

Daily Journal 1896 – David McMackon

(1857-1922)

Transcribed by descendant Paul Woodrow.

Paul Woodrow has also added a name index with relationships at the end of the transcript.

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- Written in ink

Page 1

Dec 30-1895 – Left Homedale for Toronto. Had dinner at the Albion. Raining, went up to Dean's. Remained there the rest of the Day and all night. Continuous rain.

Dec 31 – Left Mrs. Deans for Barrie Fare \$1.95 arrived at Barrie at 11.30 A.M. Met D. Fyfe at station. He looks well. Windy weather. Jeannie looks well and children are fine looking and they make a nice family. A Miss Currie came in evening, and amongst us we had a nice time.

Wednesday, Jan. 1 [1896] – Cold and windy. We stayed in the house most of the day. I intended leaving Barrie at 6 P.M. but train was late so remained over till next day. We spent a nice quiet day.

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Thursday, Jan. 2 – Left Barrie at 10.20 A.M. Miss Currie and her mother went on same train. Arrived in Toronto at 12.40 P.M. and left there at 1.20 P.M. Arrived in Hamilton at 2.45 P.M. saw J.A. Clark. Left Hamilton at 4.15 P.M. arrived in Dundas 5 P.M. Had supper at Hotel and then went up to James Clarks stayed all night. His wife and three girls were at home and made me very welcome. Quite cold.

Friday, Jan. 3 – Went up to the mill with Mr. Clark in the morning and stayed till 1 P.M. Both he and the cooper were well pleased with the stock. Very beautiful scenery about the mill. It must be a pretty place in summer. Left Dundas at 4.50 P.M. and arrived in Ayr at 6.30 P.M. Made two calls and stayed all night. All well cold and stormy.

Saturday, Jan. 4 – Left Ayr at 10 A.M. – stopped in St. Thomas a while and got home at 5.20 P.M. Was glad to get home and the folk were glad to see me. Got both of my ears frost bitten. Very cold & windy.

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Monday, Jan. 6 – Election Day. Went to Ridgetown in morning. Paid off R. McMackon. Home at noon. A quiet election but lively at night in the Hall.

Council	Jonas Gosnell	Reeve
	Jno Howell	D. Reeve
	Geo. Gosnell	Councillor
	Wm. Sifton	Councillor

Jim Griffith Councillor

Tuesday, Jan. 7 – Busy making up Books and taking stock. Think I will come out alright. Nice mild day.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 – Busy at Books and stock taking. Will finish tomorrow. Have a heavy stock on hand but prices are low Fine day. Hueys house took fire at noon. Not much damage done.

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Thursday, Jan. 9 – Carswell did not get up steam as his wife was sick. Got J. Button to fire $\frac{3}{4}$ day.

Friday, Jan. 10 – Expected Carswell down but he did not come. I understand his wife is quite bad – J.B. fired 8 hours.

Saturday, Jan. 11 – no entry

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Monday, Jan. 13 – no entry

Tuesday, Jan. 14 –J. Goldie and a friend of his came from N. B. Those two woat myself & J. Wire went out after Rabbits after dinner. Did not get many Rabbits but had plenty of fun.

Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Went to mill to turn Heading found water colum busted. Sent it to Chatham. J. Goldie and man from N.B. went away.

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Thursday, Jan. 16 – Got word mill was going to run nights – busy getting coopers went to Ridgetown.

Friday, Jan. 17 – Forenoon turned Heading about 1 1/2 hrs went to Ridgetown on Day case afternoon. Got home 9.30 P.M. Fine day no snow. Water colum came did not get it on.

Saturday, Jan. 18 – Did not do anything on saturday – smith fitted water colum on.

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Monday, Jan. 20 – Turned Heading $\frac{3}{4}$ day. Phenix, Smith, Thomson, self. Paid taxes. Can Hooper came. Susie not well in evening.

Tuesday, Jan. 21 – Turned $\frac{1}{2}$ Bil 1 hr morning. Baby born about 11 A.M. fine big boy. Thomson & Frank unloaded Hopper 31,500. Tom Stone died about 3.30 P.M. Went to farm. Turned more $\frac{1}{2}$ B. Heading. Nice day no snow.

Wednesday, Jan. 22 – Did not run mill – went to farm after dinner. Wife and boy well. Rather cold.

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Thursday, Jan. 23 – Raining and freezing bad day. Cleared off somewhat by noon. Tom Stone's funeral quite large considering the weather.

