

Irene Dixon Bamford 1898, Diary Transcription

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[file folder titles/dates]

Irene Dixon Bamford

Diary

April-October 1898

[Queens date stamp]

Queen's University Archives

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Box 1

File 8

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B - read

April - October 1898

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Tuesday 5 April 1898

A raw chilly day. Rachel came over to get a letter indited to Mrs Hill Lafargeville. Did not want to write it. Finally consented but posponed [sic] it till tomorrow R stayed to tea. Maud went to post office Returned letter to Sr. and newspapers from [?] and the Whig.

6 April Wednesday 1898

A chilly morning. Wind N.W. Grace has a boil on her arm. Maud went to School. Teachers are going home tomorrow for Easter hollidays [sic]. Devolson drove over for grandmother. This is the first time she has been here in two years. Volty arranged his pig pen and put the pigs in two seperate pens and after dinner plowed. A chilly evening. Maud got a half pail of sap from the trees. I wrote a letter for Rachel to Mattie Smith Hill.

5

Thursday April 7 1898.

A fine spring day. Wind N.W.

Volty drove to dock with Grace, six doz. eggs for market and 5 doz for Eveline. Volty plowing between here and Uncle Sam's.

Maude an industrious little girl all day Irene cooked and washed dishes. Maud went

to the dock with Volty this evening. Will and Charley went to the nets found one perch which they put back in the river.

V ran the net this morning and got two perch which I cooked for dinner.

George Niles went away to day. V brought Mart and Geo Horn's photoes [sic] from the boat. Evening Grand mother telling ghost and witch stories to Will, Charlie, Voltie and Maud.

6

Friday 8 April 1898

A very fine day froze last night. I work all day at cooking & washing dishes. Wm Willmill and Mary came and stopped at Evelines. Wolmill came here after stoping at Will Dixon's. came upon the road and talked with the boys where they were blowing. Granny reading all day; after dinner Maud went to Wills visiting stay till mail time: A letter from Sr and one from Mart to senior and two from the Rathburn Co. Frank, Will and Voltie playing cornets in kitchen, a great imprvement since last fall (Charlie here too Jim and Wall were here also. fire in coal stove gone out this morning

7

Saturday 9th April 1898

A beautiful spring day.

Voltie plowed till 3 O'clock. Will came over and they went to Marysville to band practice. Frank and Will Robertson drove up to the village. Will going home for Easter. Wells Jr came up to get blacksmith done. We have maple syrup for supper which I expect will be the last of the season. V carried 3 doz eggs to the village. This is a poor pen.

~~Sunday~~ Monday 11 April 1898

A beautiful spring

day. Volty finished plowing the big field. Maud and I sowed cabbage and two kinds of lettuce, cooked and done house work. Muriel and Hubert came up and brought butter, dutch cheese and 4 pans. Volty & Wallace go spearing fish in evening. Frank and Will Robertson here the eve. Maud went to Wills for yeast 10 delay and V and Wall not come guess I go to bed.

8

Sunday 10 April 1898

Made a mistake in

writing. Mondays work for Sunday.

Sunday a beautiful warm day. After

dinner Maud and I go to the cedars

to look for may flowers when I return.

I am very tired so li down while

Maud and Flora get the tea. Will

goes over to L Dodges for corn comes

home at sunset all night.

Monday 11 April 1898

9

Tuesday 12 April 1898

A fine day, warm day. V cultivated field for wheat. Will run his nets got fish. We had fish for dinner. V and Wallace speared the biggest ell [sic] measured over a yard. Grannie finished reading the Mountain mystery. Rachel went to V visiting. Leo's Border came called here on his way to Spaffords from no one knows where, hes been missing for a time. Maud and Flora went to the snow woods for flowers but got none.

Wednesday 18 April 1898

A pleasant warm dry day. V sowing wheat. Jr here cultivating in the wheat, ate dinner here and worked till 5 O'clock pm. Hubert here all day and helped Maud pick up chips. Grandmother picking over peas. Maud and Muriel go to Burnhams woods for May flowers, came back in time to help set table. Frank Woodman here in evening. Would like to do something beside house work but can get no time. Will gave fish 2 a sucker and pike.

10

Thursday 14 April 1898

A cool pleasant day,
clouds gathering from the South. Barometer
falling. Wind N.E. and brisk. Wellie
helping V this am, ate dinner here
and then went home. V fixed an iron
for Frank 25 cts. Granny has finished
the "Mountain mystery" 600 pages and is now reading
"In Buncome County" after sorting peas.
Hubert came up for his gum and mittens.
Will gone to Kingston on Pierpont.
I brought water from the ~~dinner~~ river

Friday 15 April 1898

No rain, cold chilly
wind from North. V preparing ground for
sowing grain. Granny reading Buncome.
Volty, Welly and Will doctoring Jess for colic all
p.m. Thought she'd die but better toward
night. Wellie came again in evening and
stayed till bed time. Will here and V and Wm
practiced their music lessons till 1/2 past nine
We read in evening papers that war is declared between US
& Spain.
Maud goes to Eveline's to get her apron stitched

11

Saturday 16 April 1898 sent 5 doz eggs.

