

February: 1868.

Of all the days throughout the year,
 The gladdest day and best,
Comes in the heart of winter,
 When nature is at rest.

Then cometh the best day of the year,
 The blessedest day of all,
When Jesus Christ the Savior,
 Was born in the oxens stall.

This great good gift of blessing
 This joy from heaven above;
A river whose measureless fountain
 Is Gods eternal love. :Harpers Weekly

1 A beautiful day, quite cold; I went to the sawmill in A.M. saw quite a lot of man there. got home about 1 o'clock; went to Mr. Carters in P.M. got the pig. called at the store and P.O.; Saw Nathaniel as I came homeward; and so ends another week.

2 Sunday: a strong South wind is blowing this morning. Mr. Palmer, Jane & Charlie come up in P.M. Charlie is to stay awhile. I went to Carrs at night, the snow is quite deep in places.

3 Monday: a new clearing this morning, a very cold day, strong wind from the N.W. I wrote an obituary notice of Mother Averell and carried it down; was at home in P.M. heard that Eva Vose is not expected to live; dear Eva, may God be merciful to her and spare her if consistent with the divine Will; I will copy the obituary notice in full as I wrote it for publication.

In Roxbury Mass. Jan. 17, Mrs. Ann wife of Nathaniel Averell of Montville aged 68 yrs. 11 mos.

In the death of this most estimable woman the community the neighborhood and most of all her family circle suffer an irreparable loss. In all the relations of life as a wife, mother, neighbor and a friend she was ever watchful for the happiness of others, casting an influence of peace and harmony on all with whom she was surrounded.

Loving and gentle in her disposition, having charity for all, - in her life was exemplified in an eminent manner the beauty and simplicity of the Gospel of Peace that faith which worketh by love. But she has passed away from earth, no more shall we hear her voice, no more behold the one who was so much beloved, yet the example of a pure and holy life still remains for our imitation although she rests from her earthly labors.

Farewell then dear Mother, yet not a long farewell, we shall meet thee again in the beautiful Sumer-Land where fragrant flowers bloom immortal, and Peace Hope and Love fold earths weary children in a fond embrace; and may we so closely follow thy pure example that it may be said of us at lifes close as it can truly be said of thee, --"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." H.M.H.

4 Tuesday: very cold and rough I A.M. come up a new clearing in P.M. I went to the saw-mill in P.M. hauled a basswood log; did not have very good luck so got home late.

5 Quite cold: I went to Freedom to mill; the travelling is getting quite good again; nothing of special importance transpired today. in P.M. hunted a basswood log; did not have very good luck so got home late.

6 A storm of snow today, wind in N.E.; there has come quite a lot of snow; Charley is churning, Ralph is sweeping the floor we have two smart boys I think. so it snows, snows, snows fast. I went to the sawmill in P.M. as it cleared away and I thought it would not storm anymore, but when I got fairly started it come on to snow again as fast as ever; but I thought I would go and did but it was a stormy time. I Saw Albert Whitten he went up with a load shingle stuff also S.B. Dodge Esq. and Charley Treat who I guess had been to Freedom.

7 Snowed almost all last night, and continued snowing most all the A.M. then the wind came up and blew at a great rate all the P.M. it was also very cold. one of the coldest nights of the winter.

8 Saturday: A very pleasant day, quite cold. I was about home in the A.M. sawing wood etc. in P.M. went to conference was not very many out, had quite good meeting; heard Henry

Poland was dead, also also Wm. Marriner of Lincolnville. Very hard walking, so I am very tired tonight; It is a splendid evening, moon at about full;

“The moon is at her full and riding high

Floods the calm world with light.”

and so another week ends with tonight.

9 Sunday: a driving snow storm, wind S. changing towards night to rain. I thought to go to Henrys funeral, but it was so stormy, did not. did chores, read a good deal, and so the day passed; a very stormy day.

10 Very cold and an extreme hard wind; changed very sudden last night to cold, wind N.W.; I got a couple loads wood before dinner, and in P.M. went to the sawmill with a log. did not see many folks, they were very quiet. I suffered a good deal with cold; coming home and going too.

11 A Very cold day again; hauled wood in A.M. went to the saw mill in P.M. saw Lewis & Alfred; the road is quite good now; a very cold sharp air, extremely sharp & frosty.