Friday, Jan. 24 – Started to turn Heading at 9.30. Smith, Phenix, Thomson & myself busy till night put staves in kiln after dinner. Nice day no snow. Tom came down at night.

Saturday, Jan. 25 – Turned Heading till noon. Smith, Phenix, W. London, Thomson, J. Wise & self. Tom went up to Ridgetown to see Livingstone about his money. Am getting anxious about my own. I went up to Ridgetown after dinner. Tom got note from L. at two months. Very nice day.

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Monday, Jan. 27- Went to Aylmer. Am thinking about buying some Hoop machinery. Saw McNally & Boogham – came back as far as St. Thomas – Stacey quoted me Hoop iron 2.75 per cut to be sent direct from Montreal size from 1" to 2".

Sleighting at St. Thomas & Aylmer not very good very fine day. Smith running kiln.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 – Stayed about St. Thomas till mail time. Came home – went skating at night. No snow here. Very fine day. Smith running kiln.

Wednesday, Jan. 29 – Very fine day – plenty of mud. Smith running kiln. Skating at night. F. Phenix hurt his knee while skating.

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Thursday, Jan. 30 – Do not feel very well. Think I must have skated too much. Mrs. L. Lake died. Up at deep well good part of day. Fine day.

Friday, Jan. 31 – Am feeling alright. Moody finished deep well. Do not think he should have quit when he did, as he did not have sand pump at bottom of well (16 ft. short). Depth of well 198' 4".

Saturday, Feb. 1 – Fine day but horrible muddy roads. Mrs. L. Lake buried. Shooting blue rocks.

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Monday, Feb. 3 – Turned Bean & Flour Bil Heading & Loaded car of staves for Ayr. Cold raw day with a sleet from the east. Have caught cold some way. Have 3 more cars stock to get out.

Tuesday, Feb. 4 – Turned Heading all day – full gang on. Very fine day. Lydia Phenix died.

Wednesday, Feb. 5 – Turned Heading 2 hr – loaded car for Ayr filling kiln. Nice day using sleigh but very little snow.

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Thursday, Feb. 6 – Filled kiln fore noon – stormy. Lydia Phenix burial afternoon. Snow and sleet.

Friday, Feb. 7 – Finished kiln at 10 A.M. (2 hr). Smith then got up steam and started drying. Cleaned up mill – went to E. League at night. Very fine day.

Saturday, Feb. 8 – Very fine day. F. Phenix went on to work. Smith running kiln. Settled up with J. Miller and gave and received receipts in full.

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Monday, Feb. 10 – Snowed Sunday and quite good sleighing on Monday. Quite a lot of logs came in and yard is beginning to look better. Frank Phenix not feeling well.

Tuesday, Feb. 11 – Very stormy day, a regular blizzard all day. Quite a few logs came in. Am alone in yard.

Wednesday, Feb. 12 – Turned Heading $\frac{3}{4}$ day. Logs coming in quite plentiful. Loading car for Dundas. Not very good sleighing.

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Thursday, Feb. 13 – Heavy snow storm. Every thing full of snow – stormed all day. Not many logs came in. Turned Heading till four o'clock. Frank & I butted staves till six.

Friday, Feb. 14 – More snow – began custom sawing, logs rushing in – fine day. Shipped car to Dundas.

260 Bdl's staves	15600	30")
50 Bdl's "	5000	27")
75 Bdl's Heading	1500	seet) C.S.R. 30559
60 Bdl's Hoops	6000	6 ½ ft.)
20 Bdl's "	2000	5 ½ ft.)

Saturday, Feb. 15 – Fine in forenoon. Very stormy all afternoon rains, sleet and snow with wind cold. Custom sawing, Butler firing. Logs coming in freely.

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Monday, Feb. 17 – Carswell did not get up steam. I understand his wife is ill. I got J. Butler to fire $\frac{3}{4}$ dy time. Logs coming in.

Tuesday, Feb. 18 – Carswell did not come on. His wife is worse. J.B. fired 8 hr. Went to Ridgetown for to straighten up with Bean men did not get a cent. Logs coming in freely.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 – Butler firing. Very cold and story. Cannot do much as the timber is frozen so logs coming in.

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Thursday, Feb. 20 – Very cold, boys want to quit – let them off till noon. Bill fixing set lever. Got started at 1.30. Very cold.

Friday, Feb. 21 – Mr. Phenix came by **has give** out and A. Miller takes his place. Order for 2 cars stock for Montreal. Kiln is filled, loading car staves for Ayr. Very busy day with logs.

