

April 1868.

Come gentle Spring ethereal mildness Come. :--Thomson

1 Wednesday: a fine morning. Were cutting wood, I guess but have almost forgotten.

2 A pleasant morning, I went to Mr. Fryes took a lesson on the melodeon, Mary F. Frye teacher, I was much interested, got home a little past noon; cut wood in P.M. I had a very pleasant walk; went across the hill to Alonzo Polands, across Lords farm, G.W. Choates farm, Mr. Cains, then directly across the hill into Mr. Fryes pasture; a beautiful walk, the sparrows were singing and all things betokened spring approach.

3 A spring like day; were cutting wood, went in woods in P.M., started out some wood; the sun rides quite high and spring seems to be approaching.

4 Pleasant; I went to Centre in morning, to Mr. Fryes also to Mr. Barkers on purpose to see a town book, it was not there, so my labor was in vain. I got agricultural books through the politeness of Hon. N. Pierce. got home in P.M., a snow squall come on in P.M., Charles Curtis called, he says he has cut six cords of wood for me & I paid him six dollars. he made very good pay I think.

5 Sunday: a cold windy sunny day; the wind blew almost a hurricane; I was about home all day; G. Lewis was over in P.M. brought the papers. I read them through very quickly. a cold night.

6 Cold as Greenland; was choring in A.M. in P.M. Esq. Clough came up and we did the writing concerning the stock etc. Father transferred the stock, farming tools carriages, etc. etc. to me, he kept the town order of \$100 in consideration of finding himself in clothes mostly, which time extends to next November; he said if I would pay him 15 dollars a year after that for clothing it would be all he would ask which I agreed to do. after concluding the business Mr. Clough went to Mr. Carrs where he proposed to spend the night. I went to the road with him, the moon shone brightly and it was a fine evening.

7 A cloudy morning, is snowing some now; Sam'l Rollins called in morning; Father & I concluded our business this morning; I paid him for the wagon sled & pung \$30. This together, with what was due before amounted to \$39.13. I paid him cash \$25.13 and a due bill for \$14.00. a cold day, events in P.M. not specially remembered.

8 A cold day; a driving snow storm yesterday, cleared off last night, about a foot of snow fell; I went to Mr. Fryes in P.M. a cold night; took one lesson this P.M.; came home & we loaded Lucys goods preparatory to going to Belfast tomorrow.

9 Thursday; the day of the annual Fast in Maine. I went to Belfast carried Lucys bureau & table down securely boxed in separate boxes; left them in care of the agent of the steamer Katahdin; at the store house on the wharf; Took dinner at Capt. Beans; called on Mr. Rust at the Age office; after trading some came home, it was splendid sleighing, and too cold for comfort too. I expressed \$20 to Martin for expenses on Lucys things. I suffered considerable with cold coming home.

10 Some warmer than yesterday; I went and got my plaster A.M., which I left at the foot of the hill last night; in P.M. Father & I went and got a stick timber in Youngs woods for felloe timber; did not get back till dark. Sam'l Rollins got our horse & sled to go to Vassalboro to get goods. I was glad to accommodate him.

11 Saturday; was choring in A.M., in P.M. went to conference at the meetinghouse, a very full attendance and a good meeting. it was along walk up & back. considerable many of the converts spoke. a good meeting.

12 Sunday: a cold and awfully windy day; I was at home all day; Sam'; brought the horse home in morning. and in P.M. Samuel & wife & Nath'l come up; we had a nice sing, I playing on the melodeon, they thought I did very well; I looked for some of our neighbors over but none came. a disagreeable day.

13 Monday; as cold as Greenland. awful cold. I went to Mr. Fryes in P.M. quite good sleighing the most of the way. Mr. Barker the assessor was along; our stock consists of 1 pr. Five year old oxen girth 6 ft. 8 inches, \$200. 4 cows \$100. 1 pr. 2 yr. old steers \$80. 1 pr. Yearling steers \$40. 1 yearling heifer \$15. 1 horse 9 yrs. old \$150. 2 swinw \$16. 27 sheep \$50. all of which was duly given in.

