

December, 1866.

Then while falling snow flakes rustle,

On the darkening window pane,

Let us gather round the fireside,

Heedless of the night winds rain;

And when life's cold winter cometh,

'Mid the darkness and the storm,

We'll again in memory's chamber.

Meet around the fireside warm. (Anon)

1 Saturday: Pleasant: kept school today; I lamed my ankle while playing ball at noon. Suffered some pain in P.M. but managed to keep the day out. read the paper in eve. got a paper from Dexter, Waverly magazine.

2 Sunday: A beautiful day: I am very lame today hope I shall be better tomorrow; G.H. Sproul & C. L. Bean, were here in P.M. Exavier Sproul rode past & back again. so now it is Sunday night again.

I have failed to keep a record for some time,

Now it is the 20 of December; I was very lame for a week after laming my ankle, suffered much; the 13, I read the paper at the Lodge, it was a good paper, and was listened to with marked attention; Sunday, 16, I was at home all day; G.W. Brown of Knox was here to get me to instruct his school, but he was too late by about 6 months. So now I will take up my pen again for a daily journal.

20 A very cold day: the wind whistled through the old house at a great rate today; George has gone to the Lodge tonight it is so cold I was glad to stay at home. Little Ralph is 6 months old today. and he is a smart little fellow too.

21 Friday: Cold as greenland; It was shivery work to keep school in the old house.

22 A little milder; had a writing school in evening.

23 Sunday: rainy all day: Jackson & George Lewis were here a sort of melancholy day, have not got the newspaper.

25 Christmas: Tuesday: a very warm day: ground all bare; kept school; Madison Whittens folks had a large company. they did not invite the teacher to dine with them; good manners would have suggested such an invitation I thought. as warm a Christmas as I ever saw. Mr. Vose's folks spent the day at Amos's. had a writing school in eve. went up to Capt. Messers to tea, per invitation. had a splendid supper and a good social time. Mr. Messers folks are very good people, Caro is a nice girl and quite pretty too we think.

The last of the month was quite stormy a snow storm come on Thursday following Christmas. The old house was very dismal, being cold, and I thought it was nearly wicked to keep school in such a house.

The school closed in the Vose dist. Thursday

Jan. 3 I carried over a roll of honor containing the names of those who had been diligent and attentive to their studies, and posted it during the P.M. and evening. the school has been quite successful as much so I think as either of the former winters some of the scholars have been exceedingly diligent and very punctual in their attendance at school. we suffered much on account of the house and on that account was glad when school closed.