A fine day, no rain. V run the nets
and got 2 pike and a ~~sturgeon~~ on a
Will and Charley came shortly after and in
the other nets and got a pail full of perch.
V planted potatoes all am and pm fited
pea ground till 4 O'clock pm then done chores
and he and Frank go to Village to practice. R came
over and brought soap, gave her a mess of potatoes and beans.

Sunday April 17 - 1898

A fine day, wind South
dry, no rain. Awake this morning to
find Grace at home. Belle and the children
awake to find her gone. V and G came last
or this am at 2 O'clock within the week.
Eveline has sent milk, buttermilk, butter, apples
dutch cheese &c &c. Maud went home
with Muriel and Hubert. Grace went to
church. after church Grace went to Evelines
from there to Wills. Jen and Will coming
home with Grace and Maud. I get supper
for Granny. V and I evening practice
Jen, Will and Frank Woodman. I write a
letter to Flora Bamford which I will finish later on

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[hand scribed in pencil]

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55

Monday 18 April 1898

A very fine day but dry

cannot wash for the wash tub has nearly

fallen down. V, and G, take the tub to

river, put it in the water and fill it with stones.

Grace and Maud sweeps the door yard. Grace

has pain in side and hes down 8 hours.

Set a hen on 18 eggs.

Lottie brought seeds, top onions and melon
seeds.

Tuesday 19 April 1898

A cloudy morning

looks like rain. Grace washes all forenoon

lines full of clothes. After noon Grace and

Maud drive to Belles with Bess and dog carp

carrying vinegar and strawberry plants plants &c

Irene washes aprons and other things, comes

on to rain. Reuben called here leaving

his skiff on shore, been up to Montgomery

to pick up the fragment of his buggy

that was broken yesterday when his

horse ran away after wrenching himself

free from the gate post where Rube had

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hitched him. Volty cultivating in peas through the rain. Rain continues all afternoon and evening. Grace and Maud do not return home this eve as they intended. In the evening rains so fiercely that V does not go for mail but toots his horn instead.

20 April 1898

Wednesday morning, a cloudy morning but no rain, wind South and rising and cold. V plowing by the Church. Wellie came for grain to grind and sow. Went from here to Rattrays with double team and waggon to get grinding done. Maud and Grace return at 10 a.m. V works in field till 3 pm then goes to Wellies to help butcher. Belle sent me beans, pork, buttermilk and cream and some very choice flower seeds, gourds and purple morning Glories. Grand has no tobac and she is going to travel right off. Grace set a hen on 10 eggs. A cold raw April day a letter from Jess rec'd

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Thursday 21st April 1898

A cloudy morning, wind hushed and gone to sleep after last night blowing half a gale. Grass growing and bright green covers our yard. Volty gone to Wellies early this morning to drive him to the dock. Wellie going to carry one pig to market. The apple trees are budding leaves. A rainy day. Rube came for his buggy top. Volty drove to the dock for Wellie. Edna sent me silk scraps and a beautiful bouquet of flowers the "royal George". Heard this evening that there will be a battle fought between U.S.A and Spain after V came home from the dock and done the chores he went to Ma Jr V to help them move their coal stove. A brilliant star lit night. After a day of rain and record squalls.

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Friday 22 April 1898

A cloudy morning, began to sprinkle rain as Maud started for school. Rachel came over and brought salt and borrowed the garden rake. Grace went home with her for soap, yeast, cakes and sweet peas for Belle. After dinner Grace white washed the kitchen and cleaned part of the wood work. Ethel came over for starch and whiting. Grace used all tthe whiting. Grace made cookies and Irene made pumpkin pies, rained all afternoon. Jack Niles drove to scchool house for teacher and Moz and Maud came down with them. Volty and Wallace moved our coal store into the closet.

Saturday 23rd 1898 April

A soft mild morning, Wind North and light, warm enough to comfortably in garden field or yard. But Grace, Maud and [?] work within doors, cooking, cleaning kitchen, washing, wood work. After dinner and dishes washed, Grace and Maud raked the

front yard and burnt the rubbish [sic]. Grace cleaned out the little arbor for flower beds and for the hammock. Wellie came and brought me butter, took Voltites skiff and rowed to Riverview for kerosine. Will and Charlie ran the nets, got a basket full of small fish (perch), gave me 6 fishes and gave Geo Gillespie some fish. Geo Gillespie here for raspberries bushes. Devolson transplated two plum trees (yellow egg). V goes to band practice, taking Jim Morgan with him from Rob Smiths. Will Dixon goes up with Frank Woodman came home at 1/2 past 2. I did not sleep very well. Volty heard potatoes falling in barrel down cellar; arose to investigate, found nothing - Spooks. A sun dog S of sun. V went to A Joslins for hay. 2 hundred
Sunday 24 April 1898
Did not arise till
late this morning. Grace and Maud had breakfast nearly ready when got out, rainy morning, wind North and cold. Grace and Maud go to church. Hattie Joslin came home with them ate dinner

