

PAGE# 3

Jan. 1852

Jan. 1. The year was ushered in by a furious snow squall which lasted part of the forenoon Weather cleared up in the afternoon & we had a very fine cold evening with some wind.

Was called up at 5^oc by a Happy new year from Aurelia Stinson & Hannah Sweetser, & an invitation to breakfast with Chaney Davis.

Elizabeth found a splendid heel in the entry and a neat little volume from her friends. Dined at Mr. Dalrymples on Turkey & plumb pudding. Abigail Whittemore was married by the Rev. Mr Brown to William Pratt about 1^oc P.M. and took cars at ½ past 3. for New Bedford for a honey moon. Eliza Whittemore was married to Rev Mr Jenkins at ½ past 6. P.M. by Rev Mr L Townsend of Troy & retired to the parsonage.

PAGE# 4

Mary Olunsted was also married at at Warwick to a Min Brown J Beleiveue and took possession of the new brick house recently created on the old everett site on the N. side of the village Other weddings are spoken of but I have not learned particulars enough to report them.

2. Fair quiet & still as "mists slumbering on yon hill." Two pieces of splendid cake sent in by the Whittemore girls

3. Cloudy damp cold day. Trees handsomly frosted & the ground very slippery. Chequers with Miss Stinson

4. Stormy day of snow & sleet very uncomfortable to be out in.

5. Stormy night & morning tho, but little snow falls. clears off this afternoon Merry time with

A.S. She is living a merry life without care

PAGE #5

6. Snows all day from the N.E. Engine suffers Letter from Lowell Danw, Aurelia Stinson goes home & Hannah to Ashburnham.

7. Snow storm severe during the night & until noon today. Blows severely Had call in the night to go Seth Ballous & got sett in the snow & returned home. The woman died this afternoon by flooding. Letter from Insurance Company, & from E.H Webster in relation to my appointment as delegate to the American Med. Ass. at Richmond Va.

8. Fine day but bad traveling Olnusted & wife here to dinner. Father quite unwell with catarrh of lungs.

9. Cloudy & snows towards night Letter from Miss Sedgwick & Ben Scott Line from Henry Cummings. Calvin Smith died aged 83 $\frac{1}{2}$, of old age.

10. Remarkably fine day & comfortably warm. No.3. Closes first-best. Funeral of Mr. Smith.

PAGE #6

To C.D.P. My nephew

I was delighted exceedingly the other day to get so nice a letter from your sister and yourself. It did me much good to know that you were able to write so good a composition, & had the amiable disposition ~~M~~ prompted you to afford your uncle & aunt so great a pleasure. * *
Your aunt is now very much better than when last I wrote. She is about the house & attending, some what to the drudgery of the kitchen. * * *

The two youngest children are at school in one of the most interesting schools ever kept in town. The scholars are kept in such a constant state of happy excitement, that they enjoy themselves better there than any where else. Instruction is made the most attractive amusement to them & their thoughts are all on their school and their lessons. The order to exercises of the school & their lively school songs are so much like play that they want

PAGE #7

no better sport. I wish you were here to witness their literary ~~sporr~~ enjoyments. Their teacher is the most accomplished school general that ever wore a gown & trains her little battalion with consummate skill & energy. Please describe your school to me. Letter writing is a very useful employment to young people. I teaches them to apply in practice the rudiments of education acquired at school, & when once the habit of writing is formed, insted of a task, it will be vastly interesting as well as useful. Nothing expands the mind more than carefully writing down your thoughts upon paper. I want to engage you to keep a journal of the weather for me. (Ext from this journal for example) Such a journal would amply pay you for the keeping & I will pay you well for the copy to compare with Frederi's. * * *

PAGE #8

11. Snow storm quiet & still. William Penniman in town. Father had an ill turn & fell from his chair, which frightened Mary. He had been unwell for a week the Influenza that invades the whole country bringing in its train some severe cases of Pneumonia -

12. Fair & cold with some wind. Had a very nice visit from cousin Henry & his nice cosey & intelligent wife

13. Fair cold & windy. Father looks better Roads badly shifted in places.

14. Cold & fair with a snow squall. No. 4. Closes Line to Almeda. Father rides to village

15. Cloudy & squally. Brothers from Keene attend the Installation.

16. Cold & fair very To Almeda.

Another disappointment after so many almost convinces me it is wrong for me to go to T. & that I had best give it up entirely I had made arrangement for that purpose & to Mrs. C had a bundle ready, & my visit

PAGE #9

seemed almost certain, when yesterday I received an urgent call from our School Commissioner urging me to come to Keene to make preparations for our Institute. "What a trouble to be in office! When I was chosen Pres. of the C. Co. S. Ass. I declined, positively declined; but all my declining was availed me nothing. So long as the Rev'ds Barstow & Leonard urged that there was no declining & could be no declining in this cause; Serve I must & serve I shall attempt to do. I have now debated the question of duty against inclination as I sometimes do, & been tempted strongly tempted to desert the former for the latter, but duty has finally prevailed to go to K. instead of T. & send this meagre piece of paper to atone for the disappointment of both. One thing is certain, ie. that I shall never mention another day, but, & if the time never comes that I can leave business, I shall steal away privately, & burst unexpectedly into your room, which I feel will not be soon, as my position at the head

PAGE # 10

of our schools devolves a duty upon me, that will occupy all my spare time for a month to come.

But if duty compels me to give up the visit it shall never compel me to give up the sweet
consolations of the correspondence.*

16. Squall of snow in evening. Meet Bennet at Keene. Ride with Dr. Locke Alexander Mr
Browns Donation

17. Fair cold & windy.

18. Snows all day. Phillip Batchellor published

19. A furious blustering snow Storm.

To Eliza

Good morning to you E. in your Jersey home, tho' I suppose you are fast asleep all snug in your
warm & quiet bed with your other half, as it now only four o'clock on one of the coldest
mornings Hulda & the boys are sound asleep & 'Lirra' are at fathers. This is the only time of
day that I can get to notice my absent friends for the town has lately been overrun by an

Influenza

PAGE # 11

bringing in its train. Lung fevers, that has taken up my entire time. My father has had the disease & suffered more than I have known him for many years. Wife is better & has been there all the past week & 'Lirra' went down day before yesterday. The disease appears to be wearing off & I hope he will soon be well. John Milne is in Rochester N.Y. seeking work & Mary expects soon to follow. Lydia is quite unwell, the rest are quite comfortable. ** King David has not been able to catch her. This mistress is a Miss Bliss from Royalston 22 years old, teaching in No 4. & a first-rate teacher too. But the King I fear will never be able to come in there.

It pleases our Josh very much to see poor David try & how vain are all his efforts in that quarter upon the flinty heart of Bliss. If you were here I doubt not you would make fun alive at the expence of the poor King. I would give two large crackers & a piece of cheese to see

PAGE # 12

you & Josh. together for half an hour as he is as full as a pod of the matter & wants only another Collins to make it into a real Romance.

David invited the mistress to come home with her scholars & stay over night as any parent should, & she quite innocently came home with the children at night. Now when she came there a very nice fire had been kindled in the parlor & in there she was invited, & the scholars being excluded, he took full passion himself monopolizing her whole time & attention. A few days after this, all in trim, with best buffaloes, her drove up to the door of her boarding house to wait upon her to a School Ex. but to his great chagrin she had gone with her Agent some minutes before & he was left to follow sadly after.

All this & much more has been acted under the eye of our cousin J.T. & has filled him with fun & glee at poor D's expence.

I have recently had a letter from my

PAGE # 13

friend C.M.S. informing me that she has been sick with the Distemper & Henny C. from
Newport N.H. tells the same story, have you seen any thing of it in Jersey?

We have a severe winter thus far & L.D. writes from Wisconsin that it is so there; I also
learn that near Buffalo the snow is near 7 feet deep. It is now snowing & blowing rapidly here &
the roads are fast filling with drifts. *New year weddings*

19.

Clears off in the P.M. with a high wind & very cold Aurora flashing this evening

20. was so brilliant at one o'clock as to wake me, shining through the window like a fire. I arose,
kindled a fire & went out to contemplate & admire. Nearly the whole horizon was covered with
sheets of different colors. Red white green &c. Today has been fair & bright & very cold / with
no wind. Letter from Miss Cutting. Full of business.

Write Hannah. [Devil of haste &c contrasted with delay] But the true way is to get into
the

PAGE #14

medium. To have just enough & never too much to do. To have time for every thing & do every at its appropriate & proper time. To have a place for every thing & never have more things than you can find suitable places for & to be sure & keep every thing in its proper place. Never to be disappointed or surprised at every any thing & keep a clear conscience. These are the grand secrets of living at ease & enjoying life. Solomon says there is a time for every thing. But if things are not done in their proper time they had better not be done at all.

