

May 1868

Our spirit yearns for fragrance of sweet flowers,

For bird songs mid the trees –

For leafy woods, for tranquil skies and showers,

And hum of golden bees. Portland Transcript

1 Friday: a cold may-day; I went to Bachelders to get some work done; then to Oramels and we fixed the returns to be sent to Augusta. I took dinner with Oramel and his wife; after we got through I went back to Bachelders where I staid all the P.M. getting home about dark.

2 Pleasant: we were sawing wood; had a calf come last night. I got up in the night to attend the cow; we had lots of passing today; Samuel Berry went over to get Alberts goods Mr. Edmund Clement was along, a book agent, S. Rollins went over to his place & back; George Lewis carried Vira over to Berrys. so we are right in town so to speak. I went over to Lens at night got the papers. a pleasant day.

3 Sunday: went to church, a good meeting. George Sproul went with me. played music most all the P.M. and so the day passed away.

4 A beautiful morning. a doctor called in morn. S. Rollins & wife come to live on the mountain, wish them success. Emma Averell was here visiting in P.M. she has a young babe.

the Young farm pays \$1100 for it. Mr. Armor was here in A.M. to get some stock pastured. I agreed to take of him 1 yearling heifer, if he could not get a chance nearer home. Mary went over to Sams in P.M. they are cleaning house at a great rate, they do not mean to eat a peck of dirt but most likely they will have to sometime. cloudy at night.

6 Rainy all day; was about home all day. there was no one here if I remember correctly. Charley went home in P.M.; a dark gloomy day.

7 Cleared off some but was cloudy ^ dark; Father went to Liberty; Mary went to Carrs in P.M. I tried to haul a few rocks but the ground is wet and it is late as ever this spring; Father got me some papers at the office the Advance, they are dry so ma says.

8 A terrible hard snow storm, snowed all day like great guns; I suppose as much as 4 or 6 inches has fallen; Mr. Hahn come up in P.M. to get me to go down and set up with their son who is sick. the wind blows terribly now P.M. and it is cold. I went down & set up with the sick boy; he suffered much through the night, he selected hymns & text to be used at his funeral, he is ready and waiting to go hence.

9 Saturday: I came home early in morning; slept most of the A.M., went to conference in P.M. had a very good meeting, the house was well filled, for a conference, there being as many as a hundred present I think. there was 61 testimonies they said. a good meeting.

10 Sunday: A pleasant day, some cloudy; Mary & I went to Baptism at the meetinghouse; the house was crowded, sermon by Eld. Moore text, "Thou shalt guide me by thy counsel" etc., the old man preached very well. then went to the water where the following persons were immersed, Bro. Small officiating; Henry Mcfarland, Geo. Stevenson, Ezra Hamilton, Marcena Poland, Charley Polanad, Martin Whitten, Charles Whitten, Loren Penny, Riley Gilcrest, Mark Messer, also some three or four small boys; Eunice Whitten, Caro Stevenson, Eliza Stevenson, Arvilla Goin; It was a pretty baptismal scene with a few exceptions; there was nothing pretty about immersing those small boys, they strangled dreadfully, and also Arvilla Goin cried dreadfully, I think she was frightened nearly to death, I never pitied any one as I did her. We sung and sung and for once I could say I sung enough. we came home, Maria came with us, chatted awhile sung some then Sam come along and they went home, Jackson & Louisa called, also Lura Cookson, so closed another sabbath.

11 Monday: I helped Lewis plow; we broke up. came home at night.

12 Pleasant; helped Lewis plow; we could not work all the time on account of the heat; Mr. H.H. Sherman an insurance agent was along; we effected an insurance on our buildings, Lewis for \$900 I for \$850. we pay 1 ½ pr. cent. gave our notes payable on or before the 12 of Oct. we were bothered for so long that we did not get the piece plowed. We preferred the Hartford company. came home at night, Jackson come over with me to get a harness, he is going to farming.

13 Wednesday: I went to Mr. Fryes in A.M. paid my music bill and shall not go any more this spring; Miss Frye is a very good teacher, and a very fine young woman I think. In P.M. I went over and helped Lewis finish his plowing, come on to rain just as we got done; I come up to Carrs, stopped a few minutes then came up to Samuels and took tea as Mary was there helping Maria whitewash. then came home; a few minutes after I got home Mr. Hahn come to get me to go down and set up, their boy died last night. I accordingly went down, Exavier went down and set up with me, we had a very comfortable time; he is good company and a right good fellow Exavier is.

14 Thursday: commenced to rain about midnight, and rained dreadfully until about noon today; Exavier and I came home about noon; the brooks are running briskly and it was a heavy rain; the dead boy Con'y they call him looks very pleasant and I doubt not has exchanged, --

“A world of woe for an immortal crown.”

I called down to Nath'ls at night they are all well. It is truly water water everywhere just now.

15 Cleared up some today; Charley & I went to Aarons carried 16 doz. eggs. got Charley some things. got a letter from Lucy and the papers. fixed some fence in P.M. I must go to Mr. Hahns again tonight to watch again with the dead, expect Exavier will go with me. Went down to Amoses, waited until Exavier got ready then we went to Mr. Hahns together; Judson Hall was there. It commenced raining about bedtime and rained all night a part of the time powerfully. the night passed away quickly. I shall never forget it, -while the rain was pouring out of doors and all the household were quietly sleeping Exavier and I were watching together, talking as only good friends do and cementing those bonds of friendship which have always existed between us and which God grant may never be broken. O I have thought so much about him, of late; --May the Infinite Father protect him, guide him. and may we meet at last where parting is not known.