with us. Grace goes home with Harriet and stays to tea. Rubin there. Hattie came over with Grace. R came over and stayed till late. Maud goes with her as far as Frank's gate. I got supper. Cook eggs and boil potatoes. Evening visitors. Will Robertson, Will Dixon, Jen Dixon, Charlie Dixon. They stay till bed time. All go together Monday 25 April 1898. A cloudy, chilly day. Strong North wind. Grace and V arise early, breakfast, ready by 6 am. V goes to JN's for seed drill. Frank came to borrow - something of V don't know what. V working in field all day. Grace goes to Ev's for our track puller came back, brought butter. Grace took carpet off dining room floor, done big washing hung them all on the line then made a garden bed for onion sets, multipliers and set them out. I cook beans, potatoes. and turnips made

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aunt

cakes. I borrowed sugar of Eveline. Lizzie H
at E's making E a wrapper. Grannie
picking out sugar peas for Will.

Lottie and Louise came over to bring
their grandmother's wardrobe and ask
her when she is coming home, as they
were instructed. Evening buglers. Will Dixon,
Frank Woodman; practice till 10 O'clock p.m.
Dry cold weather. Maud goes to SCHOOL.
Will brought me a piece of butter.

Tuesday 26 April 1898

Weather cool. Wind North and heavy.
Grandmother picking sugar peas for
Will, Maud gone to school, Grace moped [sic]
dining room floor and is now writing
a letter to Laura Joslin. Irene patching overalls
for Devolson while he works in field. After dinner
Grandmother reads "Romance of two Worlds".
Wellie came up with team for grain.
Lottie came over for white work finish.
V finished the grain fields before the barn
and cultivating by the Church.
Grace lying down awhile. Grace is taking
at

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Our garden flower seeds came this eve.
up carpet on sitting room floor.

Grannie gone to bed in eve. V went to Wills with
the horn blowers after going to JN to borrow a horse.

Wednesday 27 April 1898

A chilly day, wind

North. Irene sowed flower seeds.

Grace worked carpet and sewed the
east bed room carpet for the chamber.

Maud at school. V with the Niles
horse and Jesse is putting in oats.

Grannie reads and goes to bed. Rachel
came over for vinegar. Flora came after school
and brought butter milk and sugar, and
we had pancakes for supper. WE go to
bed early. There is no visitors. Knit or
crochet 2 cross lambrequin went to W Boudreaus for [?]

Thursday 28th April 1898

A cold chilly morning

wind North. V went to JN's for oats bought
4 bushels oats and JN offered to lend a horse
to finish putting in the oats. V run fish net

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got one perch and a pickerel which I
dress for dinner. Granny's reading and smoking.
Cold and cloudless. Hubert came and
brought butter.

Friday 29 April 1898

sow indoor seeds in small boxes
and sow flower [sic] seeds, Phlox, Selocia [Celosia]
and others. After dinner drive to Wellies with
V to help E butcher three hogs for
market.

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Saturday 30th April 1898

A fine day. Wind North but warm.

Levi Border here to dinner. We read war news to the old man, poor old fellow going to get a fortune. Never will get any thing.

Sunday 1 May 1898

A fine day. Grace went to Morgans in skiff with Will Robinson. Bernard Morgan here all afternoon and evening.

Rachel here to dinner and supper.

Will went over the river with Dev' skiff went to dodges, went to carry Mr Levi Border across the river. Grace and Maud went to Church. Charley here too.

Wellie here for exchanging milk cans.

Van Bamford and Lib at Wellies all p.m.

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Monday 2nd May 1898

Some what cloudy.

Grace washed. I set the wormwood plant that Will gave me in the grove.

Maud gone to school, made 3 boxes for gourds, had evening visitors. Viola Davis, Will Dixon, Frank Woodman here to practice music with Volty, Charley, Dixon here too.

Dec plowed our flower garden and plowed and cultivated ground for potato planting. Charley brought me flowers from the woods.

Tuesday 3rd May 1898

Rainy night and morning, cloudy all day and cool. Every thing looks like spring. Wheat up and growing. V all through sowing potatoes for seed in the s barn. I sowed Daisy and Aster seed & gourds. Grace got a bad cold. I sent 30 cts to Park for flower seeds, for Eveline, made pickles. Grace sewing carpet. I filled lounge tick with husks. Eveline sends lard by Maud last night. Birds are gaily singing. No letter from Wells.

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Wednesday 4 May 1898

A rainy drizzling day, cold too.

Clears up a little in afternoon.

Devolson repairing fence down by

Franks line. Welly here. I borrowed 6 cts

for postage. Grace ironed all the clothes.

Grace went to E's for buttermilk. E sent

us more butter. Eveline is a good girl.