Saturday, Feb. 22 – Went to Ridgetown at 8.50 A.M. Home at noon. Shipped car staves to Ayr, busiest day yet – logs on logs coming in yard. Just about filled.

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Monday, Feb. 24 – Snow going fast but logs still coming in. Yard filled. **Lawing** custom saw not working very well.

Tuesday, Feb. 25 – Cold morning and evening snow going slowly. Went to R. Johnstons sale did not buy anything. Quit sawing at 11 A.M. Started kiln. Carswell let box get hot and melted babbot tried it after supper - Smith going to drain it all night.

Wednesday, Feb. 26 – Went to Tilbury on morning train stayed over night – went to Chatham next day renewed note \$500. Snow going fast.

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Thursday, Feb. 27 – Went from Tilbury to Chatham. Am thinking about putting in hoop machine. Came home at night long wait at **Fargo**. Snow on road nearly gone.

Friday, February 28 – Busy all day setting up for logs. Turned Heading afternoon. No snow, plenty of mud, fine day.

Saturday, Feb. 29 – Got saw hammered by Mr. Jacklin of Blenheim. Turned Heading $\frac{3}{4}$ day. Loaded car for Montreal. Packing staves on yard.

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Monday, Mar. 2 – Went to Ridgetown in the morning, got home on Local 12.10 P.M. Sawing lumber, speeded up saw. It then ran better but we had too much speed for butting saw. Busy getting staves of yard, fine weather for it. Cold in mornings.

Tuesday, Mar. 3 – Changed pulleys on Butting saw – then belt busted at noon. Loading car staves for Ayr. Fine day.

Wednesday, Mar. 4 – Turned Heading all day. Shipped car staves to “Ayr”.

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Thursday, Mar. 5 – Did not run mill, getting stuff ready to fix Boiler Arch. Smith and J. Landon pulling pipe for Mr. Welsh. Staves nearly of the yard. They will out run stock estimate. Ordered car hoops to be shipped in two weeks. Offered white ash Heading at 8c.

Friday, March 6 – Wet night, rain and sleet, everything covered with ice. Did not do anything till noon. Smith & McGaffery building arch under boiler. Wise, Wm. & Thomson drowning in staves. The rest of the boys putting W. Ash Heading in kiln.

Saturday, Mar. 7 – Rain at night and snow in the morning, finished drawing in staves and filling kiln – finished bricking boiler and cleaning it. Very nasty day – Susie and went down to farm.

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Monday, Mar. 9 – Did not start until 10 A.M. Packing joint on boiler. Cut lumber 7 hours. Frank drawing wood. Running kiln nights. Bot hay \$8.50 per ton. I draw it.

Tuesday, Mar. 10 – Began working 10 hrs per day, stormy. Baby not well. Frank one load of hay.

Wednesday, Mar. 11 – Cutting lumber all day. Frank drawing hay. Very cold, about---. Blocked up with Lumber. School concert at night.

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Thursday, Mar. 12 – Very cold day, did not saw but run white ash Heading through. Frank finished drawing hay, 5 Ton, 670 ft. \$45-30. Ordered car to load for Montreal.

Friday, Mar. 13 – Cold but fine, only ran 9 hrs. Smith to see his brother Bob. Turned Heading till 2 P.M. then went saw lumber but saw will not go right so I sent Palmiter to come and **povnu** **her** filling kiln again. Susie down at farm - I walked down after supper.

Saturday, Mar. 14 – Did not run mill, filled kiln & drew Heading. Fine day. Carswell went to Bothwell.

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Monday, Mar. 16 – Boyce started kiln at 12 A.M. Carswell did not come on. Smith went on at 8 A.M., ran kiln all day. Boyce went on at 6 P.M. Boys cording up heading and drawing to shed. Got word Palmiter would be here Tuesday noon.

Tuesday, Mar. 17 – Carswell firing kiln. Palmiter came at noon, stayed all night. Saw not working very well. Storing Heading, loading Ash into B.L.

Wednesday, Mar. 18 – Palmiter went home on Accom. Saw not doing well but sawed all day. Charged \$6.00. Frank took load staves to Ridgetown after noon. Got word mill going to run night – on the hunt for cooper.

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Thursday, Mar. 19 – Heavy snow storm. Blowing and covering everything with snow. Turned Heading 9 hrs. Got word from J. Best that he would come on Accom. Telegraphed for Hoops.

Friday, Mar. 20 – Still stormy, started at 7.30, run ½ hr then got word collision at station and man fastened in wreck. All quit work to help – got man out in about 1 hour not badly hurt but in bad shape from bruises and Exposure. Turned Heading ½ dy. Hoops came. Car of Hoops came – J. Best to work.

