

March: 1868.

The stormy March is come at last,
With wind and cloud and breaking skies
I hear the rushing of the blast
Which through the snowy valley flies. –Bryant

1 Sunday: awful cold; as much as we could do to live it was so cold; I was doing chores, writing my report of schools etc. Judson Hall was here in P.M., he had been to meeting at the Vose school house, they are having a revival there, he said about a dozen came forward for prayers today; Riley Gilcrest, Marcena Poland being among the number; hope it may be lasting. March comes in like a lion, hope it may go out like a lamb.

2 A snow storm this morning; We went to town meeting, it had begun when we got there, E. Knowlton, moderator. N. French, clerk. J.W.Barker, N.A.Ripley, G.M.Armor were elected selectmen etc. the democrats voted for R.L. Keen, J.B. Thompson, N. Averell jr., as selectmen, they also run Nelson Allen for Clerk. on the last ballot for third selectman, J.J.Carr received nearly fifty votes, there being no choice, he withdrew when Mr. Armor was elected. an adjournment was carried for dinner. On coming together again, the town voted to adjourn till next Monday, at 10 o'clock, in consequence of severe storm which was raging; we had a hard time getting home as it was the severest storm of the season. We came round on the county road and up through the woods.

3 Tuesday: still continues stormy; Nat'l was up in A.M. staid most all day; made us a nice little visit; he is a good neighbor, and I very much like him; wish he was a good republican, then I could vote for him. I went to Carrs in P.M. got some papers; the snow is deep hard wallowing. I suppose a foot of snow has fallen through the entire storm.

4 Looks a little like clearing up this morning, I must go to breaking roads as soon as possible. Broke down to Nat'ls and we then went to the corner, then we came back, got dinner there and he come up & we broke down there; I broke down in woods, getting back about dark; a hard days work, the snow is quite deep, awful deep in woods.

5 Was much exhausted so did not do much in A.M. hauled wood in P.M. a fine day, warm sun.

6 A pleasant morning; the sun shines quite powerfully now, and it thaws fast at noon. I went down with a load bark, very hard travelling, a hard time, the wind blew and it was cloudy looking like to storm.

7 Rainy in morn, I started to go to Freedom, but it was drifted so bad I come back again, broke roads in P.M.

8 Sunday: a stormy wind blew from the South all day, the snow disappearing rapidly; I was at home all day, reading, doing chores etc.;

9 A nice warm day; we went to Town-meeting, Lewis come along and went with me; Father was sick and could not go; The first thing after we got there was hearing the report of the S.S. Committee; Mr. Murray made a good report, I read Mr. Whittens, - then read my own which was listened to with marked attention; then proceeded to elect a committee man, Mr. Murray, N. B. Gowen, J.H.Terry were voted for, Mr. Terry being the lucky man, he being elected; I voted for Mr. Murray. For town Treasurer A. W. Sproul and J. J. Carr being voted for, Mr. Carr was elected; some more business was done raising money etc. , then chose H. Erskine auditor of accounts, soon after the town adjourned; a quite harmonious meeting. Mr. Knowlton presided with his usual grace, but he is looking weary and somewhat careworn; he look as tho, he was most ready to lay his armor by; the men of Montville are, taken together, a good looking set of men; among the best looking among the young men, are Jack. Young, Frank Carter, L.O.Carter, O. Murray, N. Averell jr., then there are many more equally good looking; I walked down and back the most of the way; Jackson stopped to supper. I was very tired and my legs ached badly.

10 Tuesday: I went to mill to Freedom, it was very hard travelling; got home at 3 P.M.

11 Cleared off last night, the wind blows merrily this morn. I went hauling bark, hauled two loads, quite cold.

12 Some warmer today; I finished hauling bark today. am very glad to get it all down, Mr. Nash is getting it most all hauled. am glad to get it off. Lewis come over and killed the pig; Jackson was over in morning to get the laws of the state.

13 A rainy morning; I went to Belfast, carried down the pig and three bu. potatoes. potatoes were worth 1.05. I got 10 cts per lb. for the pig it weighed 158. \$15.80. the travelling is very hard, much bare ground near the city. the water was running merrily and it looked like quite a freshet down towards the city. called a moment to see Mrs. Bean they are all well. started for home abt. 5; got home between 9 & 10. a long weary ride, the horse was tired & so was I.

14 A pleasant morning, very warm, the snow melting fast. Was about home in A.M.; In P.M. went to conference, started to go to the Vose school house, but took the winter road and went up to Archie Thompsons, where I met Asa Gowin, the meeting being at the meeting house, rode up with him; Heard some of the converts talk; Martin & Charlie Whitten, Marcena Poland, Martha Vose, Eben Poland, George Stevenson, and some others. got home abt. dark.