Thursday 5 May 1898

A cloudy day, weather cold

enough to snow. Think it will snow.

Wind north. Brought all the plants and pans

of sowed seeds in door. Left them out

last night for the first time this spring.

Nearly ruined poor "Lilly bell". Dee drawing

out manure. Grace taking up and tacking

down carpet. Charley and Will here fixing

hoes. Maud at school. Grandmother here

reading all day "terbacker" all gone again.

Charley came in for matches for Devolson

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and told her there is a cigar stub out in the shop. Rachel gone to market with butter. No milk or butter for us yet. Devolson removed an apple tree which bears a sweet red apple, its is doubtful if it ever recovers the shock of transplanting. V fished for the shovel by Jack Light after dark then he and Frank went spearing, gone till 1/2 past 12, caught 1 eel, 1 sucker, 7 small perch. Very cold so brought in all the plants and seed pans.
Friday 6

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Saturday 7

Sunday 8

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Monday 9

Tuesday 10 May 1898

So long ago since last wrote to
in this diary nearly forgotten what
transpired for a whole week past.
We received letters from Wells and
Dr Watty. We expected mail from
Park seedsman but was disapointed [sic]
Grace went for the mail.

27

Wednesday 11 May 1898

A beautiful warm day
but afternoon windy and squalling
from South. V planted potatoes
all a.m. then washed the dirt from
the buggy that had been on the buggy
since last fall. V and Wm D
left for Marysville band practice
at 4 O'clock. They came home at 1 am
through mud, wind and rain. Wednes
evening Will, Volty & Charley went spearing
for eels [sic] and got 6 eels and a sucker
besides breaking the eel spear.

Thursday 12 May 1898

Wall Niles here for eggs to get a loan.
A rainy morning. V drove to dock with
Grace with 17-1/2 doz eggs which she sold
for \$11.58. Rain cleared away about 12
o'clock noon day. Maud home from school
all day on account of rain. Volty slept 4 hours.
Will Robinson here for post auger.
Holly gone to Kingston too
Drove to dock for grace. She didn't
get the money on the post office order.

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Friday 13th May 1898

A fine morning. Afternoon breezy. Grace cleaning wood-work in dining room. Mrs Niles here for eggs got 15, paid 9 cts doz for 15. Irene came with her. Lollie came over to make an all day visit. V planted potatoes this a.m. and pm drew manure on corn land. Wind West and cool. Expected Eveline sow seeds but they came not.

Saturday 14 May 1898

A fine day but this is a house of busy working from early morn till dewy eve. Will & Voltie start for band practice at 3, going to get there. Eli in time for marching: sent Marjorie a little note of thanks for those flower seeds the dear little girl.

Sunday 16 May

A fine day and warm.

After breakfast Maud and I wash the dishes and then go to Wills, found them all well. After dinner we all go to the back woods for flowers, found a heifer out there with a fine calf, a black and white bull calf.

Came back, rested awhile and then came home. R came too. We had our tea at home so we read awhile, rest ourselves and all retire to rest peacefully

Monday 16 May 1898

A fine warm day: Wind S

and mild. V finished drawing names on potatoe ground. After noon plowed the ground for planting. Grace washed big washing and hung them on the line and one bed quilt. Irene does general house work and sows a few flower seeds. Grandmother read novel and then goes to bed. Will and Charley over here setting fish net. Rachel and Flora here for greens. Maud goes to school.

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S Tuesday 17 May

Wednesday 18

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Thursday May 19 1898

A rainy morning

all the same. Volty drives to the dock
with Grace.

Friday May 20 1898

Grace papering up stair.

Maud at school. I doing kitchen work all a.m.

Grandmother reading James sketch book. V planting
potatoes. After dinner and the dishes washed, I

went to Evelines with V who is going to plow

corn ground for Wellie. We stayed till

after supper. Rachel stoped [sic] us on our return

trip saying she coming over to stay all night

for Grandmother has ran away while I am gone

and came home again? Geo Williams is there also and

acordingly [sic] she came over and also Marjorie who had [?]

came down with the mail and surely when one goes another comes.

But it is all right.

Saturday May 21 1898

A delightfully warm day south
wind. Warm weather fortells thunder
showers. Every tree, and all vegetation
is so green with growth, that it more resembles
the luxuriourance [sic] of the south land than
Canada. A new milk cow today. Grace cleaning
chamber ie papering, painting dining room floor
tacked the carpet on the chamber floor. V,
WallN and FW gone to band practice. A buisy [sic] day of labor
all around the men were here selling bazar tickets. Grace bought one
"Sister Mary Mabel" Sister Mary Thomas"
from the house of providence.

Sunday May 22 1898

A heavy thunder
shower this morning. Every thing
delightfully fresh after the rain.
V came home 1/2 past 2 a.m.,
slept till 7, done the chores in the rain,
went gain to bed. Clears up fine at
10 am. Our orchard white with blossoms,
the flower seeds coming up very
well especialy those from England
that my dear Helen gave me. Tarks
seeds not so good. Grace making
a lemon pie for dinner. Walked over to Wills

with Marjorie and Maud in tow.