12 Cold but quite pleasant. hauled wood in A.M. visited VOse school in P.M. the same as usual there, but little interest. Mar went to Curtis's but Abby was up to Alfreds so she went up there. my ink froze so I got some more.

13 Thursday: a sort of a stormy day; severe wind from the South. Samuel Rollins & wife and William Poland & wife & child were here visiting; we had a nice time, enjoyed ourselves much; they went home just as night.

Ralph did not enjoy their visit much. he loves to be alone with no one but his own family. Charley went ot the Centre, got a yard calico to make out a dress pattern. I thjink of going to quarterly meeting tomorrow, if I do shall write no more till I get home. hope I may have a good time.

14 Friday: Started in morning for quarterly meeting' it was very cold riding, Judson Hall went with me. We went by way of Freedom village, Albion corner, China Village, thence on to No. Vassalboro, where the meeting was held. we called at China and warmed up, and gave the horse a feeding of oats; arrived at the meeting abt. 3 o'clock P.M. cared for the team, then went in to meeting; a good delegation was present; the business meeting was nearly done when we got in. heard the committee appointed to locate the next quarterly meeting report, Branch Mills being the successful place. We were taken home with a good

brother, Geo. W. Files, where we found ample accommodations. Went to evening meeting Reading hymns by Rev. John Hamilton, sermon by Rev. Mr. Keen Text, - "The Harvest is past, the Summer is ended, and we are not saved." A sermon in which everlasting punishment was the prominent feature. Closing prayer by Rev. Hamilton. so closed the days proceedings.

15 Saturday: In morning we awoke and found it snowing. Friday night sometime in the night, I was aroused by Judson. I thought at first he was dreaming of shaking hands with some one but he said when I asked him that there was a "great nasty bug" it troubled him so much I struck a light, we hunted and found a poor innocent little fly; I was immensely tickled and laughed heartily. We walked down to meeting, and on the way called and looked through the factory; it was quite a sight to see the looms in operation, to see them spinning, warping, etc. etc. the looms make a wicked noise, I would not work there on any condition.

Had a very good morning meeting; Reading hymns in A.M. by Mr. Dinsmore, congregationalist; opening by Mr. Gerrish, Sermon by Mr. Weymouth of Pittsfield, Text, mostly forgotten, the last words were, " If we stay where we are we shall die, if we go forward we can but die." a sermon in which the speaker urged the importance of a forward movement in all matters pertaining to religion and had considerable to say in regard to money being given to aid various enterprises. Mr. W. has a voice well calculated to lull any one to sleep, and I was glad when he sat down. closing prayer by Mr. Dinsmore. two hours intermission in which we all went home to dinner.

In P.M. hymns were read by Rev. James Small, the second hymn was very beautiful, beginning:

"In the Cross of Christ I glory

Towering 'bove the wrecks of time."

It was sung splendidly; the sermon was by the Rev. Mr. Gerrish of Pittsfield, Text, - "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ" etc. a very good sermon, illustrating a true and false shame, showing what we should be ashamed of and what not, and explaining the Power of God unto Salvation. a very good discourse, he had it written, but was not much confined to it.

After sermon he presented the claims of the Pittsfield school, the brethren did not respond very liberally so he got but little. and I was not sorry, for begging in such a public place is not to my taste. hope it may learn them a lesson. and speak more of the gospel. After the afternoon services, on the way to our boarding place we called at the stable T. S. Lang and saw the splendid horse Gen. Knox; he is a nice looking horse and the room where

he stands is almost as good as a common parlor; on one side a string of blankets were hanging, one of them it is said cost over a hundred dollars; he has thirty or more horses and colts and must take a great interest in horseflesh.

In the evening hymns were read by Rev. J. Hamilton, opening prayer by J.D. Coullard, a very affecting prayer; sermon by Rev. J. Hamilton, his theme was the death and suffering of our Savior text not remembered; I think Bro. Hamilton does not preach with quite as much power as he used to, probably he is not improved by preaching for a salary. After sermon the Lords supper was administered by the aged brethren Hamilton & Cilly. a very impressive scene, very good order being observed. and we sung a hymn and went out.

16 Sunday: a pleasant day: had a good morning meeting. reading hymns by Rev. Mr. Boyd of Rockland, opening prayer by J. Hamilton, sermon by Mr. Boyd; -text,- "What think ye of Christ." an excellent sermon, in which was explained the difference of Christ to the believer and the unbeliever; In singing the first hymn the choir made a mistake, taking a short instead of a common meter tune going through with two verses before they discovered their mistake; stopped short; took a common meter tune and went through with the hymn in good style. they were much mortified I thought. the forenoon service service was closed by benediction.