Saturday, Mar. 21 – Still blowing but no snow. Quite mild. T.H. till 3.30. Sawed till six. Shipped car to Wm. Paxton, Montreal, Ash 17 1/16 Bass. Frank started for Ridgetown but only got uptown. Memo of car – 9 piles 65 high – car 8 ft. across = 5 head, 1 pile 46 high thus.
 $9 P \times 65 = 585 + 46 = 631 \times 5 \text{ Heads} = 3155 = 1577 \text{ sett}$
 only billed 1500 sett also 175 Bdls Heading + 11 sett
 only billed 175 Bdls – B.L.500 54

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Monday, Mar. 23 – Sawing Moodys logs, went to Ridgetown. Simpson has no Bank on hand, telephoned for cooper. Settled with C.T. Wilson. Supper with G. Brown. Home on Accom.

Tuesday, Mar. 24 – Finished Moodys logs. Sawed some of J. Attridges. Frank took load to Ridgetown. Took Susie to farm, nice day.

Wednesday, Mar. 25 – Sawing J. Attridges logs all day, good days work. Fine day, Susie at farm.

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Thursday, Mar. 26 – Rain in morning, turning colder. 7 Heading till noon. Ground knives and fixed up machines. Windy and cold all afternoon. Susie got back from farm. Jumbo got lame foot. Drying up cow, getting milk from Abe.

Friday, Mar. 27 – Cold in morning. Turned Heading till noon, about 60 bundles, cut lumber till six. Very nice day. Good days work. Jumbo foot I think is **beating** very lame. Mill quit running nights.

Saturday, Mar. 28 – Cold raw wind all day. Cut lumber, drew wood, cut shingle Blocks. Rain at night. Mary went home. Jumbo's foot no better.

Page 27

Monday, Mar. 30 – Sawed lumber till 4 P.M. Word then came that Bob Smith was dead and Will Smith quit and went out to see him. Very fine day but lots of mud.

Tuesday, Mar. 31 – Turned Heading all day – fair days work. Very nice day. Went to Bogarts for tea.

Wednesday, April 1 – Windy during forenoon, showers afternoon. Quite a typical April day. Bob Smith was buried. Frank took Heading to Ridgetown. I cleaned up my bike. Mill did not run.

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Thursday, April 2 – Did not run mill. Frank & I moved Heading forenoon. Very cold and windy.

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday. Very stormy. Very quiet. Did not run mill.

Saturday, April 4 – Cold and windy. Frank took staves to Ridgetown. Busy at books, mill not running.

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Monday, April 6 – Yesterday was Easter Sunday. I & Rennie went for walk and to McLarens for Dinner. Today was cold and windy. Sawed lumber all day. Watsons Bro Mill in Ridgetown blew up at 7.20 A.M. I went up to see the wreck. It was a terrible sight – two men killed and three more badly hurt. Cause of explosion supposed to be low water and a high pressure of steam. R. T. of L. Concert at night. I acted as chairman. Not a large crowd but we had a good concert.

Tuesday, April 7 – Still cold and windy – quit cutting logs about 10 A.M. and started sawing Heading. Went down to Big ditch to spear pike, did not get any. G. Goldie came up, closed a bargain with him for 300,000 staves, rough pack price \$4.15 F.O.B. Highgate. Milder at night.

Wednesday, April 8 - Saw G. Goldie about sending more staves to Ayr. Will likely get off one car. W. McLaren & I got 23 fish. Got pretty wet. Stayed all night at Eau. Very nice day. Saw Heading. Smith & Carswell each lost ¼ day going up to see the wreck at Ridgetown. Went in to see W. Watson but did not see him. Think he will get better.

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Thursday, April 9 – Came home from Eau about noon. Settled up with A. Miller & Lambert.

Friday, April 10 – A. Miller & I went to Eau – got there at 6 P.M. Neb & Baileys light wagon. Nice day but bad roads.

Saturday, April 11 – Had good sport getting fish, got 25 nice ones. It rained till 10 A.M. Left Eau at 6 P.M., got home at 10 P.M. Bad roads.

Page 31

Monday, April 13 – At home all day. W. Watson died Sat. Evening at 10 P.M.

Tuesday, April 14 – Went to W. Watsons funeral. Susie & I home at 8 P.M. Tom (brother) was down.

Wednesday, April 15 – Cut Heading.