They were just eating dinner found
John Niles Sr there getting his hair cut.

We went to the woods ie Rachel, Will,
D., Charlie D., Flora D., Ethel D., Lottie D.,
Louise D., and Majorie & Maud and
myself, gathered wild flowers and Will
dug ferns which I brought home.

R & C came home with us: tea ready when
we arrived: am very tired and we all retire
early. Looks very much like rain.

Monday 23rd May 1898

Arose at 1/2 past 5 a.m. raining
hard. Go to the barn for potatoes and
build fire and have breakfast nearly ready
when Volty and Grace and the two youngsters
get up. another heavy shower then clears up and
the south wind blows a half gale from South
all day. Marjorie & Maud go school.

Grace washes all the clothes – sow some
more flower seed and set out ferns and
flowers. Our relatives from over the
way were intending to cross over here to

go to Kingston tomorrow but wind and waves prevent. Fortunate for me. Another baby at Digmans next yonger than Laura. After school Maud goes to Wills for popcorn to finish planting a piece commenced. Two men here from Clayton to buy cattle. didn't buy any.

Tuesday 24 May 1898

Grace and Voltie drive to the villiage [sic]. Starting early to embark on board of ferry boat enroute for Kingston. Wolfe Island brass band are going to play to day in town. American soldiers and Canadian soldiers to day marching side by side bearing the Stars and Stripes aloft through the streets of Kingston, together with the Union Jack floating in the breeze. The Kingston 14 regiment band "Star spangled banner". Then the "Yankee lads" play "God save the Queen". Voltie came home at 12 midnight. Grace stoping [sic] in Kingston till Thursday. V drove her. She came home alone without bringing visitors but brought flowers from Mrs Marshalls flower garden when she went to call on poor Helen Watson

Saturday June 11th 1898

Nellie has been and gone. Maud has been and gone and much has transpired since I last wrote in this diary. Battles between United States have been fought, victories won. I don't remember much which transpired between 24 and 28th of May which was on Saturday which was the very day that young Fred McKood, and Miss Reas who teaches school in the [?] school house came blundering in here while they were out airing themselves on the river, found no one at visible home except Grace who was scrubbing the dining room floor. Dont relish the uncerimonious [sic] visits of city clerks and school marms so early in the day. Saturday evening of the same day I drove up with Voltie (when he went to band practice) to Belles, found them well and pleased to see me, or appeared to. Belle and Charley were out milking the cows. The children were in doors taking care of the baby. Kathleen

well we had tea and went to bed. Arose
early next morning, a fine morning.
People going to church we admired the
flowers in yard. We enjoyed a quiet
sabbath [sic] day. Callers - Miss Richardson teacher
and two little Fosset girls, Hazzle and Hattie
30th Monday the children went to school till
3 O'clock p.m. when they came home and
then we went to Browns woods for ferns
(Beatrice, Fred and V). Belle printing
butter for market. Charley drawing stone for
a bridge.

31 Tuesday

arose early. Belle going to
Kingston to market while
Beatrice and I do the work and tend the baby
who is not very well - got a cold and is teething.
About 10 O'clock. Grace and Marjorie came
bringing Muriel with them. Grace and I
get dinner, and supper while the children
have great time playing. Then Charley drives
to villiage [sic] for Belle and she comes
just in time for supper. We have bananas
for tea, about 5 O'clock p.m. We start
on our homeward journey bringing little

Grace home with us who seems to enjoy the
the drive along the beautiful country
roads as much as the rest any of us. Home
at last just as the sun is setting.

Home home sweet home. how bright fresh
and green is everything. I forgot we stay
at the Wetmore place and gather flowers from
the old deserted garden. Evening visitors
Jimmie Morgan, Will Dixon, Charley Dixon,
Rachel, Dick Jenkins, Frank Woodman,
Will Robinson, at last they all go
to Franks to blow horns. Rachel & Charley
go home and Grace, Maud and I go to
bed!

1 June Monday

Grace worked. V plowed
corn and potatoes.

Thursday 4 June

Volty and Grace go to Kingston. Volty carried the 5
hogs to Burnside and finished paying
for his buggy. A sick sow, lost all
her pigs. Rachel came over. Wellie & Jim
Obrien here doctoring the sow. They came again
in evening. Voltie & Grace came home from
F's bringing Maud Guy with them
a regular old home span sort of girl

I forgot to mention that Voltie went up to the villiage [sic] Wednesday eve and Belle sent me some butter which I most thankfully received.

6 Saturday evening

Voltie drove

to the villiage in dog cart, drove Jess, Will Dixon goes with him. I sent Belles pail home with some lettuce and onions.

