

March 1869.

Soon shall the springtime break over the mountains,
Over its beauty no cold wind shall blow;
Frost shall not breathe there to wither the flowers,
Never again shall they hide I the snow;
Eve hath not looked on that spring in its beauty,
Songs of the seraphs shall welcome its birth;
Come in the beauty and glow of the morning'
Spring-time eternal, dawn over the earth.

1 Monday: Samuel Rollins and I wallowed down to townmeeting, when we got there they had organized by choosing Gorham Clough moderator, and adjourned two weeks from today. the snow is very deep and it is hard moving about.

2 Pleasant: I went to school this morning, It was hard wallowing; went to the Allen Sidelinkers to board he lives on Pembroke Carters farm, Pembroke boards there and does his chores; a pleasant boarding place.

3 A pleasant day; the snow is very deep; a pretty good school.

4 Cloudy, a storm set in towards night; snowed fiercely; in evening Pembroke and I went in to Mrs. Fosters, spent the evening very agreeably; came home in a thick storm the wind blew most awfully. and it snowed thick.

5 Friday: a cold morning; and last night was one of the coldest of the season; Pembroke and I were quite cold in the night; the wind blew smartly and the snow was considerably drifted, the pump was covered entirely over; about ten o'clock the boys come along and we started for school, some eight or ten were out and we concluded it was so rough that we would adjourn the school, so they rehearsed their pieces and we set next tuesday evening for our closing exercises. took dinner at Mr. Carters then came home, called for a few minutes at Alonzo Polands; Dr. Whitney came there with his horse and sleigh, left it took to his snow shoes and came up over the mountain over to Lewis's to see Hannah who is very sick' they think she cannot live; I saw him when he went back, he said she was no better. In

eve. I read some and went to bed feeling that my winters work of teaching is done, and I shall stay at home awhile now.

6 Cloudy in morning, quite cold too; Arthur come over & we broke in the woods and got a little wood.

7 Sunday: a cold rough day; windy & blustering. I went over to Lewis's; Hannah is no better, she is not so violent or crazy as she was. It was cold over there and they felt bad, making it one of the gloomiest scenes I ever saw in Bro. Lewis's home, a cold night the wind blowing, and the windows in front entirely snowed up.

8 Monday: I went over to Lewis's; a mournful time, they realize that Hannah must die. It rather seems that I did not go over to Ls. Today but have forgot.

9 Pleasant: Alfred come up, he & I went to Lewis's; Hannah is dreadful sick, looks very badly. Alfred & Sarah are going up this P.M., I went over to the Sproul dist. in P.M., had a rehearsal and in evening an exhibition; had a very good time, all seemed to enjoy it much; got home about midnight, very hard sleighing. It may be pleasant in after years if I record a list of pieces and the actors; opening declamation by Chs. Stewart. Dialogue, "On the road to Windham," W.E.S. Carter & Arthur Foster. "Boarding school accomplishments," actors, Fred S. Carter, Z.H. Foster, Misses Ella & Emma Thompson. "Hamlet & the Ghost." Actors Z.H. Foster, Edward L. Rowell. Lecturers, Chs. Stewart as Dr. Puff Stuff, Asa Stewart as Timothy Dobbin; a very good dialogue, well acted. "The would be school teacher" Z.H. Foster, Asa Stewart. "Grief too expensive," Z.H. Foster, Chs. Stewart. These dialogues were interspersed by declamations, by E.S. Rowell, Arthur Foster, Alton Clement, Ida May Poland, Nettie Foster, & Will Rowell. Select reading by Martha C. Carter. closing declamation by H..M. Howard, after which the paper was read by Olive L. Foster, a few remarks by the teacher and each one went into his own house.

10 Wednesday: a storm is at hand, I went to Lewis's in morning, Just before I got there, Hannah revived and called Lewis & the children, bidding them good bye. She called for many of her friends; when I got there she just recognized me; Alfred said her taking leave of Lewis & the children, "was the most affecting of any thing he ever saw;" and poor dear Bro. Alfred burst into tears, being unable to say another word. I came home and went down again at night, Augustus Ellis, Asa Goin set up tonight, I was up a part of the time, it rained pretty hard, the wind sighed mournfully around, and we realized that it was Hannahs last-night on earth; she lay in the same position, tossing her hands about considerable, and sometimes moaning feebly. And so the night at last passed mournfully away.

11 Thursday: cleared away last night, a pleasant morning, about 8 o'clock the deathly pallor seemed creeping on at 9 o'clock it was plainly visible, and at ten minutes before ten, sister Hannah ceased to breathe; this was all there was in dying, no pains, no spasms, it seemed to me truly, that in the Poet's language, "Dying is but going home." so peaceful, so calm.

"So fades a summer cloud away,
So sinks the gale when storms are o'er,
So gently shuts the eye of day,
So dies a wave along the shore."

