

April 1867

Yonder the smoky column gray

Is wreathing from the leafless wood;

There the swart rustic boils away

The sugar maples limpid blood. (Anon.)

1 Monday: mild and warm; come on to snow just as night; our folks got 2 loads hay from Lewis's; Mr. Foye was here to buy calves in A.M. did not sell any. I cut over some old papers in A.M. my right arm is so lame just below the shoulder I can scarcely write or to do any thing without hurting it. I went to the barn for the first time.

2 Cloudy; snowing a little in A.M. a heavy snow fall last night; George has gone after hay again this morning. got home all the hay 4 loads. my arm is some better today, I was reading some.

3 Cold and Blustering; the snow flew merrily in A.M. but the sun shining out calmed it in P.M. George has gone over to try and get Arthur Gilcrest to come and haul wood for us. now P.M. the wind blows chilly and it is quite cold. I am quite smart today, but I am so weak, much as I can to walk straight. Exavier was here in A.M.

4 Thursday: very pleasant: Mrs. Carr was over visiting she and Mother went to see Susan in P.M. they think she is failing; had a nice visit from Mrs. C. George went to Lodge in evening.

5 Rainy; I fear I may be lonesome today. as it is stormy. A steady rain fell nearly all day; the brook run some.

6 Pleasant: come up squally, and cold; it was as cold at night as winter. George went to the PO. He got the Age, and a bundle of Magazines (Ballous) a letter from Hattie Clark; I cut the magazines open which was a good afternoons job. have not been very well all day. have felt languid.

7 Sunday: Cloudy look like rain, I have been reading some today, the stories are superfine. No one here today, Nathaniel Averell & Emma Cookson are married this P.M. at Amos' by Rev. E Knowlton.

8 Cloudy: Louisa & Mrs. Hannah Whitten were in a few minutes in morning, they had been to see Laura. Arthur Gilcrest was here in morning, we settled, he is owing me 1.48. In P.M. a young Mason was here to buy potatoes, did not sell. I was packing over my old papers all day, am some better than I was yesterday & day before, hope I may get better now right away I am so impatient to get out again.

9 Tuesday: quite a springlike day; but the wind blew freshly from the N. W. I am quite well today, went to the barn with Ma to feed the hens, they look well, and the things look well, I don't know as I have a word of fault to find; Father & George have the things well.

10 A fine morning: but come up cloudy and rained in P.M. in A.M. Jonathon Getchell called, said he was going to E. Knox. Rhoda our cousin called, we were glad to see her, she went to Alberts, i.e. Mr. Youngs; George Sproul was here made a cakeboard for Emma Averill to roll bread on; in P.M. I was looking over old letters. My trunk is getting full, so I burned about 20 those which pertained to business lottery schemes etc. counted those I have received from sister Lucy they number 89 so the next one will be 90. George went to mill early in morning got back at noon, and well he went today for it is raining smartly tonight. a dark rainy night closing in.

11 Thursday: quite a springlike day; I have been fixing my books and papers today; have been to the barn twice today. so I am quite well. am going again tonight. I carried the sheep some water; I long to get out and care for the sheep and lambs etc. I never felt so very thankful that I am a farmer as I do now, I feel courageous for all there is much to do and I so unable to do it.

12 Friday: quite cold; George slipped down and hurt his hand and was otherwise jarred; I mistrusted he had taken a glass too much as he went to the Lodge last night. Prescott Rowell came with wheels; Rhoda called as she went homeward; Albert Choate went to S. Berrys after potatoes. Quite warm towards noon;

13 Cool in morning, quite warm after the sun got up. George went to Aarons early in morning, carried eggs. got some mail, no letters. In P.M. Geo. went to the folks at Nathans; Mrs. Harrington is down. I did considerable many chores. I have sent lots of letters since I got better, as many as 4 to Lucy, and today, one to G.S. Rollins, one to Lizzie Warren, one to Hattie Clark, Mary sent it tho. done the chores to the barn at night for the first time alone.

14 Sunday: a fine day, spent the day very agreeably reading etc. in P.M. Lewis & Jackson were here, I went apiece with them.

15 A Southerly wind taking off the snow very fast. I went on a walk on hill in P.M. had a nice walk filled with much spirit communion.

16 Rainy, very stormy in P.M. A Mr. Farrell of Waldo took dinner here he was going to Liberty thence to Boston so he said. Jackson in at night. told of Mr. Woods death by falling in a saw mill.

17 Wednesday: A cold stormy day, wind N.E. I have had to stay indoors most of the time. Jeremiah was in, in P.M. says Laura is failing fast. Jackson was here; a storm of hail and snow in P.M.

18 I did some chores etc. George started to go to Lodge but took an unnecessary pique, and came home again. the wind blew up cool and it was quite windy.

19 Come on warmer; have forgotten the days events. but presume nothing very special occurred.

20 A fine morning; clouded up and rained about dark. I went to see Mr. & Mrs. Rollins, called at Amos' & Alfreds. was some tired, Mr. R. is getting some better, they were much pleased to see me, as I was to see them. little Ralph is ten months old today, he is so cunning we all love him dearly; What a comfort little Eva would be now were she alive and well, but she enjoys a higher life than earth life, enjoys the society of Angels.

“Not as a child shall we again behold her,
For when with raptures wild,
In our own embraces we again enfold her,
She will not be a child.”

21 Sunday: Foggy & rainy in morning come off pleasant in A.M. there was a baptism at our church, Eld. Small officiating. Granville Small, Judson Hall, Thomas Loring, Taster(?) & John Taster, Annette Hall, Marilla Hall, George went. I could not walk so far, went to Jacksons in A.M.

22 Monday: A fine springlike morning; but came on to rain in P.M. George caught a large hawk in a trap. I was writing etc. doing some chores.

23 Pleasant: went in woods doing a little something all day; Arthur come in P.M. we cut wood, are preparing our summer wood, as I was sick so long, makes it late.

24 Hazy all day; become thick at night. Arthur worked here, I went in woods in A.M. did chores in P.M.

25 Very pleasant: were cutting wood, George started to go to Lodge but rather than go alone, came back. Laura Bean is very low, they think she cannot live long.

26 Pleasant: were cutting wood as usual; Mrs. Carr & Mrs. Twitchell went to see Laura in morning, she is very low. Albert Choate & Elvira his wife, and Wilmot B. Choate their eldest and only child were here, they are living to Mr. Youngs this winter and spring; their boy is a pretty little fellow. Master Ralph is almost big enough to eat him.

27 Some cloudy, stormy at night; Arthur has worked here 4 ½ days he has 1.17 per day; \$5.25. he went home at night for good, this time. I went to Aarons in morning, traded some, had a hard ride.

28 Sunday: was at home all day; George took a pique in morning, _____ Alfred, Jackson, George Choate, James Eells, D. W. Bennett were here; was glad to see them.

29 Monday, pleasant, went on hill in morning.

30 Lowery with some rain; Uncle Jerry Bean was here in morning, S. O. Whitten was here, Lewis was here took dinner, our new neighbor Averell was here in eve. So ends April.