15 Sunday: Misty and some rainy; I went to funeral at the meetinghouse; Oliver Bowens wife deceased; Sermon by Bro. Small, Text, "This day thou shalt be with me in Paradise;" a very good sermon, Bro. Small is quite liberal in his belief; We sung the hymns commencing, --"These mortal joys how soon they fade," and "Deem not that they are blest alone," -- Voluntary, Heavenly Rest; the singing was quite fair. A large congregation were in attendance, John Bryant Esq. acting as manager; Samuel Rollins came home with me, took dinner, and in evening we went to Nath'ls; Maria is there; spent the evening very agreeably in conversation.

16 Misty as usual; Nat. was here in morning; he brought Ralph an apple, & Ralph said, "thank uu;" a dark dismal day as we have had, the brook ran merrily. I went to Carrs in P.M., got my calf, paid for him at the last town meeting, \$20. Nath'l Averell bought a heifer of Albert Choate today. a dark dismal night.

17 Cleared off quite prettily in A.M. Charlie come back in A.M.; I went to meeting in P.M. at Vose school house a good many young converts spoke; they seem quite in earnest and my wish is that they may continue to walk in the narrow way; the brooks are very high, I rolled up my pants and waded through, there was much water on every hand. got home abt. dark.

18 Quite pleasant; was about home all day; Charley went home in P.M., hauled a bushel potatoes on a hand sled. I was reading in evening Holmes's "Guardian Angel;" the brook ran merrily today, and it was warm and thawy.

19 Thursday: froze last night; I went to Carrs in morning; got the first copies of the "American Agriculturist," which I have subscribed for; J. W. Barker our first selectman was along in P.M.; I was about home cutting wood, reading, etc.

20 A pleasant day; looks like a storm; I went with the horse & pung, got two loads pieces of bark in A.M.; Mr. D. Hollis took dinner here, then he went to meeting at Vose school house. I was at home in P.M.; Ralph is twenty-one months old today; he is cunning as can be. about talking; a pleasant afternoon. I hear S.O. Whitten has got home from Iowa, I want to see him.

21 Saturday; a ripping snow storm; a roaring wind from N.E.; as severe a storm as we have had this winter; I told our folks it was Old Winters parting blessing. I did not venture out to do anything except the usual chores.

22 Sunday; Very windy and blustering; after doing chores I went over to Lewis's, it was very hard getting along, drifted quite badly in places; Amos was over to Carrs examining the Treasurers book.

23 Monday; Cloudy; I was not doing much, went down to Nath's in P.M. to borrow some soda, Maria Rollins is there; I saw J. Bean jr., too he was taking away a load sap buckets etc;; Father & I had another talk, resulting about as usual; it seems really strange that any old person will cling so to earthly things, yet so it is with him.

24 A storm of snow in morning; cleared up towards night; I went to mill at Freedom, as the mill was quite full I had to wait until middle P.M.; getting home just before night. N. Averell jr. was presented with a little daughter today by his wife. Dr. Whitney officiated; quite cold today.

25 Very pleasant; Father announced to me this morning that he was willing to have something done. So we will proceed to do something directly I guess. did a little something in P.M. but not much.

26 Hauled wood, it is quite good hauling, snow most all the way, Mary went down to see the baby.

27 Hauled wood; a quite warm day. went to meeting in P.M. but there was none so I went to Lewis' & to Jacksons.

28 Saturday: Very pleasant, Judson Hall was over here in A.M., we went on hill sung some and passed the time very agreeably. I went to town meeting in P.M., chose J. W. Barker moderator, there was much discussion, after awhile they voted to raise a committee to investigate the affairs of the town, the Chair appointed Henry Erskine, Alonzo Bryant, R. L. Keen said committee; the jury box was revised and presented to the town, and the list was duly accepted; A.W. Sproul, J.D. Cookson, N. Averell jr. were the ones from this dist.; O. Murray was also in. the article to see if any one should be licensed to sell liquor was passed by; there was not much parliamentary rules in the meeting, every one seemed to be on his own hook. Geo. Nash paid me \$46.00 towards the bark; I came home with Jackson, getting home about dark.

29 Sunday: pleasant, went to meeting at Vose school house, a social meeting; a very good meeting, the Whitten boys seem to be very earnest today; also Marcena Poland; some that

started have gone back. Marcena came home with me took dinner and then went back to 5 o'clock meeting. Jackson, Louisa & Sammy come over just at night, had a very good call from them.

30 Very pleasant; a splendid time for sap; we hauled some manure today; cut some wood also.

31 Tuesday; the last day of March; cut wood in A.M. Louisa come over in morning, she and Mother went to see Emmas baby. I went to Centre in P.M., to C.W.Whittens & to Mr. Jesse H. Fryes, on music business; got Mrs. Whittens melodeon. got home after dark, the last run of sleighing this year.