There is a time to marry, but if that time passes unheeded by, it is not best to marry at all for you only get the thorns of life without the roses. So with most other things, if not done in season, better not do them at all. *

You speak of an unpleasant boarding place. I grieve for you Hannah but hope you will make the best of a bad bargain & like the bee draw honey from

PAGE #15

the bitter herbs of life. "By others faults wise men correct their own;" & why should not wise women too? I hope you will & get much goodness of heart from the ugliness that surrounds you.

We have but one life to live, & that is a short one. Why not make it a merry one? Why not enjoy what little there is of it? Would not this be much better than to spend the brief space allotted us in complaining?

If we make a proper use of surrounding objects & passing events, all things will work together for our good. We have a father in Heaven that looks after & cares for us if our earthly father neglects us. But H. where is that visit you promised me? I have been setting my heart upon it all the while & thinking what fine sleighrides we should have. Is not A's school out, & us she going to run by us again as she did before? "Well well," as the old man said to the boy stealing apples "if neither words nor grass will do, I must try what virtue there is in stories."

Mrs. C. quite smart children at school &c.

PAGE #16

Jan.

1853

21. Two snow storms with a sunshine between; fair evening. Father better wife comes home.

Abby Underwood here on her return from her school in Swansey. Geo. Everetts child dies.

22. Fair & cold. Visit center schools with Abby Underwood. Mr Stowell engaged in the
Macomber case.

23. Fair & fine weather begins to moderate. Trouble in school with Ed Reed. David Perrys girl
born 3 016 A.M. 6# 8 oz, Letter from Charles. Mr. Jenkins ill.

24. Fine day & warmer. No. 4. Closes 75 visiter

25. Pleasant fine & warm. Stowell preaches for the Baptists. D. Wittemore reads to the
Orthodox, Spriritual tippings in Howeville.

26. Snows in the fair afternoon quite warm A. Underwood leaves Howe & Wittemore Jr go to
Boston with their wives. D O Carters wif hurts wrist

27. Very fine & fair but cold morning Mary leaves in 11 0'c Train for Millbury School Master
called away to attend a sick wifes Erysipelus.

PAGE #17

1852. Feb.

28. A very warm nice cloudy day with snow in the evening. School Ass. in N. 5. Crowded house. Subject the "wants of the district". Letter from our Rev. Cousin H.C.

29. Warm & pleasant

30. Sun shone on Monadnoc & was then immediately clouded & it has snowed all day; quite warm. S.S.C. met in my office to arrange the reports &c.

31. Snows from N.E. all day but not violently Letter from Sarah & Otis Whittemore

Feb. 1.

1. Snows all day. Only one meeting. Cyrus Stone preaches & Mr. Brown & his deacons attend.

Read Rokeby for the first time.

To Sarah.

Sarah I should speak of owing you a sheets of letters, when I have sent you three since the date of your last before this. I had begun seriously to call you negligent & had so reported you to Charles & Henry both of whom have been here & responded cordially to the complaint. Charles intimated that you might be engaged in

PAGE # 18

1852.

more important business than school teaching & that probably we should soon hear of your sharing the fate of others like yourself, who have fallen into the Hymenial snare, & lost their interest in eastern friends by the all absorbing cares of Matrimony

It does seem to me that you must have something in your head besides schools or you would have mentioned Newton & the Parsons daughter whose "runaway raid" filled so large a sheet. Well then that match has been consummated & I had the pleasure last week of cutting up a Mammoth slice of their cake, for the benefit of my family.

* Henry's visit * Charles * My own family Mary &c * Schools *

Our Upper School is likely to prove an entire failure on account of sickness The first teacher Hitchcock from Drewsville was taken ill of Rheumatism the first day & is not yet well.

The second Mr. Mason from Sullivan kept one week & left on account of the sickness of his wife

PAGE # 38

30. Fine day frogs first heard Asenalt Goodridge comes. Snow yet in roads & Mountain white.

Kosuth made his great speech in Fannel hall last evening. Mrs Marshall dies 5⁰⁰A.M. @. 85.

Collins pond broke up

May 1. Cloudy day some sleet & rain. No frogs out tonight. Funeral of Mrs M 2⁰⁰Pm.

2. Rainy morning, cloudy Am. Fair evening. Meeting house key lost.

3. Fine but cold Cousin Ramsdale here tonight S.S.C. sworn & arrange business for the storm.

4. Fine & grows warmer Line to Dr Leonard.

Miss Bliss Good morning to you Elvira or evening perhaps it may be when you get what I am writing on a lovely morn' of the 4th of May. You have often wondered if the old Dr. would answer your note. I guess he will; tho' not quite so deliberately as it was written, for he has so many irons in the fire that he is obliged to run from one to the other so rapidly that he can do justice to neither. But then over one thing did please him very much & that was, that he had so much in the "realm of Bliss" as to get such a letter from there, accompanied by so nice a bottle of Nectar. (maple syrup). Surely, thought he, heavens blessing

PAGE # 39

& that was, that he had so much interest in the "realm of Bliss" as to get such a letter from there, accompanied by so nice a bottle of Nectar. (maple syrup). Surely, thought he, heavens blessings are nearer than when expected.

Our S.S.C, Spaulding, Allen, & Cummings of organization last evening & will hold another on Saturday the 15th of May next at 1 o'clock PM when you will be required to appear before this august council & answer to your name as Teacher in No. 4, &c

In distributing the Districts No 4 fell to my lot, quite to my satisfaction & if it disappoints you I hope you will not speak of it, as it would very much annoy me to know that I had an unwilling teacher under my care. I hear that your boarding place is the same, & I hope you will teach with the same success as last year. The laurels worn by a faithful teacher reflect great credit on on the Superintendent. It will be glory enough for me to recline under such a shade as you furnished last year, but you must feel that you are to work for that, even

PAGE # 40

harder than you did before trusting not to “lay in bed ‘til noon” on the credit of your last years labor. Indeed I have no fear of any such thing. You have proved yourself able & efficient, & I have no doubt you will sustain your character as such tho’ it may require great effort.

You must not trust in any king but the King of Glory. Relying upon your own prowess, put your trust in no earthly potentate & you will win a crown of glory far easier to wear & really better than the diadem of Victoria. Respects to you & yours &c S.C.

To Aurelia The S.S.C. have just entered upon the duties of their office, by making a distribution of the schools. The way we did this was to mark the numbers of the districts on slips of pasteboard, roll them up, put them into a hat, shake them up & draw them out one at a time alternately by lot. No 12 fell upon Jonah. You had better believe that it delighted him very much & if you are pleased there will be

PAGE # 41

joy to two at least & we never need care for the rest of the world so long as we are suited. The four that fell to my lot were very satisfactory.

No. 4. Miss Bliss of Royalston

No. 5. Hatty Holman of Marlboro

No. 8 Abby Rice of Richmond

No 12 'Rilla Stimson of Ashburnham.

four of the prettiest girls in the four towns that they represent.

Mother Davis has I resume, filled your head with all sorts of nonsense. Now I like a little sport myself when I have time, but certain important matters take all my tie at present & give me no opportunity to reply to the pile of unanswered letters that lie upon my table. You ask about corn, well boiled corn we have in abundance but "nothing more." About hats, I have a new Kosuth that is so homely, that no one can hide it. Nellys dog is the greatest specimen of doghood in town & so fond of sweets that he will crawl into the vest pocket, to get a sugar-plumb

PAGE #42

Hannah! poor Hannah! has retired from the City to weep away her grief in retirement. Don't pity the poor soul? I do. Who will she ask next? Our old cat has three kittens & the children think them among the seven wonders of the world, they are so smart & they have as much company as Victoria's litter of babies. They say one of them has even got his eyes open. Can teachers take a hint?

5th. Finest day of the spring & quite warm A trip to Templeton; interview with Miss Culling whose health is delicate Also with Dr. Spooner who says he kept school in No 3 in 1794 or 5 and boarded with Lieu. Brigham. His daughter was at home & very communicative & interesting.

6 Very beautiful hot day.

Jem Forristall agrees to take the Felch land.

7 Hot day & fair

8 Exceedingly hot. South wind at night. write Mrs. Parks

PAGE # 43

9 Fine day with fine shower after meeting Wright Stone calls to tell & runs me over on
Election.

Mr. Jenkins preaches from 2d Cor 7, 12 & reproaches his church severely.