7 Sunday

Grace went to Villiage

with Maud Guy taking Gracie with them when they met Belle & Charley and all their youngones enroute for Mrs Margarett Hallidays, so they transfered Gracie to their carriage which fully completed the family load. Charley, Belle and six youngsters, 8 altogether quite fine family turnout. Well to proceed. Grace left Maud at Marysville enroute for Kingston and met Nelly at the wharf and brought her home with her for a weeks visit bringing her photography aparatus [sic] and her painting and music and presto change between she and

and her sister Maud. Nellie brought breezy animated vivacious [sic]. Cant work while Nellie is here, only get meals and chat & ramble around.

8 Monday

Nelly stayed home and painted a drape. Shelly came down to invite her to her home. Wallace came twice to day.

10 Tuesday

An excursion to day to day [sic] to Picton on the steamer. Arrives for the benefit of the Wolfe Island Brass Band. Our boys toot their horns to day for the excursion 20 of them. Will Dixon & Maud Watson with the lunch basket go in dog cart. Voltie, Grace & Voltie go in covered buggy, they got started at six am and return at 11 pm, report a fine time except for a heavy shower of rain.

I forgot to say that on 9th Wednesday Nelly took 4 photographs and then went to Mrs Niles and stayed till 4 O'clock. Came home had tea and painted till dark. Grace went to Evelines for Bread for sandwiches [sic]. V drove down the

40

~~rhubarb~~ rubarb

Thursday 9

Nelly went to Evelines at 9 stayed till dark. Grace went to dock to meet young Mahood who was coming down to make a visit but he did not make his appearance and I'm glad of it. Dont want to make the acquaintance of any more city clerks. Grace went with Wallace in Wallaces new buggy to dock then came to Evelines and walked up home with Nellie, stoping at Franks for Rubarb. V mowing door yard with scythe, Wallace here again inviting ours to a dance at Jim OBriens tomorrow eve. Dont think they will attend.

Friday 10

Cloudy day but Nelly takes pictures, twelve altogether of different views of the river and orchard, house and grounds in general. We all had our pictures photoed, dogs and horse and all. Cleaning out the cemetery to day, about 20 men and women at work.

Saturday 11

Some what rainy. We arose at 4 get breakfast and then Grace drives with Nellie to the dock for Kingston and she goes this afternoon from there to Belleville. Well the

the day passes quietly on. Rachel and Flora come over & Grace cuts and makes Flora a print dress. Volty hoes potatoes. Irene weeds flower garden and transplants flowers and tomatoes. Rains nearly all p.m. and all Saturday night. R & Flo stay all night. Will and Charley go fishing by the high rock.

Sunday 12 June 1898

A cool cloudy breezy morning, Ground heavy with moisture after last nights rain, a fine growth of all vegetation. Potatoes nearly in bloom, apples give great promise of abundance. It looks fair for a boutntiful harvest of all kinds of vegetables fruit and grain. Half past 12 pm R & H gone home. V gone to bed. Grace gone to bed. Maud reading "Our Bessie" and I'm hungry as a wolf. To day the Rev Cornell preached his last sermon and why are ours not at church. I must now hull those strawberries for our dinner. Evening visitors W.D. = Frnak W, Dick Jenkins

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13 Monday June 1898

A foggy [sic] morning,
clears up at 11 am. Volty went to
Jr for crow bar, carried them tomato plants,
brought crow bar and peppermint
plants. Grace sewing, making Marjorie
a dress. Maud pulling mustard.
Irene churned and done dairy work
in general, made pickles

Tuesday 14 June 1898

A fine day. Grace Maud
and V pulling mustard. Most forgot
what done. Grace went to Evelines from the
post office, letters from Bob G., a postal
from Nellie Guy from Belleville. V commenced
making Franks buggy box. Frank and Jim Morgan
drive her in buggy and sit in buggy talking to Y
till 10 pm. Grace & Maud come at 10 pm

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A letter from W Sr which Grace gets from the villiage post office.

Wednesday 12 June 1898

A heavy wind from the North nearly all day. I churn and get ready for Grace to go to market tomorrow. Maud goes berrying, got a pint. Grace sewing for Marjorie. Grace changes her mind and goes to the garden party instead so will not go to K tomorrow & goes up with Wm D and V in buggy, leave here at 4 pm and Maud and Irene are alone, ate every thing clean for supper, no bread in house so bake biscuits for suppose they will come home hungrier than hounds generally do come that way.

Thursday 16 June 1898

Willy goes to Kingston, bought a new table.

A very good day after the garden party they came home at 4 am tired and hungry for after blowing their horns tired and driving so far 14 miles, his R never offered them any refreshments not as much as a piece of bread or a glass of water.

Dibbs will go dry for music a long time before any of the band plays for him again.

V hoes potatoes after rising at 8 am.

Grace slept all pm. Evening Wallace brought us a mess of fish, transplanted flowers again and weed carrots. Frank & Wallace here.

