

October 1868

Again the year throws down the golden horn,
On thankful harvest field and granary floor;
And sun-flecked fruits roll out, and golden corn,
And bulbous roots sweet to the inmost core.

--Harpers Weekly.

1 Thursday: Pleasant; We worked on wall as usual; Jackson & Amos worked; Lewis & S.B. Rollins worked scraping dirt; had Alfreds oxen & Sams; I was not very well, N. Averell had a husking, I was too tired to go.

2 Pleasant: Jackson & Amos worked, Alfred sent up after his oxen at night. we dug a good many rocks today in field below the barn; we have fine days to work now dry and pleasant, hope it will be so for some time to come.

3 Looked like a storm but cleared away; Lewis worked today, also Jackson & Amos; had Nats oxen. We built quite a lot of wall, and solid it is too. very large rocks. Mr. Clark & wife come up at night. we were glad to see them; Samuel & Maria, Jackson & Louisa went up to Mr. Bumps to a husking. it was a splendid evening, a pretty moon.

4 Sunday: a beautiful day; I went to sunday school had a very good one, come directly home, Mr. Clark went home I P.M. Dexter & Jane were over in P.M. Hannah was over. the huskers got home in P.M. a splendid day.

5 Monday: Pleasant; Jackson & Amos worked in A.M. they went to town meeting in P.M. I staid at home and hauled rocks; a fine autumnal day, but the days are quite short.

6 Rainy in morning; we hauled some rocks in A.M. in P.M. Jackson & Amos come & built wall, they laid the backside corner in the barnyard, one rock we estimate will weigh as much as 4 tons. We eat supper and Amos & Jackson were going away when we saw a huge fire, we took it to be Horace Wescotts buildings in Knox, it made almost as much light as the moon; Mother, Charley & myself went to the Centre to a panorama, it was quite good; as we rode away the light from the fire made us cast a shadow on the fence and roadside. we got home between ten & eleven, the fire then had burned long and low, looking like a wall of fire; we could see the flames leap into the air when the fire first broke out, and it was a

sorry looking sight, making one tremble for their own possessions. a beautiful evening, long to be remembered.

7 Pleasant: today is fair day at Unity. Samuel & Maria; George Lewis & Louisa & Sammy went to Unity; Louisa is going to Isaacs; Jackson helped us we plowed and scraped all day; A book agent was along, J.P. Ames with Sanders readers; he left a series which I am to leave at Bowlers at Liberty if I don't want them. went to the panorama at the meetinghouse in eve. had a pretty good time.

8 Thursday: a cloudy smoky, some rainy misty day. we dug the last ditch for the wall, and hauled rocks, were busily employed all day have had Alfreds oxen three days this week. Jackson was along in A.M. he went to Alfreds, is almost sick with a cold. come on to rain in evening rained smartly, wind West.

9 Somewhat cloudy in morning; Jackson & Amos worked today, got the wall almost done, my back is awful lame; Mr. Whitney, agent for Hillards readers was along;

10 Pleasant; I went to Aarons, let him have my treasury note of \$100 to dispose of as best he can. called on Mr. Erskine went on the Bradbury road up to Bachelers, to see when he could shoe the oxen; called at Mr. Nortons got a half dozen pumpkins. mother went to Lewis's with me, I had Jacksons team, as Mr. Carr & wife have gone to Burnham with ours. my back is very lame today, I hurt it lifting rocks. Jackson finished the cellar wall today, Amos did not work he being done, he has worked 10 ½ days in all if I reckon right. Samuel Curtis was here to tea, Marcena went home, and so ended another week of labor. Saturday night is always welcome.

11 Sunday: cloudy, the sabbath school closed today; Bro. Small made a few remarks; I as Supt. said a few words, closing with the Saviors words, "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me" etc.; we sung the evergreen shore and the sabbath school was ended for this season. Lewis was over in P.M. The sabbath was a pleasant one to me.

12 Monday: Pleasant; Jackson worked hewing timber, we went and got a load in Curtis pasture in P.M., I went to see if I could get Capt. Poland at night; tried to get Levi Bartlett but could not get him. Marcena & Charley dug potatoes.

13 Pleasant: Jackson worked hewing; we scraped some today. Mr. Carr & wife got home today. Aunt Eunice Edwards come in P.M., she is quite feeble, we sung some in evening, Orley was here in evening. come to get his bows (?cows).

14 Pleasant: Moody Norton come to work hewing today. I went to see Samuel Curtis in morning; Jackson worked too. Samuel Curtis, his oxen, and Charles Curtis come to banking

up the cellar in P.M.; Mother and Aunt Eunice went to Carrs today, aunt was most sick at night. Samuel & Charles staid all night.

15 Some rainy but we did not stop work till about 4 o'clock P.M. Jane Bennett come and got Aunt Eunice in morning; Charley and I got a load timber in P.M., Mr. Norton worked some today, Jackson worked hewing; Samuel& Charles went home abt. 4 P.M.;

16 Quite pleasant: I hauled timber in A.M., hauled timber out of the woods in P.M. Samuel & Charles worked all day today. Mr. Norton worked today, Mary went to Aarons, got the papers. read of the elections in Penn. Ohio etc. with much satisfaction because it insures the election of Gen. Grant, in November.