10. Fine day throught except a foggy morn. Letter from Eliza.

11. Fair & warm B.W. Felch a daughter 6 o'c A.M. 7.th 14. oc Bad case of flooding.

12. Very Rainy all day. Juvenile concert in the evening.

13. Rainy day. Line from cousin Sarah just returned (on 10 th) from Wyoming PA

14. Storm continues, rains but little today Another Juvenile Concert this evening better
than the other. Line to Sarah

15. Storm continues. Not much rain. Examination of Teachers. M.B. Alexander, 2
Mary Abbi Adams, 3. Maria Mays, & Hatty Holman 5. Hannah Burbank 7. Abby Rice no. 3
Emogene Davis 9. Christy A. Brooks 10. Aurelia Stimson 12, All passed well but Miss Davis
who waes kept after school to finish recitations.

PAGE #44

16. Cloudy & damp most of the day

A Missionary preacher Stone of Concord, Benjamin in blossom

17. Willard Ballou a girl 5 m past 12 A.M.

Warm & sunshiny with clouds & a dash of rain in eve. Lonny Morses eldest son calls -- A Soph.
at Dartmouth.

18. Cold morn but a real fine day-- Medical meeting at Keene -- & women -- Moose Bush &
shad blossoms first seen

19. Fine & warm. Ploughing our farm

Ride to Westminster in con & walk 3 m to Uncle Joshua's to see Sarah, & find her hale &
Sound, but sick of the West

Spend the night, Dandelions in bloom

20. Return in first train Cold but fair

Degree meeting Stratton the 4th

21. Fine cool day. Planting potatoes

22. Fine. John S___ a girl 6 ¼ #, 9 o'clock am

23. Fine. Confined to house with sore eyes.

24. Fine Pump fixed. Corn planted, Dea Chaplin's Auction. Penny___ blossoms out.

PAGE # 45

25. Fine & warm. Cherry trees begin to blossom, & Appletree buds just shew color. Plant
watermelons

26. Fine & warm

27. Fine cloudy morn with small sprinkle of rain Apple blossoms out. Attend Chaplins auction
eve.

28. Fair & fine.

29. Fine day -- cold evening. E. Wilders first child a boy born 5 o'clock P.M.

~~May~~ June 3. Just returned from Concord having a fine time, fine ride, fine weather & a delightful
interview with old friend

Sprinkle of rain today. Very dry time. Letter from Hannah & Aunt Coon.

4. Fair & fine Hyman George's 1st Daughter 5 o'clock P.M.

5. Cold nights Dry, dry. Huldah here for night

Miss Rice & Davis ^ (teachers) call. Su Gibson Forristall who returned to town after 22 years
absence

6. Cold night with some frost. fair day with wind & cold evening Miller calls.

7. Cloudy day with sprinkles of rain

vis No4 with Agent.

PAGE # 46

8. Rainy gently. Plow for late potatoes

9. Pleasant. Books from Boston by Mutton John gr. Pay D. Putney for Manure \$15,00 being in
all \$35 for one years Manure

10. High winds cold & rough.

11. Cold morn; very much chilled with great coat on. Wind prevented frost.

12. Another cold morning. Visit Mrs. Horatio Newtons school. A very nice young school in the
N School house Mr. E. Roya-

Lston, when I taught 28 years ago. Frank Osborns 1st child a girl weighed 8#, born ½ past 10 o'c
P.M. Corn badly come up & very small & white.

13. Real warm & fine day.

14. Extremely hot & dry. Nancy Foster very ill. Chandler left today. Sarah Hayden & Roxana
Fossett taking care of her. Mrs. Gilman watches.

15. Shower in Boston & one down by John Damons with much thunder in the fore noon.

16. Hot as ever & hotter too but there is a cool breeze to keep us from

PAGE # 47

fainting. Write a note to Mrs. Park & the following to Eliza--

I have often thought I would write regularly to you let come what would, but some how or other, old time slips away so fast that I fear I have pulled his fore top all out.

Your last was gladly met at the P.O. & has been passed to your credit with an unanimous vote of thanks. I received a very nice letter too from your Mother on the 3d inst, which I suppose is to be set to you also. When shall I pay all these important debts? Well not while in so great a hurry as at present. You may wonder what upon earth is my rage at this healthy season? Well if I must tell I must! Last year there was great marrying in town, & as fate has it the seed was not sown on poor soil; the harvest to me is plenteous, requiring night work to secure the crop (such crops trouble you?) Bela Felches wife in 7 mo. Sybil George in less Susan Wilder in 9 mo & others in a longer time. *****

PAGE # 48

Nancy Foster is the sickest patient in town

worn out & nothing is left but a shadow & that a very thin one expecting momentarily to vanish.

The last 3 days have been intensely hot, & the change from cold to hot has been so sudden that every thing here languishes; men, women, & plants alike. It is also ^{^ so} very dry here, that the prospect of crops from the earth to feed the crop of children is very doubtful & dubious.

Lucy Stone has been ill of late requiring care & attention from aunt O. All our cousins & aunts are well & myself & father better than when last I wrote

George & Thomas Damon write that they are well & getting the yellow dust rapidly

Mary is in Lowell in a factory & George is still on the stage box.

The other day when I made my annual visit to Concord, by the way of Boston, I found Elizabeth out at Malden beautifully situated, healthy & happy, in a rural village, being above want from her own earnings-- Rupert says he has failed--

PAGE # 49

16 Write a rapid line to Sarah.

Very hot evning -- Treetoad in concert

Ladies meet at N Meeting house to make curtains.

17. Warm with clouds & a sprinkle of rain

Mrs. Henry Gibson thrown or rather jumped from a wagon & in consequence suffered from a compound and comminuted fracture of the tibia & fibula with bones projecting three inches. Called brother Miller for advice

[Written sideways along left margin] Centennial at Dublin

18. Fair & fine Mr Blaisdell here for night

Have written a line to Chandler Foster every day since Monday in relation to his sister

19. Very fine. Mary gave Dunton a boy --

20. Very fine. Dr. Leonard preaches for Brown

Chandler Foster with his sister.

21. Day fine & salubrious but getting dry again. Lightning in N. W. without thunder

Hoing corn & potatoes. Reading Abbotts Wm the Conqueror.

PAGE # 50

22. Two powerful showers & prospects of another during the night.

23. Cold morning -- fine day & fair but cool evening -- Dea Stones auction -- Capt Brewer purchaser of the building at \$600,00.

24. Very fine & Salubrious. Write Mrs C Foster of Nancy -- think her sinking--

25. Cool very cool for summer Windsor Fay Morse a girl 2 o'clock P.M. 6# 7oz.

26. Cold nights & mornings. Cool day, visit No. 3 with wife Viola &c, S visitors.

27. Fair & cool. Sprinkle in evening. Nancy Foster very low, not expected to survive the night.

28. Fine & warm. Line from & to C Foster

Esq Stone here for the night.

29. Fine & warm,

30. Fine & warm with a hard shower thunder &c

Nancy Foster dies at one o'clock. Chandler comes at 5 o'clock. Mrs Gibsons leg amputated between ten & eleven by Dr. Miller

Drs Bradley Bigby & Blackman present.

PAGE # 51

July 1. Warm & pleasant. Meeting of the Med C_____ Soc. at Fitchburg

A_____ by Dr Hitchcock, Large Meeting

Letters from Asenath Goodridge & Mrs J. C. Park. Shower in evening

2. Very nice day

3. Cool morning Miller amputates Mrs Carters arm. No. 10 closes in the forenoon with 26 u. 7.

Ts. No. 7 in the P.M. with 62 U. 11 Tm

4. Fine & warm. Ellis the Missionary for Jenkins & Kendall for Brown

See the fingers dissected from Mrs Carters dead arm. Maria Clark in town

5. Real nice day. Attend celebration in Winchendon -- very nice time D.I. Moull Esq orator--

Very nice Singing by Collister & his band of Singers. Schools out

Audience estimated at 2,500.

Fosters Auction -- sells Nancy's furniture-- buy a Looking glass for its antiquity-- Roy and

Fossett here for the night

Write Mrs Park. Boys have fire works this evening. Celebrate at Bellows Falls

PAGE # 52

6. Fair & bright. Hoeing corn--

7. Fair & very hot finish hoeing & begin haying.

8. Hot & dry. Symptoms of shower towards night that failed altogether

9. Hot, hot, hot -- Hay coming in very light. A cloud came up in the W just before sundown portending a shower-- but went off N. & furnished a large amount of heat lightning. Severe weather for the limbless women.