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Thursday, April 16 – Rennie, W. Handy & I went to Eau. Home at 2.30 A.M. Packing out of dome on boiler. Saw Gillonsters logs.

Friday, April 17 – Felt rather tough . Saw T. Clarks whitewood logs.

Saturday, April 18 – J. Goldie & I went to Ridgetown.

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Monday, April 20 – Smith helping J. Byfield. Cut Heading. Rain. W. London back peog....

Tuesday, April 21 – Smith at Buck Block Phenix scraping road ½ day. Cut Heading.

Wednesday, April 22 – Finished cut Heading. Phenix scraping road.

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Thursday, April 23 – Loaded car for Ayr, cutting shingles. Phenix scraping road.

Friday, April; 24 – cutting shingles, not making much headway. Shipped car staves to Ayr, 32,000. Rain during forenoon.

Saturday, April 25 – Went to Ridgetown. Susie went as far as Jimmy Gosnells. Am doubtful if I can get contract of mill. Did not run mill as Carswell did not come down. Smith putting roof on Buck Block. Phenix ½ day on road.

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Monday, April 27 – Cutting shingles. Slow work, do not think it pays to cut them from the log at 100 per.

Tuesday, April 28 – Cutting shingles. Went to Ridgetown in morning and again in evening to put in tender for supplying flour mills with barrels. Tendered at 23 ½ cents kiln dried stock, am to use patent trussen. Do not think I will get contract as Watson tender lower. But have figured as low as possible. Frank took two load of stock up to Ridgetown. Fine day. Good wheeling.

Wednesday, April 29 – Cut lumber, shingles, logs, jointed shingles, filled 6 Box – and got in shape to cut staves. Boyce went on at night to steam.

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Thursday, April 30 – Began cutting staves. Cut 6 Box. Rain afternoon but got Boxes all filled. Bent big saw.

Friday, May 1 – Cutting staves – fine day. Bill hammered saw and it was not so badly.

Saturday, May 2 – Went to Ridgetown to see about contract for mill. Not closed yet – but do not think I will get it. Cut 7 Boxes. Saw running good. Bicycle meeting at night – organized a club:

D. McMackon	President
J. Bogart	Vice “

G. Moody	Captain
J. Hussey	1 st Lieufftenant
Joe Reycraft	2 nd “
D ⁿ McPhail	Sec. Tresur.
W.J. Smith	Bicycles

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Monday, May 4 – Cut staves – fine day. Raised Derrick from tank at windmill.

Tuesday, May 5 – Went to Blenheim to Gun Tournament. I had better have stayed at home. Cut staves.

Wednesday, May 6 – Cut staves, fine day.

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Thursday, May 7 – Cut staves - fine day.

Friday, May 8 – Started to cut staves. Broke saw screw on stave machine. Went to Ridgetown to get one. Heard Watson had got contract at 20 cts. He will not keep it at that figure. Cut Boxes out after dinner. Very hot – men nearly bushed.

Saturday, May 9 – Filled boxes forenoon. Cut shingles afternoon.

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Monday, May 11 – Cleaned boiler. Smith putting on Carons roof ½ dy, cut shingles. Loading car for Buffalo. Price 4.75 F.O.B. Buffalo. No money in Heading at those figures. 100 pieces weighs 154 lb, rain.

Tuesday, May 12 – Cut staves – loading same car for Buffalo. Rain after dinner. Supper for Brett at night:

D. McMackon	Chairman
D.P. McPhail	W. McLaren
J. Lee	H. Bailey
J. Bailey	J. McLaren
C.A. Johnston	H. Johnston
B. Lietze	D. Rennie
W. Hardy	J. Beattie
L. McLaren	A. Miller

Supper did not break up till about 2 A.M. Some jolly.

Wednesday, May 13 – Cut staves. Fine day. Brett went away at night. **Falkr** done house cleaning.

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Thursday, May 14 – Cut staves. Fine day. Packed shingles.

Friday, May 15 – Cut staves. Abe Smith & I turned 21 Bdles Heading, shipped 10 to Bismark. Bicycle Club run at night. Bulk not well steamed – not enough wood.

Saturday, May 16 – Cut 8 Box & filled them. Big days work. W. Romstien got his foot cut off by train. Fine day. Went to Ridgetown at night on Wheel. Very dark coming home. Many went home.

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Monday, May 18 – Cut 8 Box – 6 before noon and 2 after dinner and sawed and filled 7. Rain in forenoon. Pilers did not do much but caught up after noon. Pulled pipe out of well and put it back again, found a piece of bark under valve. Well works fine.

