail. Wrote to Abbie this evening. No letters except one from Dana Hewitt.

December 30

In the morning I rode with Mr. Wood to his mothers to appraise the real and personal estate. Had a bad headache through the day. Some snowy in the afternoon. Came home and retired to my room tired and some unwell. Do not get any letters from the office tonight.

December 31

The last sabbath and the last day of the year 1865, and a new date comes tomorrow. Again I have been spared to see the closing day of a year and as I look back I can but ask myself if I have done any good worth living for. Have I met and fulfilled the resolutions that I made one year ago. Have I taught error in any case so as to corrupt the heart of those with whom I have been called to associate? Have I left important duties undone and unthought of? Is my heart in closer communion with my Heavenly Father than it was one year ago? Perhaps I have failed in all these points, but may it still be our fervent prayer to be guided aright and to be influenced to come nearer the great fountain of Eternal Truth. – Spent the evening in writing a letter to the most valued friend of my dear Harriet but could not finish it, as the brain was too tired.

1866

January 1

The school is not large for some of the scholars are away in New Year's parties. I am tired and afflicted with headache. The scholars are quite merry with their "Happy New Years!" – We now begin a new date. The weather is warm and the sleighing good for so small an amount of snow.

January 2

The new year is full ushered in and we can begin our work. The scholars who were out yesterday have returned, but are not very studious. There are too many attractions out of the school house for the good of the scholars. I am rather too tired this week for teaching.

January 3

I do not yet get any letters from Milwaukee, but I do not know as I am disappointed. School goes quite hard today for the scholars have their minds too much on play for calm study. Jasper and Hattie Freeley called in the evening.

January 4

Worked very late last evening and did not rest very well last night, but was determined that school should go easily and well; and it has gone very much better. The sleighing is quite good though there is not more than half an inch of snow on the ground.

January 5

There are some signs of colder weather – School has gone very well but the weather is colder towards night. I ought to go to the south part of the town but it is too cold to start off tonight. Received a letter from Miss Wheelock and must reply to it immediately.

January 6

Cold! – the thermometer standing at 18½ degrees below zero. I ought to have gone to the south part of the town, but the weather is too cold. I staid in my room nearly all day and tried to rest but I get too tired to get rested in one day. Very cold this evening.

Sunday, January 7

Thought I would read more today – Cold. – Ther. 20 degrees below zero. Too cold to go out. Those that went to church came back cold & some of them frozen. Read some of Dick's works and liked it very much. Have not read much of his work for a long time. Ther. 22 below zero in the evening.

January 8

Thermometer 22 degrees below zero. At Woodstock 26 below, but it is now growing warmer for it is no colder this morning than it was last night. The school is quite small on account of the cold weather. Went to the post office after school. Got letter from Mr. Adams of Sherburne.

January 9

Was very tired in the morning and school has not gone so well. It did not go so easily yesterday. In the evening I received a letter from Abbie and one from Lester Miller, & one from Mr. Safford in relation to Henry's appointment at Chicago.

January 10

Wrote very late last evening, and this morning went to the post office. Sent letters to Abbie, one to Lester Miller, one to Norman Perkins. School does not go so easily as it ought to go, for there is too much of idleness so the lessons are not well got.

January 11

Another idle day at school though I think a good lesson might make school go better. Had to use more severity and I hope it will do some good. Am too tired to work or rest tonight, - but must do both.

January 12

School has gone some better today. There has been about half or $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch of snow. In the evening I went to Mr. Miller's to do some writing for him, and then went to Mr. Chamberlin's. Came back and tried to rest. Ought to go home tonight.

January 13

Was intending to go south today but was afraid of rain. Got fully ready to go but did not venture to start. A little rain, but it soon became cooler and so continued till night. Visited the school at Snow's but could not find anyone.

Sunday, January 14

The weather is quite cool this morning. Took Mr. Wood's team for the south part of the town and returned a little before night. A very blustering and cold afternoon. Saw Abbie a few hours and had not seen her for four weeks before.

January 15

Thermometer 13 degrees below zero. Am not very well today. The school goes in very studious but was not so clear on the list of merit as I should like, for almost all the class were demerit. This was not pleasant for some of my best scholars were with the rest.

January 16

The weather is not quite so cold and the school appears much more pleasant. Our record of merit was a very good one.

People

Frank Noble Billings, brother of Frederick H. 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 Hosea Doton's father and brother Spenser. Hosea often called on him on Sundays to check on his health. They shared an interest in surveying.

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.

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. He and Hosea Doton discussed local history and reviewed books for use in the schools.

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

Electa Doten was a sister of Hosea Doton. She was born in Pomfret in 1813 and died in 1898.

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

Lizzie Doten was the daughter of Hosea Doton's brother Spenser. She died in 1865 at age 19.

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

Spenser Doten was Hosea Doton's brother. He was born in Pomfret in 1811 and died there in 1891. Spenser spelled his name Doten as did Hosea Doton's sisters.

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 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.

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

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

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

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.

Patience Paddock Perkins was the wife of Alva. C. Perkins, sister of Hosea Doton's first wife Lois, and mother of Robert A. Perkins and Norman C. Perkins who were among Hosea Doton's many notable students.

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 Perkins and brother of Alva C. Perkins.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Glossary

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

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

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

Cock – A stack of hay or grain.

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

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

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

Grapery – An area or building where grapes are grown.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sled rave – Runner for a logging sled.

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

Swill – Liquid food for animals.

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

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

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

Vendue – A public sale or auction.

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

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