17 A dark morning; come on to snow and now 10 A>M. it is snowing fast. a stormy day as one would wish to see, Jackson & George cut timber in A.M. Samuel Curtis went home in morn. I bought of S. Rollins some cornstalks Marcena got them, am to pay 2 or 3 dolls. for them. a dark cold dismal night.

18 Sunday: a wintry morning, very cold for the time of year; as much as 2 or 3 inches of snow fell; Mother & I went over to Dexter Bennetts, --Aunt Eunice is there, we had a good visit, got home abt. dark. the snow hangs on well, is not nearly all gone. we sung a little in evening, it seems nice to have a Sabbath all to myself, as I have been to Sabbath school very regular all summer. It has been a pleasant day to me and I have enjoyed it with much satisfaction.

19 Quite a cool morning: Samuel and Charles come to work; Jackson come over, we concluded not to do any more to the cellar this fall, except to bank it etc.; we hauled manure in A.M.; and in P.M. too. come on to rain abt. 4 P.M.; a dark rainy night.

20 Quite pleasant; wind blew up cool; we dug potatoes Samuel Curtis & Charles banked the cellar as usual. Marcena, Charley Palmer & I dug 30 bu. today. I lent Arthur Gilcrest 15 dollars.

21 A cold, cloudy day, with a snow squall abt. noon. we finished digging foot potatoes, have abt. 140 bu. Samuel & Charles worked as usual, Charles went home at night. Samuel staid here all night. Lewis came in morn. got the hay rack to get in barley.

22 A fall of snow last night, we dug potatoes, it was wintry indeed, we dug 25bu. in A.M., & 56 in P.M. Samuel & Charles finished banking in A.M. & dug potatoes in P.M. a cold day, Ara Goin was her in P.M.

23 Friday: a cold day; I went to Aarons in A.M., carried butter 33 lbs. got 40 cts. per lb. for it, \$13.20. Father went to Searsmont to get lime, he will stay to Mr. Clarks tonight and come

home tomorrow; we dug potatoes in P.M. come very near finishing them. I read the papers in evening, and passed the time very agreeably, reading before a nice fire, I thought nothing was wanting but a mug of cider to make one very comfortable and happy even.

24 A fine pleasant day: I arose quite late, Charles Treat come to get the scraper for Alfred, then Mr. Cookson come to get his chain, which I had borrowed and not returned. Marcena mowed a piece of barley in A.M., dug potatoes for S> Rollins in P.M.; Charley Palmer and I went to get a load sand in Gilbert Sawyers pasture, got 20 bu. had to pay 40 cts for it. Father got home abt. 4 P.M. now it is evening again, and Saturday night too.

“Then read from the treasured volume

The poem of thy choice,

And lend to the rhyme of the poet

The beauty of thy voice.”

“And the night shall be filled with music,

And the cares, that infest the day

Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs

And as silently steal away.”

25 Sunday: a beautiful day; it seems like quite late in the fall, the trees are nearly all bare, the recent cold weather being too severe for them to hang longer to the boughs. Mary Ralph & I went to see Mr. Hahn & wife today, we had a real good time. they are very nice folks I think. Marcena has been home today, my prayers arise for him, God bless him.

26 Pleasant: we dug the turnips etc. raked barley in P.M., rather windy towards night, went to school meeting in evening; Chose E.A. Sproul, moderator; the first office he ever was elected to since attaining his majority, as he was 21 a few days since. I always liked Exavier hope he will make a good man; the school is to commence near the 20th of Nov. Mr. Hahn is to instruct. We had a real old fashioned game of “goold” after meeting, playing in the bright moonlight, about a dozen of us, exhibited a lively scene not easily forgotten.

27 Very pleasant: finished harvesting today, the last being barley & peas. We commenced to slack lime for mortar in P.M. pointed a little before night. Marcena is head mortarer, he knows a good deal for a boy of his age. looked like a storm at night the fog blowing in from seaward and the air being quite cold and chilly. I read an article in evening “Hospital Memories” in Atlantic Monthly.

28 Wednesday: Rainy in A.M., worked some on the cellar and hauled three loads manure. Pointed on the cellar in P.M., I went to the Vose school house at night to see Geo. Norton & Moody Norton; I paid Moody for his work hewing, and gave up the building engagement with Geo. as he cannot commence early enough to suit me. had a talk with Almond Messer as I came home, he is as entertaining as ever, "a good mana and one that feared God." Mr. Hahn & wife, Mr. Carr & wife, Mr. Rollins & wife were here in eve. we sung smartly and had a good time.

29 A cold morning, the wind blew terribly last night. I went to Belfast today; took dinner at Capt. Beans, they are all well; traded considerable, a rough cold day. I came out of the city nearly sunset, a splendid moon lighted me home, rather cold but beautiful evening. I got my miniature today, had it taken ten years ago, I have grown old much I think; and look as tho, life was a reality more than it was then; "Life is real life is earnest, And the grave is not its goal, Dust thou art to dust returnest, Was not spoken of the soul." Very true words they are.

30 Pleasant: Father & I went to Freedom, took dinner at H. Beals, hauled the bass boards to the planer, did not get home till quite late. the threshers Abiel Hall & Riley Gilcrest come at night.

31 The last day of the month & week; Father & I went to Thomsons mill in Searsmont, took on a load pine boards & hauled them to Freedom, did not get home till very late. they threshed all the grain had near 50 bu. and so the month ended.