Tuesday, May 19 – Fine day, cut 7 ½ box, last box nit well steamed. Turned 11 Bdls. Heading. Equalized ½ bu staves. Bailey took calf away. Frank drew gravel ½ day for mill, quite cold at night. Expect frost – will be sorry to see it. Dan Gillis not expected to live.

Wednesday, May 20 – Fine day – very light frost last night. Cut 8 Box. Turned 9 Bdls. Heading. Phenix took load to Ridgetown. Susie went to farm. Got \$100. from McLaren & Reycraft, \$100. from **I. In. Co.** and made draft \$100.00. H. Livingston to take up draft of S.T. Gordons 296.41. I gave Rennie \$100. & he gave me a cheque for \$200.00.

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Thursday, May 21 – Fine day. Cut 8 Box. Cut plank for Goldie, filled boxes. Insured stock on west side Johnsons side road with G.A.C. Anderson for \$1,000. at \$1.35 for 6 months and to pay \$8.10.

Friday, May 22 – Cut 7 ¾ Box, filled boxes, turned 12 Bdls. Heading. Hueys goods were sold today but **...** took 1 Box. Found some tools he had stolen from me. Bicycle Club went for a run. Met Ridgetown Club at town line, went to street up to Morpeth, on to Ridgetown and then home. Fine night.

Saturday, May 23 – Cut 7 Box. Fine day, went to Ridgetown. Settled up with Cockman & Wilson. Game ball at night, Monitors & Recorder. Score 5 to 8 in favour of Recorder.

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Monday, May 25 – Susie & I drove down to see Dan Gillis on Sunday. Do not think he will get better. Cleared boiler, went to Ridgetown. Came home early and took all the family to the social at E. Gosnells. Very heavy rain.

Tuesday, May 26 – Bolts not steamed. Cut one box then cut shingles till noon, finished boxes after dinner. D. Gillis died last night.

Wednesday, May 27 – Filled boxes, cut blocks for Gus Gosnell 1500 ft. Cut lumber, drew in heading. Will and wife in town. Sent **Concave** to Chatham.

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Thursday, May 28 – Heavy storm last night. Lightning struck W. Carswells house. Ran mill ½ day, turning Heading. Too windy to run after dinner. Will here, also his wife. Got telegram from Merchants Bank, Chatham asking me to okay half. It was very short notice but I got cheque from Rennie. I will try and get clear of the banks as soon as possible. Phenix drew sand ½ dy, went to Ridgetown with stock.

Friday, May 29 – Very windy. Finished cutting shingles at 11 A.M., did not do any more work. Phenix finished drawing sand for stone work for mill 4 ½ dys. Traded cow for pair trucks with “Barnes”, am to give \$5.00 to boot. Cow gone. Political meeting at town. Smith went to funeral Ridgetown – he bot place from soules

Saturday, May 30 – Cut Heading, jointed shingles – Concave came. Went to Ridgetown. Rain all afternoon. Paid E. Beattie 25cts. tonight for tobacco bot for part of week (Trute in Bill if he was chequed it off) but also another 25 c. worth tonight. Phenix 1 dy drawing sand.

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Monday, June 1 – Cut 8 Box, 5 fore noon, 3 afternoon, got done cutting at 3 P.M. and sawed and filled 7 Boxes in 3 hrs.

Fenix ½ dy drawing sand.

Miller 1 “ “ “

J. Button took calf away. Got Barney shod. Got C.A. Johnstons horse to draw out staves.

Tuesday, June 2 – Cut 7 Box. Miller 1 dy drawing sand.

Phenix ½ “ “ “

Mrs. John Scott was buried. Signed notes for W^m Simpson at 30 & 60 dys.

Wednesday, June 3 – Cut 6 ¾, 1 Box not well steamed. Miller 6 Hrs drawing sand – ½ day trip Ridgetown.

Phenix 6 “ “ “

Loading car staves for Ayr. Will have to unload part and repack them.

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Thursday, June 4 – Cut 7 Box. Loading car staves for Ayr, had to unload some of them as they were packed very poorly. Miller ½ dy drawing sand. Phenix 6 hrs. C.A. Johnston got his horse about 2 P.M. W. Wise then got W. Prays horse for me.

Friday, June 5 – Cut 7 Boxes. Bolts not steamed, cut 3 fore noon, 4 after noon. Started packing staves, find there in bad shape owing to wind storms blowing sand of (sic) the fields onto them.