Thursday concluded, Alfred & Nath'l Averell got there just as Hannah died; we went up and got Mrs. Carr, hauling her in a sleigh, as the road was bad; Mrs. Carr & Maria laid her out, we put the room in order, and after dinner come home; -- I went down and set up tonight, Geo. Lewis set up with me. a long cold night.

12 Friday: I went to Liberty today, got the robe. Came home and carried Mary down, she staid all night and I came home to stay with Ralph.

13 Saturday: Went to funeral; Services at White's cor Sermon by father Hamilton, Text, "For we know if this earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands eternal and in the heavens." a good sermon. Had good singing, --Hymns—first "When langnor and disease invade" and second, "Why should we start and fear to die." Voluntary, Heavenly rest. beautiful singing. Hannah was laid out in white thibet or cashmere, trimmed with white edging, and white satin cord, a white bow at the throat, two pretty wreaths from each shoulder together on her breast, she looked quite natural, but her face indicated great suffering. And so we buried her and hoping to meet in a better world we left our friend and sister with God.

14 Sunday: staid over with Lewis last night, Mary & I. I come home in morning, was reading writing etc. today. Lewis appears quite reconciled, he made a beautiful prayer this morning, I know and Infinite Father helps him.

15 Pleasant: I went to townmeeting, Father & I. chose Nathan French clerk; J.W. Barker, J.J. Carr, J.H. Frye selectmen etc., J.J. Carr Treasurer, J.C. Schuster S.S. Committee, E.H. Carter collector. a harmonious meeting.

16 Cold: I went to Freedom in P.M. bought 2 prs. boots, & some grain at the mill. Ambrose staid here tonight, he is a tall boy.

17 Hauled wood in A.M. snowed in P.M. Lewis brought Mary home in P.M., Mr. Palmer & wife are there.

18 Pleasant: Hauled hay from Carrs today. Louisa is quite sick, hope she may get better soon.

19 Samuel; Rollins went to Camden, Mary went down to her fathers with him; got one load hay today.

20 Snowed all day: had a boss cow come today, (Snipes) Mary got home in P.M. Ralph was glad to see her.

21 Sunday: a cold blustery day, snow flies merrily. Was at home all day, doing chores reading etc.

22 Hauled wood in P.M. Charles Curtis was here in A.M. staid to dinner; he is quite a pretty appearing young man.

23 Sort of stormy in A.M., come on to storm in earnest after dinner and was a stormy P.M. snowed very fast.

24 Wednesday: The snow come quite deep, a foot or so. We broke through to Curtis's and over to Carrs in P.M., quite hard breaking; I went out to Curtis's and read the Journal a few minutes, it contains a sickening account of the hanging of Clifton Harris.

25 A beautiful day; the sun shone with dazzling brilliancy on the white snow, making ones eyes ache. I carried mother over to Carrs to stay with Louisa awhile; Ralph went and got "anpa Carr" to measure his foot for a pair shoes; he came home with me. I thought to go to Belfast on the morrow, but gave it up.

26 Pleasant: I went to Aarons in P.M., carried some eggs, got 24 cts. per doz.; carried a letter for Lucy, one to go to Publishers journal Augusta, one to "Portland Transcript" one to "Maine Normal" one to "N.Y. Sun"; stormed some before I got home, Louisa is not so well today. read papers in eve.

27 Rainy in morning, clearing off warm; Samuel Rollins was over in morning, I felt rather unwell today; Charley went to Carrs to get the pump rigging mended which had broke, and then towards night he went home, to the Centre. a warm sloshy day.

28 Sunday; wind at the N.W. this morning and some signs of colder weather; Ralph went to the barn this morn. I went to Carrs and to Lewis's in P.M. a warm splashy day. Louisa is pretty sick today.

29 Monday: father went over to see Louisa today, I was doing chores etc., father got home about dark.

30 A fearful storm is raging today; wind N.E., raining freezing as it falls; Nath'l was here in morn. to get some milk; the spruce tree at night was loaded with ice, Ralph see it, and Bon barked at it, it looked so odd.

31 The last day of March: "Bridget, one of the cows, had a calf this morn.' all white, a queer looking specimen. Jackson & Lewis were here today, took dinner. I received notice this P.M., that my frame for the house is sawed, so that means work; with a silent prayer for strength, to Him from whom all blessings come, I now arise from literature and engage in more laborious exercises; depending on a higher power for wisdom may I go aright, remembering that, " If God succeed not all the cost, And pains to build the house are lost." I feel no particular desire to have any thing nice in a house, only just a plain comfortable house, I do not build to outstrip any of my neighbors, but for comfort of the family, and especially father & mother who have lived in an old house all their days, and may they be spared a few years to enjoy it is my prayer. and may we be prospered in our undertakings.

O Lord send now prosperity.