14 Pleasant; I went in woods in A.M. was about home in P.M. I guess, tho I have almost forgotten, --O yes George Lewis come over, brought a letter from Lucy and one from Hattie Dunton.

15 I thought to go to mill in morning, but S. Rollins came up and we went to look at the Young farm which he thinks of buying; we looked over the farm, went up to Carrs a few moments, looked at the Young buildings as we came along, and at last got home hungry enough. Miss Vesta Howard and Miss May Louisa Poland were here visiting, we sung most all the P.M. a warm day.

16 Thursday; very misty and rainy in P.M. I went to Mr. Fryes in morning; took my music lesson it is a hard one this time. called to see cousin Jane Bennett as I came homeward, we had a nice chat. George Bennett is living there, he came down to Nathans with me. rained quite hard as I was coming home, the brooks are very high today.

17 Friday: warn, pleasant, but awful muddy. we were cutting wood; our company went away yesterday over to Carrs. they will court Geo. Lewis smartly I expect.

18 A pleasant morning, but a black cloud in the west betokens something, either wind or rain. wind I guess. Charley went home today, very windy in P.M.

19 Sunday: windy, I went to meeting, sermon by Eld. Hamilton, the old man tells the story of the Cross very simply and effectually; I came directly home Jackson & Louisa were over towards night.

20 We were cutting wood, events not specially remembered.

21 Misty and some wet; I went to Mr. Fryes in morning, one lesson; was very tired when I got home. cut wood in P.M. Alfred went by in morning.

22 A muddy time wet and disagreeable, no thing of interest occurs now, it is lonely enough.

23 Were cutting wood; a snow squall in P.M. looking quite wintry again, the sun rides high yet, --Winter lingering chills the lap of May.

24 Windy, I went to Mr. Fryes in A.M. Lewis was here while I was gone. must go to cutting wood now. cut wood in P.M. the wind blew briskly. and it is spring, yet it is cold and squally. I do hope for warm weather soon.

25 Saturday: quite warm and pleasant, I went over to Orleys on committee business, S. Rollins went with me; called to Lewis's took dinner; then came home I went down apiece with Samuel, and meeting Exavier came back; he took supper with us, he is a good boy. Samuel & I had a fine walk, enjoyed ourselves muchly. and so ends the week again.

It is just 54 years ago today father says that grandfather Howard with his great family moved into this town; then it was a wilderness no one except scattered settlers around; It must have been hard to have left a cultivated farm for the wilderness. they came from little deer isle.

27 Monday; windy & rough; I went to mill at Freedom. After I got home Orley Whitten come we talked awhile then Alonzo Bryant & J.H.Terry come with a plan for a school house at the Center, so as it happened the committee were all together, we approved the plan. we

divided the schools; I am to have Ranlets cor. Beals dist. Howard dist. Bryant & Sproul; swinging round one school to the east giving Orly the Vose dist. on account of convenience.

26 Sunday: I reached ahead too far and got Monday first on the list. I went to meeting, a good strong meeting there is a great interest the converts are very strong. Dexter come over we went to Carrs. D. staid all night.

28 A fine morning, froze hard last night. In A.M. a minister by the name of Morton come to see us, he is the Baptist preacher at Searsmont & in the Frye dist. in P.M. we went to meeting at the meeting house had a very good meeting, enjoyed a very pleasant season with Bro. Morton, think he is quite an agreeable man, I came round on the new road and he left me, said he was going to Jona Carters. it was night when I got home.

29 Wednesday; I went to Mr. Fryes in morning carried 27 doz. eggs to Center; very bad travelling. cut wood in P.M. Mr. Riley Harrimans house was burnt in A>M. they saved most of their things.

30 Cloudy and some foggy; were cutting wood, in A.M. Sam'l Rollins & Jackson come. Jackson paid a note of fifty dollars. he has sold his oxen for \$200 and is getting out of debt very fast. he also paid me for the boards so there remains now only the brick to be accounted for. I went over the road and saw Sylvanus Young, he is going back to Camden having sold off his stock. So now Samuel will try his luck on the mountain. So ends April which has been a cold disagreeable month.