J. Attridge raised his barn, very big crowd. Shipped cat to Ayr (staves).

Phenix 1 dy Drawing sand

Miller 1 “ “ “

Saturday, June 6 – Cleared Boiler after noon. Frank ½ dy drawing sand

Miller ½ “ “ :

Frank ½ dy drawing staves

Miller ½ “ Ridgetown. Went to Ridgetown. Am getting run short for money. No barrels going out and no stock being shipped. Will have to try and collect some from the farmers. Boys packing staves.

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Monday, June 8 – Sunshine. Rain and wind on Sunday. J. Goldie & Aldrich got stuck in mud with wheels. Fixed boxes – and filled them, also turned Heading. Some rain. No steam til 8 A.M.

Tuesday, June 9 – Cut 7 Boxes. Turned some Heading. Cleaned wheel up. Not much rain.

Wednesday, June 10 – Cut 7 Box. Stave pilers Wise & Hulman on strike. Loaded car for Fathers. Mr. Glon of Buffalo came on Evening train.

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Thursday, June 11 – Cut 7 Box. Pilers workd ½ dy. Some one cut lace on line shaft belt. Believe it was the pilers. Mr. Glon Examined stock. Drove him to Rodney. Sold him one car rough Heading and one car staves. He wants Heading shipped as kindling wood. Says the officials at Buffalo told him to do it that way. He is to send the Bill and if the Agent here will let it go alright. But I will run no chances. Made Draft on D. Clark – 200 Bot Hay from J. Gosnell. Went to hear Patterson speak at Ridgetown. (Margin note: “Price of Heading 4.00 & 4.40 according to width”)

Friday, June 12 – Cut 7 Box. Loaded car of 30” staves for E. & J. Glen Black Rock 30000, 600 Bds 36000 Price \$4.65 F/O.B. Highgate. Concluded to go to Chatham on Saturday.

Saturday, June 13 – Went to Chatham. Saw R.J. Phillips about Bal. due on old jointer. He agrees to accept Draft for \$22.00 at 20 dys. Saw Manager of Merchants Bank. He agrees to renew note. Heard Tupper speak in Opera House. Saw Tom and Will. Got home about 11 P.M. Abe paid the men. Cut 7 Box. Cut lumber for Sid Scott.

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Monday, June 15 – Cut 7 Box. Rains nearly all day. Cut lumber for L. Scott. Loading car Heading for Buffalo.

Tuesday, June 16 – Cut 7 Boxes. Loaded car Heading E. & F. Glon. Very heavy rain from 5 till 6 P.M. Paid Draft Samuel Rogers \$25.00 at Gillises.

Wednesday, June 17 – Cut 7 Box. Fine day. A little rain. Wise & Hulman done very poor afternoons work. Phenix ½ dy Roadwork. Shipped the car Heading to E & F. Glon, 20000 pieces @ \$4.40. Smith lost ½ dy settling up with Soules.

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Thursday, June 18 – Cut 7 Box. Phenix ½ dy Roadwork. Wise sick. Smith planting his lot ½ dy. Highgate & Morpeth played ball, 15 to 2 favour Highgate. Political meeting at night.

Friday, June 19 – Cut 7 Box. Phenix ½ dy on road. Fine day. Think 3 weeks will cut out the stock. 100 logs in mill yard besides the custom logs.

Saturday, June 20 – Cut 7 Box. Shipped car Heading to E. & F. Glon 12300.

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Monday, June 22 – Cleaned Boiler. Had her ready to fill at 8.20 A.M. Turned Heading after dinner. Phenix went to Ridgetown. Drew staves to warehouse. Beattie went to Bothwell to play Ball.

Tuesday, June 23 – Cut 7 Box. Election Day. A cold day for the Government. Had tooth ache, went to Ridgetown, got one tooth and a stump out and three filled. Cost 200. Went to Ridgetown again at night.

Wednesday, June 24 – Cut 7 Box. Some people are very much excited after election. I shall endeavour to not get mixed up in any of these quarrels. Smith moved out of my house at mill.

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Thursday, June 25 – Cut 7 Box. Turned some Heading for Watson Bros to go to **Lhoned**. Very heavy rain at 7 P.M. (margin note: “Cement 15 3/8”)

Friday, June 26 – Cut 7 Boxes. Grey got thumb in Stave Machine. Shipped 500 **sect** Heading to Thorold. Shipped car staves to E. & F. Glon, Buffalo. J. Anderson & Mrs. W. Watson called. Took cow to Bull **Test scats**.