Will D goes to River view

44

Friday 17th June 1898

A warm day, wind South, a gentle breeze. Gace washed a line full of clothes. Maud at home. V hoeing potatoes this side of the marboroughs. Irene churns and makes 17 prints for tomorrow market. Rachel here inviting V & G to a dance at their house this evening! Poppycock. Don't believe they will go. If Grace goes she must stay home from going to market tomorrow. Maud went before breakfast to Evelines for soap.

Saturday 18 June 1898

45

Sunday 19

Mon 20

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Tuesday 21

Wednesday 22

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Thursday 23

Friday 24

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Saturday 25

Sunday 26

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Monday 24

Tuesday 25

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Wednesday 29

Thursday 30

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Friday 1st July
Saturday 2 July

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Sunday 3rd

Wind South blowing a gale all day. Belle wind bound at Gloyds. Charley came for her. Went home without her. Beatrice and Charley were north him. Niles went across this morning to carry Mrs Farr across. Wallace over there too went back again after bringing Grace home last night.

Monday 4

A cloudy morning looks like rain wish would rain, need it very much but no rain falls for us. V goes early across the river for Belle borrowed Niles skiff gone two hours. Grace drove home with Belle, Gracie & Kathleen. Came home at 8 pm

53

Tuesday 5

A dry cool day no rain

Wednesday 6

A hot day & a cloudless

sky, made 13 lbs butter for market & churned
in the cellar. V "cookin" hay

54

Thursday 7 July 1898

Another hot day wind South,
sky cloudless. Grace gone to Kingston. Maud
drove her to dock with Jim horse and the cart.
Will Robinson helping V draw hay all day.
Laura and R gone to dock gone to K
L and Billious stayed all night with
J and E.

Friday 8 July 1898

No rain.

55

Saturday 9th July 1898

No rain

Sunday 10 July 1898

56

Monday 11
Tuesday 12

57

Wednesday

13 July 1898

Thursday 14 July 1898

A dry hot day. Maud drove old Jim to dock (or started to) just below Wills broke down dog cart. Grace transferred her butter & eggs to Wm Gillespie cart and then got a seat in Geo Ranions vehicle. Maud not satisfied with her trip. The breakage did not fulfil her expectation of a pleasant drive to the dock. Will fixed the cart. Maud a good girl & worked all day. Maud again drove to dock at night fall for Grace. Mr Watson and Benjamin came to make their annual visit.

58

Friday 15 July 1898

The weather excessively hot. No rain every thing drying up, pastures brown and burnt. Grace and Maud gather raspberries in the scorching hot sun, breezy wind North. Awake this morning to find Wesley and Benjamin Watson here. Voltie and Will draw a big load of hay from Mr Niles that he (Niles) had given to Voltie. p.m after dinner. V tinkered up all around, made pigs trough, ground scythe. W.L.W. turned the grindstone.

Saturday ~~17~~ 16 July 1898

Another dry hot day. Wind South.
Voly cutting barley with a Scythe.
We churned, cleaned floors & windows,
preserved berries, and worked all day.
W.F.W & Son go visiting Wills folks.
Voltie at 5 p.m. starts for Marysville
carrying Belles vinegar to her and I
send a letter to Wells & a note to Belle,
a postal to Mrs. Quinn We have peas
for dinner and raspberries.

18 July ~~18~~1798 [?]

Sunday a dry hot day. W.F.W &
family went to church. Voltie let Hazle
take the dog cart. Will and Charlie came
over for it. We slept late this morning
nearly 7 O'clock. V came home at
1/2 past one a.m, brought a piece of
beef from J.M. also a piece of beef for Uncle Sammy.
Sam came for the beef bringing a five quart
pail to put said beef in.

60

Monday ~~19~~ 18 July 1898

No rain.

Tuesday ~~20~~ 19 July 1898

No rain.

61

Wednesday ~~21~~ 20 July 1898

No rain, so warm

can scarcely make butter prints

have to use ice freely. Old W.F.W.

mad "Going to thrash Maud"

The old lunatic.

Thursday ~~22~~ 21 July 1898

No rain so hot. V dont

work in field, every thing

scorching and burning up.

The butter hardened with ice but

all out of shape some prints look

like pancakes, but Grace sold

it for 20 cts per lb. a scarcity

of butter on the market. Poor

old W.F.W. went home this morning.

I believe he is insane. Grace bring

Victor Quinn home with her.

62

Friday ~~23~~ 22 July 1898

Another hot day. No rain or sign of rain, a hot cloudless day.

Voltie and Will draw our barley and then Voltie goes over and helps Will draw and stack his barley. Eveline sent Muriel up with some honey.

Grace sent E some butter. Grace & Maud went to Eveline's. I sent E a plant.

Mail - a letter fro W Sr & a postal for Maud from W.F.W. and the Whig. The Stars & Stripes floating over Santiago.

