

May 1870

O, in Life there is toil and trouble,

Endeavor and Labor and Strife;

We hope for a day of perfect rest,

But not in this changing life.

Yet in the distant horizon,

Which bounds the earthly shore,

There looms with grandeur and beauty,

A Rest, of: to toil no more. :---: H. M. Howard

1 Sunday: a fall of rain last night; a fine spring morning; --but as the day advanced the wind arose and it grew colder, heavy black clouds rolled over the sky; Went nowhere today; Jackson was here, just as night. a sabbath spent quietly at home.

2 A beautiful morning: Samuel Rollins come in while we were at breakfast; In A.M. we hauled hay a load for Samuel and I took home a little from Lewis' barn; In P.M. commenced to get a school; Lewis was here in P.M.; Horace Clements said his father said he might work for 7 dollars per month I think he is worth 6, I told our folks I might as well give it to him as to anybody. Mother & I went "apiece" with Louisa, a nice walk.

3 Tuesday: a warm smoky day: I helped Lewis fence; Mary went over and set with Lewis' wife; --We think she is a nice good woman; and are glad our brother has so good a wife; a very windy night; Ralph was as full of frolic as could be after we got home.

4 Some cloudy in morning, hope there will be rain soon,--the ground is quite dry, the trees are beginning to burst their buds, and it is real early; sheep get their living very well. hope we may have a sufficient amount of rain so grass may grow. There was considerable rain in P.M., wind coming in to the N.W., and blowing hard; we fenced around sheep pasture. Samuel Curtis was here at night, also Wm. E. Poland & wife called, as they came from neighbor Rollins's.

5 Pleasant, but cool; were fencing today around sheep pasture. At tea time Miss Eliza Terry & Miss Victoria Jackson were here; I reexamined Miss Jackson, she appeared to know more than before and I gave her a permit to keep the school. Mrs. Cordelia Sproul called at night. so the day closed.

6 A cool morning: were fencing as usual today. Mending old fence is a vexatious work; the old fences are worse than usual this spring; Horace went to Centre at night.

7 A beautiful day: I got a load hay in morning from Lewis' fenced the remainder of the day, went to Alonzos at night got the mail; A week of toil, anxiety, and care. How pleasant is Saturday night.

8 Sunday: A very fine day: Samuel & Maria, wife and I went to Knox to a baptism, Sermon by Eld. Moore, his discourse abounded with the usual hard shell doctrine for which he is famous, --altho, pretty good; Some nine or ten were baptized, the ordinance being administered by Eld. Humphrey Small; not a very good hand to baptize I think. Lewis & wife, Samuel & wife, Jackson & wife were here in P.M., a pleasant sabbath pleasantly spent.

9 Looks like a storm this morning: come on to rain in A.M., we got Lewis' oxen but did not work any; Mr. Myrick got his wheels in P.M. Geo. Choate was here, took supper with us; he is a very good fellow and I like him very much.

10 A misty dark day, pretty cold; We plowed, had Lewis' oxen; plowed about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre I think. I was very tired at night. our young cattle wandered around strangely today. Ida May was up in P.M., she brought some flowers for Ralph.

11 Wednesday: a cloudy morning; Horace and the oxen helped Lewis plow; I fenced in A.M., in P.M. it was rainy so I did not do much, had a very lame leg- sprained it sometime I think, Samuel Rollins was over at night.

12 Pleasant, but some showery; we were married 9 years ago today, - we top dressed in A.M., dug rocks in P.M. Mrs Rowell and her little grandson were up visiting. Samuel Rollins had our team to Belfast, - Lewis had our oxen to plow, they did not get home at night.

13 Friday: a misty morning: but a fine day. We fenced around Cobbossee pasture; and picked a few rocks towards night. I called down to Alonzos at supper time, he had gone to Belfast, --and Horace went down at dusk and got the papers, a very pleasant day and evening.

14 Very pleasant, -- hauled rocks in A.M., a book agent Mr. Taylor of Damariscotta took dinner with us. In A.M., Mr. J. Bean jr. was here to engage wool; he would pay 40 cts. I did not engage it. hope to do better.

In P.M. Father & I went to see Mr. Skinner the spiritual doctor, as father is very badly indeed. A beautiful afternoon, the early trees just in evening, a beautiful eve. and a splendid moon.

15 Sunday: a warm day; at home all day. Samuel & Maria come in P.M. to go on rock ledge; just as we were preparing to go Nathaniel and Emma drove up, so we had to give up going; We chatted awhile and at about 6 O'clock they all went home. Alfred and Sarah went over to Carrs today and to Lewis'.

16 A pretty morning, had three lambs come last night. Horace went to get a coat cut, got home just before tea time, I hauled rocks; a pretty day, fine weather.

17 Cool; hauled rocks, Samuel Rollins & I hedged in P.M. I went to Skinners at night to get medicine for father.

18 Wednesday: "Ye are my friends if you do whatsoever I command you." verse for today. Arose quite early went to see the sheep and lambs, and to Amos's spoke for a pig, he has ten pretty ones; a week old today. I went to Aarons traded some, -- to Dr. Bachelders got some whiskey for father; come round by Liberty bought some meal. burnt some brush towards night. a warm day.

19 Warm; plowed at the end of the house; -- I went to J.H. Terrys in P.M., on school affairs, got some wheat & barley of Lewis to sow; finished the piece at sunset; the colt run off and I had a hard tramp to get her.

20 Very warm, dry and smoky; a dense mass of smoke rolled around in P.M. completely hiding the sun from sight. harrowed in A.M. I went on a school trip in P.M. to Mr. Thompsons, engaged Emma Thompson to teach in our dist. pay 1.50 per week. let Eliza Gowin have the school in the Bryant dist. pay 2.00 per week. saw J.B. Thompson made some arrangements about his school. getting home at nearly dark; father is very sick today.

21 This is my thirty second birthday, am getting quite old. we planted potatoes in P.M., the first of the season. Wm, Poland & wife were over at night, drove his steers to pasture; a beautiful rain after supper, Horace went home.

22 Sunday: windy but pleasant; Alfred & Sarah were up; Jackson & Louisa also were here in P.M. father is about the same. Samuel & Maria went to meeting today. a fine sunset.

23 Monday: a cool salubrious morning; I went to planting just after sunrise. Planted potatoes today; a warm day quite smoky, -- Geo. Choate drove his young cattle over to pasture; the trees are in full leaf and it looks like June; the season is very early, two weeks earlier than last year.

24 A very cold windy morning, coming on to rain after breakfast father is quite sick, he thinks he will not live, -to get well again. I went to get Dr. Bachelder in P.M., a muddy ride.

25 Cloudy in morning: we plowed in Toombs field in A.M.; planted in P.M., Dr. Bachelder was here in P.M. he spoke discouragingly about father. a fine afternoon.

26 We prepared the wheat & barley piece in A.M., -- planted in P.M., -- Lewis & wife called after tea, --also A. Bryant & wife; we hauled a few rocks just at night.

27 Very pleasant: we plowed, -brok up below the house; Mr. Carr & wife were over in P.M. a fine day.

28 Sowed wheat & barley in A.M. plowed in P.M., had Lewis' oxen yesterday and to day; Louisa was over in P.M.

29 Sunday: a fine day, --I went to Bachelders got some medicine in P.M. father is about the same today. Lewis & wife, Louisa were here in P.M.

30 Very warm; we fenced all day a hard days work, fixed hedge over against Amos, very warm indeed, I went to Centre at night.

31 Cloudy: we were planting, J'mire washed his sheep. father appears quite smart today. a foggy night.