10. Another hot day No. 1 & 9 examined

No. 1 interesting & No 9 dull.

11. Hot, but more air. Stowell preaches for baptists.

12. Fine warm hay day; get in two horse loads with Dick

13. Cloudy morning-- slight showers

No. 12 closes with great credit and crowns Miss S. with glory.

Carry a load of 10 with two horses & forget my friend H.S.H., which gave me much trouble.

PAGE # 53

14. Cloudy & rainy in showers

Wind S.W. No. 3 examined & Mary A Adams crowned with glory. 70 visitors. Dr. B. from R. J.
leaves this morning.

15. Fine & Salubrious. Visit No. 5 with Miss Stinson & Mrs Davis. school very small. Letter
from Eliza Williams.

16. Good hay day, got in three horse loads.

Send a box to Miss Alvord.

Concert at old meeting house.

17. Cloudy day. Dry storm-- Examination of No. 2. Splendid affair, closed up by a supper at
Charles Perrys to 9 teachers Mr Brown & several others

The first of the kind ever furnished by a School Agent. The teachers that partook of the treat
were as follows

M. B. Alexander

Sarah Gage

Viola Spaulding

Abby Rice

Mary Abby Adams

Amelia Stevenson

Sarah J Reed

Chrysty_____ Brooks

Laura Whittemore

Two more were at the

examination

Loisa Springer & Addie Butcher

PAGE # 54

Letters from John Reed & Dr. Ballou.

18. Pleasant & Cooler. Nice day.

19. Fine hay day-- Peirce's boy fell from wagon & broke his arm

Geo Ellis's Boy kicked in the neck & cut off a large vein

Mrs Smith ? comes to town

20. Fair & fine

21. Fine & hot-- Letter from Levi G Hill.

Call on Mrs. C. Smith, at D.D.

22. Exceedingly hot & dry. Called to East Jaffrey in cons. with O. H. Bradley

23. Fine but cooler. M. Gilmores school closes No. 6. Jaffrey 20 visitors at close

17, during term & 18 scholars. Very nice ex^{am} indeed-- 6 from this town 3 teachers

Only one of their teachers Dr Richardson very low, His daughter Mary Rider there for the night.

24. Hot & fair Wright Stones auction I.W. buys June Damon comes home from Wisconsin

having been absent two weeks

25. Nice comfortable airy day Attend meeting

26. Very nice rain. The ground was very dry. Brooks stopped running &

PAGE # 55

pastures were very much dried up.

27. Fair fine & salubrious. No. 8. closes with a splendid pick nick 122 visitors

11 teachers present

28. Fine. No. 4. closes, 100 visitors.

Miss Johnson & Sister here fm Chesterfield

29. Warm clouds up & sprinkles in the evening with thunder. Miss Stimson & Rice leave town.

Still times-- Miss the girls very much. Mrs Burbank operated on for a supposed cancer, just
below the right eye.

30. Real fine cool & salubrious day. Write to Aurelia.

31. Fine day- cool evening-

Aug. 1. Real fine-- cool evening-- Tinney of Jaffrey preaches John 3 ch 70. Joe Pages girl hurt.

2. Fine day but cool evening; Letter to Eliza

Dearest I have been in such a whirl

of business lately as to preclude all attention to my own affairs but I do not forget you or your
other half in your far off Jersey home. I see you

PAGE # 56

wandering over the ruins of past time treading in the paths once trod by our immortal
Washington; & how I should like to be the companion of those rambles-- but no I am chained to
an endless round of professional visits, deal-
ing out Pierce, Bitters, pills, plasters, lotions & binding up severed limbs, broken bones, & cuts
& ulcers. So it is & so it must be for the present at least. All well here now-- children at school--
wide in the wash tub, & maid looking on or doing light chores

Cousins all well-- Geo. Damon, recently from California, gallanting his ladie love about
town with great glee *** Our School examinations are off with a rush this year ; Last week at
No. 8. we had 122 visitors. The school house was decorated with a great deal of taste & the
exercises were of a high order

When the examination was over the Marshall of the day led us into a nice pretty bower
built in the Felch orchard, to a table set out with all

PAGE # 57

the luxuries that we can read of in the geography; a table that would have done honor to any 4th of July celebration, where we partook of a Collation rich & refreshing furnished by the ladies of the district. A large & splendidly ornamented cake was presented to the S. S. Committee & another smaller one to the teacher accompanied by addresses prepared for the occasion. Some very brilliant speeches were made but the whole matter was so unexpected that many were struck dumb with astonishment. On the whole this was the greatest school examination ever furnished in town & will immortalize the name of Abby Rice in district No. 8. The next day No. 4. was examined with about 100 visitors, many of whom were obliged to stay outside the house, & some tall speeches were made through the windows. Truly there is nothing here like our school examinations. Would that you could be here to see. The teacher in 4 is the same

PAGE # 58

Miss Bliss that the King raced after last winter, but he is off at Athol in a door & blind shop & has not been here to see the glory or share the Bliss. *** Father is well & has done the best part of his haying himself, with a little help from our bags. ** D. Davis & Aunt Martha Geo. &c do not set horses together or come within speaking distance at present-- How unpleasant! Lydia & Mary are quite unwell & L is really dangerous with ulcers in the stomach. William is at home & John in N.Y. city expecting Mary in two weeks. -- Our respects-- --adieu

3. Fair with cool eve. Line from Wm Maynard on the death of his father who died July 29th of Hydrothorax. Taken in March. Write a line to aunt Sully. Capt Howe taken ill at Brattleboro Sabbath morn, came home today quite poorly.

4. Cloudy threatening showers but all dry ones. Capt Howe quite ill

5. Fine rain in night-- cloudy forenoon Firs up in afternoon, Mr Bent a boy.

PAGE # 59

7. Cloudy day with some rain in the afternoon. Mr Dana Locke falls from a load of hay

8. Nice & fair Burnham preaches. Peacock f____ Baptists. Dr Richardson dies at 2 o'clock PM after a lingering illness [in pencil] 86 year

9. Cloudy A.M. F____ P.M. Dea. Reed calls James Farrar & wif & Mona Mayo call in evening.

Have read Abbot's Cyrus & Darius & am now reading Xerxes's.

9. Cloudy & fair by turns & quite warm

Corn for boiling brought in by Mrs Jenkins. Dea Reed & wife call. Dine at aunt Damon's with aunt Osborn & aunt Anna Collins, Mr Bowker & wife & Lucy came after dinner.

Send a small book to Aurelia; -- receive a letter from her also. Get the life of Kossuth from Middlebury -- a present from Julia A. Dyar, daughter of my old friend Harriet Tylor. Line to Sarah Account of School examinations in No. 8. & No. 4. Ext. ** " We have been toold long time ago that our Golden Age of schools

PAGE # 60

had come & that we should soon be down with the rest of the world -- but the examinations of this year have shown results almost double to any previous year.” ***

11. Fine day with some clouds. Tho. Whittemore a boy born 10 m past 10 o’c. Weight 8# 6oz

Letter from Sarah. Keniah Cook died yesterday or day before. Letter to Aurelia.

12. Very nice day. Mrs Kendall & Miss Robertson fm Malden School call & take tea. Went into No. 5. schools with them.

13. Real nice day -- quite hot at noon-- & cooler at eve. Mr. Peacock [k added in pencil] & wife calls Dr Miller & his Blackmore also & nothing more.

14. Hot & dry. Cousin Sarah disappointed as went to Depot three times for her -- line to C.H. Webster.

15. Hot & dry-- small sprinkle-- Temperance lecture by the Amphious -- Reading Abbotts Alexander.

16. Fine & cool but dry-- vegetation fruits & berries suffering very much -- Sarah comes at 10 o’c-- letter from N. Slone with

PAGE # 61

a draft of \$400,-

17. Nice & warm, but dry as dust

Sarah the teethache-- Geo. Damon & Mother call-- Mrs Milne very low.

18. Fine hot & dry-- Sewing circle at H H Wheelers carry Sarah there-- she rode to see Huldah White in the forenoon-- Line to Dr Adams Get stores money -- Ross refuses to take it because too dark to find the note.

19. Hot & Dry, Dryer than ever-- The skye has a "sickly glare"-- & the whole earth seems turning to sand. --Horses wade through sand as if thro' snow.

Lydia Milne Died today aged 32x3 from ulcers in the stomach-- she left a babe weighing 3#, 15oz a daughter born about 7 o'clock A.M. & she died at 5 o'clock P.M. Josiph Gage in town.

