

## July 1867

And the young girl mused beside the well,

Till rain on the unraked clover fell.

Whittier

1 Monday: A hard wind is blowing today; made a gate & fixed fence in A.M. Mother commenced to pick wool. Father is going to the Centre to get a pair shoes made. We went in woods and finished piling bark in P.M. have quite a lot bark peeled, a lot of logs.

2 Pleasant: I went to Unity moved up Mr. Rollins' hog, pig, & some other things. had to go very slow, but had good luck all the time I was gone, had a nice chat with Olive at her home while I stopped to rest. got home about night, a little after sunset. I paid Mr. Wrights bill for bark peeling \$12.00. also paid Lewis bill to him, \$4.00. I was tired enough at night. a hard jaunt.

3 A fine pleasant day but we need rain somewhat. Mr. Rollins & wife were here in A.M. the last time in all probability that ever he will get up to see us. he is quite slim. We settled up, I gave him my note for twenty dollars, it being for his stable at Ranlets corner, and some other things pigs, scraper etc. for a full account see small account book. were picking over beans, W.A. Bennett helped a little

Jackson & Lewis have been to buy a mowing machine today, and Mr. Ayer has just gone past with it; they are quite smart farmers, and will be the first on the road to make such a purchase. Louisa has been over today, she come to pick wool, but as we had company did not do much; we think of going to Belfast tomorrow, the boys are unduly excited I think at the prospect. they will know better as they get older.

4 Thursday! "the glorious fourth;" George, Alonzo & I started for Belfast about half past two in morning, got there about six; saw the fantastic, the boat race; heard an oration by Hon. John A. Poor of Boston, and speeches by some other men; It commenced to rain about ten doing the corn & potatoes lots of good, but bad for new bonnets etc. after racing around the mud awhile we came home. I have enjoyed the fourth better at home many a time than I did to go among so much bustle & confusion.

5 We ashed corn & plastered potatoes; taking us about all day to do it. a pleasant day.

6 Looked much like rain; George went to Brooks. Alonzo went up from Belfast Thursday; they come home at night; I went on a tour to buy a calf, found none.

7 Sunday; Cloudy; the boys went to meeting, I was at home all day, reading, sleeping etc. picked a few berries. A Sabbath day well spent etc.

8 Monday: Alonzo Bennett come here to work am to give him fifteen dollars per month through haying. We commenced to hoe corn, Lewis helped us. we got it almost done, worked quite merrily.

9 Pleasant: hoed potatoes, Lewis helped us; we broke the horse hoe, but mended it as fast as it became broken;

10 Pleasant: I helped Lewis hoe in A.M. went to Aarons & to Liberty in P.M. got home abt. 9 O'clock in eve.

11 Cloudy, some sprinkles of rain; we begun haying mowed about an acre. fenced some in P.M. fixed rakes and got ready for haying generally.

12 Fixed fence in A.M. commenced cutting bushes in P.M. are cutting on the swamp near the graveyard.

13 Pleasant: Alonzo helped Mr. Hahn, we cut bushes in A.M. I went to Freedom carried the wool, and to conference in P.M. got home in season to rake some hay and put it in bunch; Marcena come to stay all night with the boys, a beautiful sunset.

14 Sunday: went to Sabbath school & to meeting' came home, went & got some berries etc. went to Mr. Carrs at night. such beauteous sunsets.

15 Commenced haying in earnest a nice day.

16 A pretty good day, not so hot as yesterday

17 Some showers in P.M., none here; Jackson had horse to mow; we were haying smartly.

18 Thursday: a fine morning; but come up cloudy and was not much of a hay day after all; we got in three loads; two of them were pretty green; night closed in dark and gloomy, heavy masses of cloud rolled in from the eastward, betokening a heavy storm; so I retired with the consciousness of a rainy spell of weather and some rest.

19 And sure enough the rain come, rained quite steadily all day, we cleaned out the sheep pen in A.M. and that was about the extent of our labors this day; a very cold storm, more like an October storm than any thing else.

20 Still continues rainy; I was looking over papers etc. G. Lewis was over in P.M. our boys went over there at night, they got as wet as water coming home, a part of the cattle got through the hedge and come home, while I was getting the rest it rained smartly, brooks ran in the road and it was "water, water everywhere."

21 Sunday: Misty and frequent showers all day; went to Sabbath school in A.M. came home and went to Whites corner in P.M. Eld. Small preached a smart sermon, staid to S. school, sung a little with the children.

22 Rainy yet this morning; I went to Centre, Mary & Ralph went to Averells; it rained real hard while we were gone.

23 Cleared off in morning; I went hedging in morning, mowed in field at the orchard; mowed most all day, we thought we mowed three acres or thereabouts. a fine hay day

24 Wednesday: a splendid hay day, Mrs. Averell and her daughters, Mrs. Bartow & Mrs. Vose were here. Emma and Mary Ellen were up in the P.M. we hauled hay from the shop field all the P.M. a little before sunset we went in lower field to get a load and about the time we got it on and half way to the barn a thunder shower struck, a hard wind, sheets of water, and some hail. A very smart little time I thought. it passed however as all such times do.

25 Very pleasant: we got two loads from shop field, and 3 or 4 around the barn; the boys had a spirited colloging having a very depressing effect on George for he scarcely spoke during the P.M. the boy has been doing wrong and dreads exposure much. poor human nature.

26 Cloudy, a poor hay day, we mowed in P.M. went in woods got two loads wood in A.M. Alonzo went and helped Lewis in A.M. George worked with us but was very still and sad; one thing has come to light.-----< I went and got a load of straw at Jacksons. the boys plastered potatoes, a beautiful sunset, a lovely evening.

27 We mowed in A.M. got 4 loads in P.M. so ends the weary week; worked quite late at night; Father went to Aarons got a barrel flour.

28 Sunday: a pretty Sabbath, tho foggy morning; Bro. Knowlton spoke today, a fine sermon, a good S. school at meetinghouse. went & got Raspberries at night. went to Carrs also.

29 Monday: a tremendous shower this morning at about 4 o'clock; the brook ran violently, very sharp lightning and heavy thunder, some hail; I went to Centre in morning; George L. Bennett who we have sheltered and fed and cared for left us this morning; I told him if he

could not be a steady contented boy he could go, he thought he could not so he went away. at night Dexter & George come up, we had much talk but George would not promise to do any better, so we felt discouraged. Dexter went home, George staid all night. a night to be remembered.

30 Quite pleasant; George Bennett arose this morning after we had been to breakfast, abt. Seven o'clock, gave some of us quite a lot of his "sass," and then went away, pretty smart I thought amid the light of the nineteenth century. I told him he need not come back. We mowed in A.M. the wind blew up briskly and quite drying; we hoed potatoes in P.M. with the horse hoe; George come back after dinner and went to work quite naturally. We raked a little after supper.

31 The last day of July; quite pleasant; we mowed considerable got in three loads; George signed a paper that he would be a good boy etc. then he went to work with us and worked nicely all day.; I do hope he will be a good boy for he can be good if he is a mind too, and not being a mind to spoils him. So ends another month, which has been a time of some of the severest rains ever known at this season of the year.