16 Saturday: came home in morning, got ready and went to funeral in P.M., services at the house, sermon by Eld. Davis the text was Johns gospel 6-54, selected by Con'y before he died; a good sermon. we sung the hymns, “Jesus lover of my soul,” and “Why do we mourn for dying friends,” with “angels call” for voluntary and “Asleep in Jesus” while they looked at the corpse. Cony looked very natural and peaceful, we went to the grave on the Averell farm and buried him, I stopped and helped Alfred fill the grave. Mr. Cookson was manager. And so this is the last of earth, -- Constantine Lewis
Poland aged about 20. He was a good boy, and died in the triumphs of faith.

17 Sunday; went to meeting, sermon by Bro. Small. a very good meeting, the brooks are very high, and the ground is very wet. Jackson & Louisa were here in P.M. Maria called as they went homeward we sung some. had a good time singing. so ended another sabbath.

18 Cloudy & gloomy; we cannot do much it is so rainy went fencing in morning but about ten o'clock it come on to rain and rained all day, the most of the time very hard.

19 Wet and foggy but did not rain very much; Alfred and Reuben went to Liberty to see Ayers house; Exavier come up of an errand, and so another day of gloom passed away.

20 Wednesday; looked quite pleasant today. I went to mill at Freedom, did not get home till near night; called into Alfreds as I came home and took supper, Reuben is there to work now. Alfred is busily engaged in the building business; I hope Gods blessing may attend him, for, --"If God succeed not all the cost, And pains to build the house are lost."

I went down to the saw mill as I came homeward, they are sawing smartly, Judson Hall was there, Samuel Curtis jr. wished Judson and I to remember that he & Mr. Bowen had settled, Curtis gave Bowen a forty dollar note and that squared all accounts between them; Samuel wished us to remember it. Maria was in at night. she had been down to Nath'ls.

21 A very rainy day; the rain fell steadily all day long. Nathaniel & Exavier were here in the A.M., we had a very social time; Nathaniel expressed himself considerably on politics religion etc., and wound up by saying he supposed he was a sinner; I told him I did not know as regarded that, but I thought he did appear rather unreconciled; (Father, guide and save him.)

And this is my birthday, another decade has gone and I am thirty today. pretty old it seems to me; and so the years go by and soon they will be all gone, O may wisdom be my best friend and guide through the remainder of my life. Geo. Lewis was here in P.M. he is a good boy, I like him much. I got wet getting the sheep at night.

22 Friday: another dark gloomy morning, fog as thick as mud, and the wind dead in the east. could not do very much; Geo. Lewis & I went to the Centre traded some, then we went to Josiah Jacksons to see a calf, then to Coopers, then come home; the roads are washed dreadfully, in some places they are almost impassible; In P.M. I went over to see a calf at S. O. Whittens, did not buy; Lewis went over with me, got home at about dark. the pig has been making her nest all day, so I set up to see to her.

23 Rainy as usual; had a liter of five pigs come early in morning, had splendid luck; after dozing awhile I went to Josiah Jacksons and got my calf, he is a beauty I pay \$8.00 for him; paid down; it seems to be very much money to pay for a calf but they are high. Mrs. Rollins was here to dinner, she went over to Sams in P.M.; and then came saturday night.

24 Sunday: a rainy day; I went to meeting, sermon by Eld. Knowlton, text, "Wherefore didst thou doubt," an excellent discourse, it did us all much good. they organized the sabbath school, I was chosen Supt. And Judson Hall Librarian; came home after meeting. no one here in P.M. Charley went to get his hair cut over to Sams. It seems that I never wanted to see a pleasant day so much as I do now.

25 Monday: I hope it may clear off sometime. Lewis was over in morning; we turned the young cattle to pasture for the season, Wm. E. Poland his wife and Martha Vose were over

here, Wm. Drove his steers to pasture. We went to Sams after supper, had a nice call. had a very good time singing talking etc.

26 Cleared off some today; I was fencing; in P.M. Olive Foster and Lura Cookson were here to get their certificates; they are nice looking girls, hope they may succeed well. I had a headache at night.

27 The wind was in the west this morning for the first time in three weeks, cleared away real pleasant Lewis drove his sheep to pasture, helped me fix up some fence etc.; I got some mail, got Mr. Elwells picture, the editor of the Transcript. was fencing all day, a fine day, I do earnestly hope it may be more pleasant.

28 Thursday: fog is thick again this morning. events of the day not remembered, I believe that I went to the mill & hauled away boards, Mother & Ralph went down to Alfreds.

29 Cloudy, was fencing, Miss. Dorman of Freedom got a certificate is to teach at Ranlets corner. came down dark & rainy at night.

30 Rainy, I went to Aarons in A.M. got some wet, read papers after I got home carried 20 doz. eggs.

31 Sunday. Went to church, had a good Sabbath school, Mr. Stevenson preached. I went to Mr. Voses to dinner & staid to 4 o'clock meeting. Mrs. Rollins come over to Sams with me.