20. Strong symp^s of rain. Thunder in morning & cloudy all day with a little dash in the morn.

Mary Wheeler here for the night. Library Meeting. Vote in Zenobin Probes &c.

PAGE # 62

21. Cloudy & fair by turns. Lydia's Funeral

Jane here-- Tea at C. C. Carters-- Books from Boston-- Line to Hannah

22. Fair & warm. Wells all drying up. Preacher from Lunenburg.

23. Fine warm & dry-- J.T. Collins a Boy 8 o'clock A.M. wt 6# 14oz. All well pleased. Sarah ride to

Ann Wilsons-- A.W. Gowing Mr. Ben. Whiles, Harvey Plott's &c &c

Mr Stowell calls = fitting out a bundle to Miss Rice the Teacher -- Reading Abbotts Alfred

Much pleased with Abbotts books-- a child born--^{Roxana Powers}

24. Foggy morn-- Fair & hot-- Sarah leaves for Newport to stop a while with Henry-- Mrs.

Kimball leaves for Charlestown-- Line to Nathan Stone. Fire in woods near Depot.

25. Cloudy day-- began to sprinkle about four o'clock & to rain in earnest about seven & is now

raining very nicely at 9 o'clock P.M. Nothing new has come up today worth naming-- Reading Peep

at No. 5. Mrs. Seward was here for a few days as resident patient.

PAGE # 63

26. To Aunt Kuhn.

I have just found a moments time to tell you a few things that have come to pass in the land of your forefathers. Lydia Milne died last Thursday aged 32y-- of ulcers in the stomach -- leaving a poor little untimely infant, ten hours old. She had been ill a long time & unable to take anything into her stomach without vomiting it for many weeks-- she was reduced to a skeleton.

The family was very much distressed at the loss of her, & I too am sad; for she was one of my pets from early childhood-- She suffered exceedingly for years of her life & I trust is gone to a more genial clime.

On Monday morn, J.T.C. had a fine boy of 7#s added to his family. No event in the whole history of my experience ever gave greater joy to a family circle, than this to his; nor was my joy much less than his, for on him alone, thus far, hangs the Collins name--

PAGE # 64

may he live to do it great honor. Thus the world is ever a _____ of mingled sorrow & joy,
sunshine & shower, pleasure & pain. Well for us it is so! We could never endure uninterrupted
pleasure or pain. So constituted are we, that a healthy action of our systems requires reverses,
losses, sufferings to be mixed with our prosperity & happy are we if we can profit by them.

Another change. Roxana Powers, tho' a widow has become a mother (babe born on
Monday last) without the benefit of Clergy or Medicine. Report says that the offspring belongs to
Wm Dunton & also that she refuses to let the babe call him pa in conse-
quence of Drunkenness, discovered after the deed was done. But the facts in the case are not yet
developed. ***

26. Cloudy morn after a rainy night fairs off about 10 o'c A.M., fine P.M. Church meeting on
Mr. Howells acct,-- Paid Jude Damon \$60, Last note of my own

PAGE # 65

27. Cloudy with nice sprinkles & quite a shower towards night with a brilliant rainbow & some distant thunder. Paid for the N.H. Sentinel & received a Receipt,-- Tremendous shower in S. part of town

28. Cloudy & fair by turns, quite warm & sultry

Call on Mr Town about aqueduct. Examine Mary E. Spalding for No 11. Letter from cousin Sarah. Hard days work

29. A rainy sabbath. Call on J. T. C.

30. Cloudy with some sprinkles of rain

Mr. Stowell calls & gives an account of his adventures with William Dunton in relation to Mrs. Powers babe; how he secured the payment of \$100,

31. Fair & fine Mr. Perry here sawing wood

Sept. 1 To Sarah You cannot imagine how much I miss you-- The very roads where we have been look gloomy in regard to your departure, nor did I know how much I _____ your company & converse until your loss is felt by your absence. *** An old maid came in after you left to receive Hospital, or

PAGE # 66

hospitable attendance. She is tall as the hay-pole, thin as a shadow, coarse featured
clear eyed, hard spoken, & full of freckles.

I thought to describe her, but I give up in despair for it is beyond my power **

Saturday we examined a Teacher in our office four hours as usual, tho' she was as
quick as thought & answered like lightning all she knew, & when she did not know, she said so
as quick. *

Her name was Mary E. Spalding from Glover Vt. aged 21 years & had taught six terms.

That Saturday was a hard day for me, having patients here from Winchendon Winchester
Ridge & Jaffrey besides visiting two of those towns & neglecting some of my patients at home. I
had a very easy time while you was here companied with the "common run" at this season of the
year. ** The "Great Wedding" is to come off on Monday next at one o'clock P.M. in a bower &c. I
have a part assigned me to address the congregation after the knot is tied by the Rev Mr. Brown,

PAGE # 67

one hundred invitations are given out, besides the immediate friends and neighbors invited by word of mouth. My Father is of the invited guests but some doubt if he goes. Perhaps you will be looking this way about that time to see if there is a cap on Monadnoc. By the way can you see him? Do tell of cousin Woods, of the place, of the people & especially of your brothers deacons if you please. Have now but just finished the peep at No. 5, & looked into the Cyclopedia of Xenophon--

Those conversations are too long winded for me to read over now. I read them all over when a boy & was well pleased; but the day of Military glory has gone by & such dissertations have become stale. But regards to H & Mary &c

Sept. 1. Fair & fine- One of the most delightful mornings that ever shone. Sarah Squares called & dined & left in the 5 o'clock train-- Sweeping meeting house

2. Fine & hot Took the Oaths of office as a J_____

PAGE # 68

Sept 3. Cloudy & shiney hot day Mrs. Knowlton calls. Visit Roxana Powers.

Whitewashing house letter from Aurelia

4. Fair & fine-- Call on Mrs D. Rice & p_____ facts in relation to the first settlers.

5. Fine & cool. Nothing interesting.

6. Finest kind of a day-- Lucy Bowkers married to Geo. Damon & the greatest weding ever in
town 200 guests--

Married by Mr. Brown in a bower built for the purpose near the old house. S. of the same. Mr D.
Stowell Marshall of the day. The Couple went to Cambridge in the 5 o'clock train in company
with Mr. Rice & wife.

All the relations on both sides present Mr. May, Mr. Napum Howe & wife J. Y. Allen & J. Y.

Allen Jr. & Many others

More than 100 attended them to the Depot. Cephas & Zenas Whittemore came to town with their
families Wm Farmer & wife & Mr Josiah Whittemore were here before.

7. Fine nice & hot day. Passman Phuttiptacy

PAGE # 69

_____ a boy 15 months old died at one o'clock P. M. of Cholera Infantium

Rode to Richmond centre with J. E. Carter to see a Mortified limb & called on Abby Rice, heroine of No. 8. Line to Ch^sG. Burnham of Royalton Vt. Line to brother J. D. Perkins.

8. Extremely hot & fair. Nothing new

Funeral of the child. H Elizabeth gone to a Concert at Winchendon with a company

Line from Sarah Marble Squares.

9. Hot & fair. At Winchendon to consult Dr. Godding in the case of Mrs Benson White.

10. Cloudy with sprinkles. Marry William Dunton to Roxana Powers at 2 o'clock P.M. Scotchman at

N. Sabins a boy at ½ past 12 o'clock A.M. 10#. [Unidentified symbol in left-hand margin]

Mr. McKean from Nova Scotia.

11. Cloudy day. Seven rain about 5 o'clock P.M. Aunt Kuhn & husband came to town last night. Two sheets of letter from Cousin Sarah. Mr Stowell called in the evening, & chatted of Olmstead & Smith.