A great congregation assembled in P.M. every seat being filled to its utmost capacity; Reading hymns by Rev. James Small opening prayer by J.D. Coullard; Sermon by James Small of Montville; text, "The Word is nigh unto you." the speaker did very well, it being one of his best efforts. closed with benediction, after remarks by Mr. Coullard.

In evening there was a sabbath school concert, many children being present, perhaps as many as one hundred, the exercises were very interesting, and I was entertained very agreeably. the singing by the children was very beautiful. the exercises were changed at 8 o'clock to a prayer meeting which continued abt. an hour when we were dismissed and the session of the quarterly meeting ended. a very peasant session and may it prove a blessing to all engaged in its exercise.

17 Monday: started for home abt. 9 o'clock; came home in company of Bro. Stevenson & daughter; we came to china village, thence to So. Albion, Freedom village, then home. found all well; my enjoyment of the meeting was great. it is a smart village at No. Vassalboro, the residence of Mr. Lang being very elegant. I was much pleased with Mr. Files & wife also old Mrs. Files who is a widow of Rev. Allen Files who died about four years ago. may they all be prospered in all things.

18 Snowed some last night. cleared off in morning; now I must go to work again and will stop my scribbling now. did not do much in A.M. went to the mill in P.M. Judson Hall was over, went up to the mill with me. it was quite late when I got home.

19 Quite blowy and cold; we broke roads in P.M. went down as far as Carrs got some mail; the snow is very deep.

20 Warm & pleasant; Mary & I went to Searsmont, found them all well; Hattie was married the 10th of this month, to Alonzo Dunton of the same town; George & Nellie have another little girl born Jan 15; they have taken in a little boy of 4 years. so have carried on quite a stroke of business. the travelling is very hard; we ot home about 9 o'clock in evening.

21 Looks quite moderate this morning. went to Freedom in P.M., Isaac went with me and stopped at Alfreds. came up cold at night. got home abt. dark.

22 Saturday: very cold; Charley went home in morn. I went to Lewis's, was gone most all day; got home time enough to do some chores. a cold night.

23 Sunday: an awful cold day; Jackson come over in P.M. I was at home all day, reading, doing chores etc. awful cold and no mistake.

24 Continues cold; I went to Hunts and around by Aarons in P.M.; went to see if Hunt would buy bark, he pays but six \$ now; I nearly froze coming home. Jackson worked here, fixing pump and making boxes to put Lucy's bureau & table in. a cold night.

25 Cold but pleasant: I visited Mr. Walls school in P.M., a good school; sold the bark to Geo. Nash am to haul it to the hill this side Mr. Gowens, or where the road from the Centre strikes the county road; and he gives me \$5.50 per cord, Belfast survey. am to commence tomorrow to haul it. Jackson finished boxing the things at night. Lucy bureau and table to send to Iowa.

26 Very pleasant: I hauled bark, saw lots of folks, the Carter Brothers; Wm. Stevenson & his son George, and it would take me too long to tell all I saw; Mr. Palmer & wife come up, Charley went & got them, I went with two loads; quite late when I got home.

27 Thursday: Pleasant; a warm sun, I tanned as black as an Indian; went with two loads bark today; some talk among men about the town officers; it was late when I got home. quite tired.

28 A snow storm last night; some two inches fell; I went down and paid tax to Amos; paid all, my bill for visiting school \$23.35 went on paying tax and I paid \$3.50 besides. Mr. Palmer & wife went home in morning, Charley carried them home; I saw Isaac McAlister

have not seen him before in a good many years, he is a good looking man. Saw Exavier, Nath'l, Amos & wife & boys, George Sproul is going to school at Freedom. Charley & I went with bark in P.M.; the little snow makes it harder travelling.

29 A blowy blustery day; I hauled wood in A.M. thought to go with bark in P.M. but it was so windy and cold I did not go; it was awful cold at night. Charley went to Carrs got the papers or at least some of them; the Age had not come; So ends another month; making two this year that are gone. We have had an awful lot of cold weather, it has been cold most all the time, and since I gave up building, my interest has been small and I have been pretty blue all the time; never want to see another such a time.