Saturday 23rd July 1898

No rain. A strong breeze from South. V goes to the Ross place for a load of wood taking Victor Q with him. I write to Sr

63

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Aug 1 1898

2nd

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4

69

5 Aug Friday 1898

A dance at Almonds

this Evening. V and G and LD and Maud W attend. V gets a dollar for playing the Violincello. Frank a dollar and H Joslin a dollar. Grace is going to the villiage to go to Kingston to stay with Kelly till Tuesday.

6 Aug Saturday 1898

Dont arise very early after Almonds dance. V gets up at 7 but Grace, Maud and Miss L Davis lie in bed till 9 a.m.

Little Grace Halliday sleeps with me and makes a racquet about "my Aunt Grace". I want her mom I'm very glad when morning comes. Well along towards night Grace starts out again taking Laura Davis and Gracie H with her and the house settles back to its old acustomed [sic] place once again. V drives up to the villiage with Frank W Grace goes up with buggy.

7 Aug Sunday 1898

A fine day. V came home late

3 a.m. We are alone nearly all day
that is Volty, Victor, Maud and I. V had a
long nap. This morning I called him
at 8 a.m. , late milking the cows. We had a
fine dinner at 3 p.m. Evening visitors were
Mrs Niles, Shelly Niles, Irene Niles, Wm Dixon,
Jen Dixon, Charley Dixon, Dick Jenkins
and Frank Woodman

8 Aug Monday 1898

A very fine day but

warm. Eveline and the children come
up on the waggon with Wallie after Voltie had
been down all there fore noon and and [sic]
helped Welly finish his harvesting. then Welly
and Volty finished up here but worked
till after dark. Uncle Levin Border came and
stayed to supper and stayed all night, he is going
across the river to live says Spafford turned him out door.
Hubert lost himself behind the ice house where Eveline found
him alseep after a great deal of anxious look and calling
by E & Mr Victor, Maud, Muriel and Volty and I

71

9 Aug Tuesday 1898

Will came this morning
took V's skiff and rowed Uncle
Levi over the river. Will stayed on
all day and worked for Horace Dodge
and come home after dark. Volty
works all day for the Niles. Grace
rode down with Jim Morgan on meat
cart. Grace bought 15 cts of beef
of Jim. I was two shirts for V &
some towels.

10 Aug Wednesday

Churn and make out
nine lb pounds of butter for
market.

Volty digs 4 bags of potatoes for market
after working half day for Niles.

McDowels agent called here.

11 Aug 1898 Thursday

A hazy close hot day. Voltie and Grace goes to Kingston. I churn and patch. Victor watches cows and pick up potatoes. Maud skims milk and washes pans & draws milk. Jen & Charley here in evening for ice. Jen brings home my butter print and gets her own V paid 5 more on the P which makes 10 paid on it.

12. Aug - 1898 Friday

A fierce wind from South all night: blew the front door open with a bang. Blowing to day. Hazy. V and W Jr gone for a load of wood from the Ross place. The ground this morning covered with harvest apples. Mrs Robinson (from Frank's) came with the swill pail. Grace crocheting doilies [doilies]. Irene patched Victor's shirt. A cow had a calf this morning. the black and white cow.

73

13 Saturday

14 Sunday

74

15 Monday

16 Tuesday

75

17 Wednesday

18 Thursday

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19 Friday

20 Saturday

77

21 Sunday
22 Monday

78

23 Tuesday

24 Wednesday

79

25 Thursday

26 Friday

Thursday 29 September 1898

~~27 Saturday~~

A beautiful day.

Arise early put butter in basket 17 lbs
send a basket of sage. E come from
Burnhams where she stayed all night.
Maud home to day from school. The
girls work very well. A nap for me this
p.m.

~~28 Sunday~~ Friday 30 Sept -98

A fine warm day like July. Cut
and sewed carpet rags. V dug potatoes
and pm went to Wills to cope house John
Dixon here all afternoon. V came home
at dark and brought 2 band pictures
one for sis and one for Wells Jr
Evening visitors Maggie Scott Frank
W. Grace milked the cows at evening.
V drove out with Edna and then
drove home with Scott: got to bed
at last 12 midnight- a beautiful
moonlight night.

Saturday

~~29 Monday~~ Oct 1st 1898

Have not written in this diary since the 12 of Aug. This is very warm, all the doors and windows wide open. River still, no wind. Churned in cellar: butter very soft. V digging potatoes. Ed picking up a party at Van's to night for Frank. he 22 years old to day. E & M go to Franks for crab apples. Grace finished J.K's dress ~~30 Tuesday~~ going to take or send them tonight.

Edna & Grace & Voltie drove to Village to band practice. Grace carries Gracies her nigh gowns and drove up wtih Wallae from Wm Ranons.

Sunday 2 Oct 1898

A bright warm day, breezy. They came last night at one a.m. They arose 1/2 past 7 O'clock a.m.

82

31 Wensday [sic]

Thursday

1 No town

84

[back cover with attached seal]

Red Rope

Magazine Binder

Manufactured by

Gaylord Bros. Inc

Syracuse, N.Y.

Stockton, Calif.

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