PAGE # 70

12. Sept. Rainy Sabbath-- but few people out.

13. Fair & cooler. Letter from Burnham & from Hannah To Sarah

You wish to hear of the Wedding, what girl of your age does not? Should not I like to hear of yours? Well then a few minutes after 1 o'clock on Monday the 6th inst. wife & I drove our black pony in rapid haste up to Mr Bowkers door & found the whole yard barricaded with wagons buggies chaises & coaches drawn there by one, two, three & four horses carrying from two to twelve passengers each. After seven toil we succeeded in elbowing our way into the large brick house, where we found a wilderness of human beings, many of whom were our cousins of the 1st 2nd & 3rd degree. Such a "wide wide world" of people old, young, & middle aged; of all classes, orders & denominations from this town & Troy were never seen at a wedding before Very soon we were called by the Marshall (Rev. D. Stowell) to take our part in the procession, which was formed in manner

PAGE # 71

& Form following vis. First the pupils of No. 9. led by the Agent Mr Keith & the teacher Miss Eliza Gage Next followed the common citizens two & two, man & wife, brother & sister, father & daughter, friend & lover as the case might be

After these came distinguished individuals the Clergy Lawyers Doctors &c, among whom were myself & wife, between A. A. Parker Esq & Dr Whitney of Troy. After these came the Unit-

arian choir & then the relatives of the Bride & Groom in one long row. This long line was led out towards Troy until fully formed, when the Marshall required the column to open ~~on~~^{to} the right & left while he countermarched the whole line through itself ~~until~~ to the end, & then marching to the entrance of the bower, did the same again until he came to the relatives of the hymenial pair, marching them in first followed by the singers, then the speakers, the citizen & finally the pupils

This bower was situated at the S. end of the old paternal mansion; was one hundred feet long & twenty five feet wide. The walls were of the American larch standing thickly together & the covering was of white birch. At the entrance stood

PAGE # 72

stood a table 50 feet long loaded with provisions & fruits of various kinds for a picknick dinner. Ten feet from the further end of the table & facing it was placed an old settle with a back six feet high, defaced by time & the rude fingers of many an urchin, which was brought from Scituate in 1780 & was moved into the house nearby on the m^{em}orable dark day the 19th of May. On each side of this ancient relict was placed three ancient chairs, borrowed from various parts of the town & in front of these one more ancient still, in which was seated the officiating clergyman. Between these & the table was ranged two modern sofas & other chairs to accommodate the more immediate relatives of the pair as well as the speakers singers &c

All around by the walls of the bower was a row of seats for the audience in general. As soon as all were seated the choir began a festal song & the Marshall led in the bridal pair & suit consisting of three bridesmaids & as many

PAGE # 73

groomsmen,-- placing them ^{^ standing} directly in front of the cushioned settle & ancient chairs.

As the song closed the Rev. J. S. Brown arose & went over the marriage ceremony in a solemn & impressive manner whilst all around was profound stillness. This was followed by an appropriate prayer ~~by~~^{^from} the Rev. Mr. Dalrymple. * As soon as the ceremony was over the Marshall introduced Mr. Damon & wife to the audience generally & some of the nearest friends & most distinguished indi-

viduals shook hands with them & salut-

ed the bride with a holy kiss. Another song was then sung & the picknick dinner

immediatly followed. (To be continued) (William H Dalrymple.)

14th. Cool fair day summoned to Keene by Olmsted,

15 Cloudy with some rain -- fairs off towards night

Aunt Coon & hus. dine here with aunt Osborn

Tea at aunt Collins-- Spend the night at Dana Davises & go home tomorrow

16. Cool but pleasant. Mrs Jenkins in convulsion

PAGE # 74

17. Cool & fine. At Keene on the Olmsted matter. Mrs Jenkins confined of a dead child 3# 1
oz. girl. between 9 & 10 P.M. B.B. Davidsons boy dies

18. Fine comfortable day. Write Ed Farrar.

X [added in pencil in left hand margin]

19. Lovely morning & very nice day. Reading Life of Frank Pierce by Hawthorne.

20. A very nice day. Harvey Plath died at 1 o'clock A.M. Dined with Robert Brooks

21. Cloudy with sprinkles. Letter to Bill. PP. Good, Norton, Putnam & Miss Rice of R. Ride
round square with Frank Whittimore. Says seal & milk at night cures her cough. Olmsted
defeated by disagreement of the jury once more

22. To Sarah continued from the 13th inst.

This dinner consisted 1st of a round of crackers & cheese brought to us by waiters provided &
trained for the occasion. The 2nd round was nutcakes & cheese (& good cheese too); then
followed sponge cake, plumb cake & a great variety of others, of whose name & quality I am
ignorant. then followed the Wedding cake, a generous slice nicely wrapped in white paper, acco-

PAGE # 75

mpanied with the card as usual on such occasions. After this came apples raisins &c &c. When the eating was over the speeches followed, each speaker introduced to the company by the Marshall.

First we had the history of the family as far back as tradition could trace it, there being but few records to date from. Then came an address from A. A. Parker Esq upon the subject of Matrimony in general interspersed with a few particular anecdotes

He was followed by J. J. Allen Esq on the dignity of labor & the adventures of the bridegroom in California &c. The concluding remarks were by the master of the ceremonies, who was the first born of the first child of Mr. Bartlett Bowker, the founder of the present Bowker Family. Among other topics he took up the history of the old settle & a saw that hung on it, that had been the property of the great, great grandfather of the bride; having descended in regular gradation from father to son as an heirloom in the family. Here then

PAGE # 76

it hung, ornamented with a blue ribbon as a fit adornment to grace a wedding of the fifth generation. The speaker said he hoped it would be kept & used at weddings of the thirtieth generation as a fit emblem of the mechanical character of the family. The exercises were closed by the whole company singing Old Hundred.

We then returned to the house & in a long cavalcade of carriages escorted the new made man & wife to the JM Depot, where they took passage with his sister Rice & husband for their residence in Cambridge Mass. so much for the wedding

They returned on Saturday of the same week in good health & spirits, but the next day being rainy, their bridal appearance out was on the 19th instant at the Unitarian church. Was not present myself tho' invited.

On Friday of the same week wife & I drove up to house in the S. part of town where a couple with bridesmaid & groomsman (Mr. Thomas Forristall & wife) presented themselves

PAGE # 77

whilst I went over the marriage ceremony & pronounced them man & wife with very much less
fuss than the others had whose wedding I have just detailed. Wife & I not very well &
children at school as usual.

**Med prescription for Sarah. &c

22. Cooler & quite windy. Letter to Sarah. Ill with a cold.

23. Fine with some wind S. S. Willard here at work on stable potato bin &c. Get in beans.

24. Fine with a few clouds. Line to Mary Aug-

usta Putnam Cate Smith a still born boy.

25. Cloudy day, sun not seen & strong signs of a storm. Meet Godding at Burbank's

Line to Dr Ballou, Also receive one from aunt Martha & answer it -- Ben Fisk's white horse
killed at Depot by running onto the cars. --Mrs Bryant fits--

26. Rained after 12 last night quite free until morning, & a very little in the morning

Cloudy forenoon. Fair afternoon as ever. shone. Joseph Gage a girl at 3 o'clock P.M. 9#

PAGE # 78

27th Pleasant & fine but quite cool Merriams auction. Rob. Brooks a girl ½ past 3 PM 10#.

Thadde's birth day 10th.

28. Rain in night, cloudy AM. fair PM.

Examination of schools in No. 5.

29. Fair & fine. Mr Joel Perham here diging potatoes

Letter from Dr Ballou. Cattle fair at Keene

30. Fine day. Letter from Anna Maria Newton

Digging potatoes-- very fine, the best I ever raised. Line to Dr. Ballou.

& several to Superintendent of Schools

Aunt Osborn returns from Boston.

Oct. 1. Fine day with clouds occasional. Great Cattle Shew. Common filled with all sorts & sizes
of people, from various quarters. J. S. Adam Marshall. A very fine exhibition of the fruits of ind-
ustry.

2. Very fine day Line from Dr. Barstow

3. Superb day, clouds up in the eve & sprinkles a little. Lucy Damon ill.

4. Rainy but warm Rill. detained from Winchester by the rain

Line from Sarah. Library director meet.

PAGE # 79

5. Nice fair day, some wind-- Mrs. Rosilla Wyman, brought to town for an internal war in the Orthodox Church. The opposition meet this evening at C. C. Carters.

6. Cloudy forenoon, fair afternoon

Line from Fisk- Dublin.

7. School Ass. at Winchester Rode over with 20 Ladies. Fine day as ever was known

8. Cloudy. Chaplins Auction

9. Cloudy. Line to Eliza. More auction

10. Cloudy & rainy. Henry Barbash a boy 3 o'clock AM

11. Fine & warm Ambrose Spaulding a girl half past 10 o'clock A.M. 8# 4oz. Nothing new.

12. Beautiful morning; cloudy afternoon

13. Fair & nice. Brooks & Whitney get inspired in mill.

14. Cloudy & cold. Line from A _____ th Alvord

David Stowell expelled from the Church.

15.. Collins making bitters Rain & snow,

16. Fair & cloudy by turns & quite cold; ground frozen.. Inn White closed

Examine Miss Dow, a spunky lad from Ashburnham Mass.

PAGE # 80

17. Cloudy with snow at night

David Stowell Rev. that was, publicly expelled from the Orthodox Church for not paying for preaching & for attending other meetings, vis the Baptist.

18. Cloudy. Getting out Maneur. Line from Dr Ballou & write him & Maria. David Taft moving off goods. No. 8 & 12 begin

Settle with Dea. Chaplin.

19. Fair & foul by turns. Examine Miss H M Bliss.

20. Fine but cool. Building front fence

School Ass. arraigned for the season. Had 15 bushels nice potatoes 40 baskets of corn & 7 ½ bushels turnips & ^{half a bushel} beans. Jo. Gage & family b__

21. Fine cold day. Farmers taking in their corn rapidly. Cuz. Anna Burbank very ill--Flooding--
Adieu to Catharine Smith

22. Very fair & very nice day. Willard lathing the gable of the garitt

23. Strattons auction Fine day. Visit No. 12. Eat nuts & raisins at Cheney Davis.

PAGE # 81

24. Beautiful evening after a fine day

Write to Geo. P. Haine & Mary Haine.

25. Nicest day out. Miss Stinson & her kinsman no woman Miss Whittemore call & eat nuts--

Fix our pig pen under the barn. Dr. Willard here & Ahial. Aunt Hulda White also. Line from Sarah E. Johnson of Chesterfield.

26. Fine day; cool eve. Hear the Hutchinsons sing in our old Meeting House to a crowded audience. Set out cherry trees by the brook N.E. of the house

27. Fine day & splendid evening. Saw Almeda at Charles Carters

Fred. had a letter from George Haines. Dated Lowell Oct 25. He has been there two months.

28. Cloudy morn-- fine afternoon & evening

Pratts auction-- Letter from Eliza

Write to Eliza

My promise was made in an ungrounded moment thinking of leisure & better times to pen ones thoughts-- But such times

PAGE # 82

seldom come to me, so in the middle of hurry, bustle & confessions I must sketch to you that blessed day.

A brighter morning never dawned on "the old Granite state", than was that of my forty ninth birth day. The object was the Annual Meeting of the Cheshire Co. Common School Association at Winchester. At half past six o'clock A.M. I mounted my coach drawn by four stout horses, driven by Mr. David Putney of the Livery Stable. I was attended by twenty young ladies seated around the sides & end of the carriage, all facing the centre, & in that centre seated on a chair sat this same friend of yours, with forty bright eyes, radiant in smiles beaming upon him in all the lustre of girlish fun & frolick. Nature was now dressed in her richest coat of many colors, & the sun just rising above the eastern horizon shed over all a radiance that can be imagined, but never described.

PAGE # 83

These ladies were many of them teachers & all interesting & interested in this fourteen
mile ride over hill & dell

dressed in such gorgeous mantles
of every color invented or discov-
ered since Adam.

Before us rode the Rev. D. S. in his coach with four, behind us was another holding fourteen, &
following that others with from two to five occupants numbering in all sixty souls escorting the
poor pres. to the meeting. The girls of our load were mostly singers & as we passed such
scenery they could not help indulging themselves in song.

And such singing! Women & girls filled the doors of the houses as we passed; Men &
boys in the fields drop-
ped their hoes & cickles standing aghast as we passed, wondering doubtless what great event
would happen next.

We drove moderately along stopping at Richmond to drink the pure water of the town
pump & eat a few apples

PAGE #84

bought at the P.O. The only public house in R. ^{^center} except a miserable store

We drove into W. in one long cav-

alcade in time to begin precisely at ten o'clock as named in the notice. Of the meeting we have not time nor space to speak, it may be found in the county papers.

Surfice it to tell that we rode home as we went in the midst of songs fun, frolic, nuts raisins, maple sugar, Checkerberry Lozenges, conundrums, thoughts & jokes, some of which were prepared beforehand by the girls & others the spontaneous groth of the time & the occasion; all of which made it one of the richest & rarest specimens of enjoyment ever dug up in the region round about Monadnoc. We all landed safe & sound in our village at half past eight o'clock in the evening, tired enough for a good rest. So unexpected was our number to the people of W'r that they were obliged to make

PAGE # 85

extra efforts to feed us all-- but they did it & did it up right.

List of the big load, weight &c;

Mrs D. G. Carter 97 97

" F Adda Batcheller	114 ½		
Miss Masenda Bryant	121		
" Elizabeth Bigelow	112		2092 ½
" Lucy Ellen Bryant	109	" Hannah Howe	125
" Cynthia Whittemore	98		
" Hannah Burbank	120		2217 ½
" Elvia Gage	121	Weight of Ladies	2217 ½
" Ann Huntin	113	Myself	172 ½
" Franc Wales	125	Mr Putney driver	165
" S. June Reed	107		
" Mary A. Adams	110	Weight of our load	2555 (22)
" Franc Whittemore	112	Pierces load	1491 (12)
" Georgiana Whittemore	105	Stowells	500 (3)
" Mary Jane Whittemore	93	Spaffords	230 (2)
" Mary Burbank	112	Perham Damons	225 (2)
" Stone	114		
" Julia A. Spaulding	103		5001 (41)
" Cate Fullum	106		

The Silas Cummings Diary

Transcribed by Mia Callahan Morin, Benjamin Strakalaitis, Colin Meehan, Graham Warder,
Grace Martin

PAGE # 85 [Continued]

The above is an estimated weight of the company together at Richmond taken from last weighing

Others joined the cavalcade before we reached Winchester so that we numbered about 60
souls that went in together.

PAGE # 86

We are all now (thank God). quite well-- Cousin Anna Burbank has been quite ill during the past week. On Thursday she lay at deaths door, without pulse more than half the day. (flooding from false conception) She is now convalescing.

Aunt O. has taken Arno Simonds & wife, who moved there yesterday.

Night before last we had the Hutch-
inson family at a Concert in our N. meeting house which interested a crowd-
ed audience. Dull business to me.

Wife has just mounted upon her nose her first spectacles & sits quite impor-
tant by the fire mending socks, & listening to the long yarns of old Hulda who is now here on a
visitation.

Thanks for your blessed nice little letter picked up at the P. O. as I came in from Lodge
meeting. It did me more good than a gold dollar & here I am at 12 o'clock at night answering the
blessed little epistle. By the way had a line yesterday from Geo. Haine

PAGE # 87

saying that he & Mary were well

They are both living in Lowell.

*** The quarrel in the Orthodox church grows hotter & hotter, but I do not yet take interest in the matter. In marrying Eliza Mr. Jenkins mar-

ried my good will if not my aid in the quarrel. E. had grown up with & among us to be one of our favorite teachers. Why should I injure one so near & dear to her. ****

29. Cloudy & shiney by turns with a dash of rain in the evening.

Ajs. meet in No. 9. Trouble in the Dis. which was drawn into the meeting

Address by J. J. A Esq. good & Essays first rate. Carry Aurelia.

30. Rainy all day. Paint kitchen & study

No letter from any live person.

31. Rainy day & nothing interesting

Granma Saunders very ill.

Nov. 1. Cloudy with some rain-- Wm. Pratt a daughter ½ past 5 PM 8#

2. Rainy-- Town meeting-- Miss Bliss qualified fr No. 4.

PAGE # 88

Nov. 3. Clears off in the night warm but grows cold during the day with high winds & some clouds

Mr Stickney from Charlestown Mass. calls. Qualify Mr. Stowell for school teaching. News comes that Frank Pierce is elected President.

4. Fine day. Calafornia Panorama here

Letter from Eliza. 2nd Anti Slavery lecture by Rev. Mr. Foster.

5. Cloudy with snow air. Painting Apothecary. Note to Mr. Marvin.

6. Cloudy with rain in evening.

Nehemiah Adams auction.

7. Rainy morning-- fair afternoon.

Funeral of Milton Byam, who died at Boston. McManus lay out through the rain last night & was found nearly dead at 9 o'clock this morning.

8. Cloudy with a few shine-- Great hen-killing in the village-- open an abcess on Kate Fulcrums face-- Chaplins auction. 'Rill has an evening school.

Everett Carter saws his thumb.

PAGE # 89

9. Cloudy with snow in the evening

Ride round the S. pond with Miss A. Cutting. Sons of Temperance forming in town. R.

Stratton leaves with his family amid a shower of tears. The little girl promises to write me.

10. Fair & warm Joe Page a boy 8# 8oz. 4 o'clock P.M.

Meet Miller at Sim Merifield jrs. Loammi Underwood saws his hand at M. Gregory's

11. Cloudy morn, but fine Thanksgiving day. Call on Aunt Osborn in morning. Father dines with us-- Call on the remnant of the Felch family in evening = Olive & Mary alone with the two children of Lydia-- A sober Thanksgiving to them.

12. Very rainy day until night when it cleared up & is very fine overhead but mud, mud, mud below.

Dedecation in No. 2. Fine address by Rev. Mr Marvin of Winchendon. A full house despite the going & two large teams were out.

PAGE # 90

13th. Nov. 52. Cloudy day, looking like snow

Broke tire from wheel near Geo Ellis's

Examined C. May jr. of Gilsome- for upper school. A bevy of nice pretty girls hovered around the examination. Mary Abby-- Minna-- Lucy Ellen-- Mary Stone & others.

14. Snows nearly all day with occasi-

al shines-- Attend Sabbath School Concert

Subject the parable of the sower-- Some very nice compositions-- Prayers by W. Dana Locke, John Kimball, Dexter Whittemore & A. Jenkins.

15. Cold & cloudy most of the day with now & then a bright shine. Bottle of new cider from Asenath Alvord. Send for a Charter for Sons of Temperance

16. Cloudy windy & cold. Wind down in the evening & more mild

Run in to Mr. Brown this eve & find them in a circle with Mary Ann Ripley of Concord, the School Teacher & Mary Parker in the circle telling conundrums-- The one under consideration was this

PAGE # 91

“My first syllable is something used on the table & on the floor -- My second a kind of grain & the remainder a thing that is loved by all.” My whole is one of the U.S.”

17. Nice & fair-- Papers from Asenath.

18. Fair & warm Mr. Davis birth day Letter Calista Ann Streter. Sip ^{^pond} frozen ^{^over}

19. Cloudy with a sprinkle of snow. Sarah calls on her way home to Thanksgiving

Crowded house at the School Ass. in No. 8. Aurelia did it up brown like she always does.

20. Cloudy day, grows cooler.

21. Fair cold & windy. Ferguson here for the Colporteurs. Attend meeting all day & sit with Sarah in the eve.

22. Cloudy. Begins to snow half past 9. o’c P.M. = School Ass. in No. 12. Sarah attends with me.

^{Rev.} Mr. Britton of Richmond attends. Too long was the Paper. Platts Auction

Invite to Mr Ds Donation.

23. Mild Snow Storm. Sleighs out. Damon & Farrars Auction Sons choose officers,

PAGE # 92

Spaulding visits Aurelia & says hard things & She comes home crying.

Call & eat goose with J. T. He sends off the first key of bitters. Eat breakfast with Davis -- dinner
with Collins -- & supper with Howe (Nelson) (Sons met at my office)

24. Fair & cold. Sarah leaves. ^{^Dalrymples Donation} J. T. C. another Fit. Letter from G. P. Haines,

25. Fine & warm afternoon after a cool morn, One of the nicest days & evenings ever out for
Thanksgiving. Mr May & Spaulding call in the evening, eat apples & discuss politics & schools.

26. Prospects of foul weather Write Sarah 5 o'clock

What a pity to have you lay sleeping away the best part of life after the great N. E.
festival. Did you sleep over yesterdays glorious morning? Did you see none of those "saffron
hints that welcomed in-up the glorious "orb of day" on that resplendent morning? Do you
not know that the morning of life is the greatest part of existence? & why is not the dawning of
the day the best part of it? Try it

PAGE # 93

& see & you will join me in singing my morning song -- yes thousands loose by laying in bed the best & brightest part of their existence.

Well you met Charles as you expected & had the great pleasure of proving me a false prophet-- I love so to be proved when it adds to the pleasure of my friends -- Your father too met you at the Depot with a Cummings welcom as smiling countenance but never a word of greeting except, how do you do S?. Well the heart is within but never on the outside.

When I left you in grief at our depot I hastened to my friend Collins & found him just regaining consc-
iousness after an hour of insensi-
bility -- He was fixing for Mr. Dalrymples Donation in perfect health -- His wife had pinned his collar, he turned round & dropped down in a fit.

I found him with a violent headache prescribed quiet, sinapisms

PAGE # 94

to the extremities Ether to the head &c leaving him to attend to other patients -- Saw him again in the morn'g & found him quite comfortable It was my first place on your blessed anniversary, from there I went to Mr John Damons at the State Line, thence to Mr Fullums to see Cate's sore face then into Rindge & back to see Mr. Samuel Kendall the sick School master & home at half past twelve to dine on the remains of that old Turk' that was cooked for you

Our painter had taken possession of our kitchen floor & the family were were in very straitened circumstances, I had five calls to answer in the after noon, some of them distant, which obliged me to ride hard all the afternoon -- One little boy (Dannuse Bigelow) had a stone post thrown upon him, & other patients were taken violently ill during the

PAGE # 95

day which proves all for the best in my not attempting to come to the Mass. Thanksgiving.

Our village school master & Mr. Spaulding came in & spent two hours in the evening talking of old times & experience in school teaching & politics Thus ended the day with me & now for your experience in the matter-- I slept sound until four o'clock this morning, when I arose as usual built my fire tended my stock & pig & wrote this letter & I have now just returned from Mr. Davis's where I have been to breakfast as I often do at six while my family are all sleeping soundly as I presume you are.

26. Rainy all day long. Auction continues.

27. Very rainy night-- low grounds flooded rainy forenoon -- Clears off cold in the afternoon -- Smash on the R. R. near Dana Davis caused by a large rock rolling from the bank. Engine spoiled Engineers & fireman injured -- 5 o'clock A.M.

PAGE # 96

William Maynard comes in the last train -- Says he was 22 years the 29th of July -- the day his
father died aged 70 y 10 m

Says James was

28. Real fine day. Breakfasted with J. T.

No meeting at Orthodox house. Brown preaches from Luke IX.60 on supporting the gospel.

29. Note to Calista A. Streter Ext.

My dear little Calista girl

Many thanks for that kind letter of yours evi_____ so much grattitude for a trifle* It is vastly
interesting to me to know what you are about in that great Western World of yours; nor can I
ever be tired of hearing from one endeared to me in very infancy by a lingering & painful illness.

I always loved you & I love you still, & to find those tender regards reciprocated is one of the
choicest blessings of life, that like Angel visits come few & far between -- ** . I wish I could
make a contract with you to keep me

* Mis C. C Carters smallest book

PAGE # 97

a Journal of your weather & send on once in two weeks -- It would afford me much pleasure to compare weather with you *** The weather journal might be interspersed with passing events & the last page or the two last if you please may be devoted to miscellaneous remarks **. If you will undertake such a labor you will never repent it. The habit of observation & of noting down events as they happen will be worth a great deal to you as you pass down lifes journey. **. I have asked the same favor of several in the great West, but have never yet found one willing to do it; but your last letter is so full of incident & kindness that I venture again to ask the same favor of you, hoping you will grant it.

Our family are as usual but all in bed & asleep for I am writing at 5 o'clock A.M. I generally rise at four; feed my horses & cows & pig, put on

PAGE # 98

a kettle of swill & sit down to my books & my pen-- The morning is my time for improvement &

I thus get a rich treat almost every morning before the noise & bustle of the world commences

29th Evening-- Cloudy with sprinkles of snow. Mr John Damon died very suddenly at half past

two o'clock A. M. He broke his leg on the 18th inst appeared to be doing well -- sat up all day

yesterday & conversed freely with his neighbors & said at night he had been so well during the

day that he hoped the worst was over -- had a fainting fit come over him & died instantly

We suppose an affection of the heart must have been the cause.

30. Cloudy with some shines & a pleasant evening -- Auction continues

Agricultural meeting in No. 2. Mr. Brown lectures. Mr. Newell Bent calls. Sent letter to C. A.

Streetens

PAGE # 99

Dec. 1. Fair & fine -- nothing new to record except the close of school in No. 9.

2. One of the nicest winter days ever out

Write a letter to Eliza of just about nothing at all as usual M.W.G.M. Brown of Concord in the lodge & went over the work Cudworth 4 fits. Call on Mrs. S.C.C. for one of her books to present to Cate Fullum. Began to post books. Visit No. 10 with Allen & Spaulding.

3. Finest of all fine winter days

4. Rainy day. Division of the Sons of T. instituted. by the Winchester Division

Silas French D.G.W.P.

5. Cloudy & warm with sprinkles of rain Stars out in the evening. Attend meeting all day

C. May jr with me this P.M. Mr Jenkins preaches his best sermon from Eccl XI.9

6. Fine & exceeding warm Meeting of Sons. Charles Taft initiated

7. Another real spring day-- roads all mud rode without my overcoat

Mr Stikney from NY & brother called.

[ENDS HERE]

The Silas Cummings Diary

Transcribed by Mia Callahan Morin, Benjamin Strakalaitis, Colin Meehan, Graham Warder,
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