Saturday, June 27 – Cut 6 ¾ Box. Last Box not steamed. Cut rafters for Jonas Gosnell. About 9 dys cutting yet.

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Monday, June 29 – Bolts not steamed. Cut 1 Box and filled it before dinner. Sawed 8 cord short bolts after dinner. Packed staves.

Tuesday, June 30 – Cut 7 Box. W. Smith sick all day. I filled Boxes, that is I run the saw. Went to Ridgetown forenoon. Paid freight on car Hoops from Tom 12.00. Discounted H. Livingstons Note for \$100. at 20 dys.

Wednesday, July 1 – Holiday – went to Wallacetown. Social at night.

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Thursday, July 2 – Did not run Mill – as injection was not working good and Farmer wants Babbating. Smith six very hot.

Friday, July 3 – Cut 6 Boxes – Bolts not well steamed. Very hot. Pilers quit.

Saturday, July 4 – Cut 7 Boxes. Very hot. Smith sawed. Pilers finished what they got behind yesterday and drew staves for one hour. Father and Mother came. Am glad to have them here. Will have about 5 days more cutting staves.

Page 55

Monday, July 6 – Cut 7 Box. Grey hot – sick at 11 A.M.
Beattie “ - “ “ 5 P.M.

Tuesday, July 7 – Cut 7 Box. Cut lumber for John Murray, Wise & Holman drew staves from 2 P.M.

Wednesday, July 8 – Cut 7 Boxes. J. Handy & I drove to Chatham. Bothwell & Chatham played Ball – 16 to 4. Got home at 10.30 P.M. Father and Mother went up to Tilbury.

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Thursday, July 9 – Cut 7 Boxes. Turned some Heading.

Friday, July 10 – Cut 8 Boxes, Sawed ½ staves till 2 P.M. G. Holman started to pack at 4 P.M. Cut the big log and did not get through with it till 7 P.M. it was a brute and the last Elm log.

Saturday, July 11 – Cut 9 Boxes and finished all the stave timber. Sawed lumber till six.

Page 57

Monday, July 13 – Cleaned Boiler. Moved in Heading and staves. Smith went out to Oakes. Did not run mill. Flour mill started up. Frank made two trips to Ridgetown. Grey & A. Gordon went to farm to draw in wheat. Rain began at 3.15 P.M.

Tuesday, July 14 – Turned Heading ½ day. Sawed logs ½ day for Harland, Boyce ran kiln at night. Rain at night. Father and Mother came home from Tilbury.

Wednesday, July 15 – Sawed logs ½ day, 24 ft stuff for Murray. Went to barn raising at N. Ferrises in afternoon. Fine day, cloudy.

Page 58

Thursday, July 16 – Finished sawing Murrays joists at 11 A.M. Turned Heading till six.

Friday, July 17 – Boys went on Excursion to “Falls”. Father & I went to Ridgetown.

Saturday, July 18 – Frank went to Lake for sand. I drove to Lake after dinner. No fish.

Page 59

Monday, July 20 – Rain till noon. Went to Windsor & Detroit. Stayed at Wills Moores 215 Park Street.

Tuesday, July 21 – Stayed in Detroit & Windsor all day and went to Tilbury L.E. & D. in evening (at the Boys mill).

Wednesday, July 22 – Stayed at the mill till afternoon and went to Tilbury at night, came home M.C.R.

Page 60

Thursday, July 23 – Loaded car for Ayr & one for Dundas and loaded a car to lighten warehouse.

Friday, July 24 – Rain till noon. Got warehouse ready to move.

Saturday, July 25 – Moved warehouse, got done at 3.10 P.M. Cost \$4.00 for John Beatons time. Tom came down. Fine day, some of the boy wheeled to Port Stanley.

Page 61

Monday, July 27 – Went to Eau on Sunday. Heavy rain coming home. Rain. Put new floor in warehouse. Lined up track in saw mill.

Tuesday, July 28 – Sawed lumber till 2 P.M., took piece of track to Ridgetown to have some like it cast. C. Tietzel Piled Heading till six.

Wednesday, July 29 – Turned Heading 9 Hrs. Heavy rain at 5 P.M. Shaving house blocked up.

Page 62

Thursday, July 30 – Smith fixed Heading press. Phenix & Tietzel drew Barrels and Heading.

Friday, July 31 – Phenix went to Ridgetown. Heading done. Nothing. Packed Heading fore noon.

Saturday, Aug. 1 – Phenix & I cut poles for Barrel racks. Rain in evening.

Page 63

Monday, Aug. 3 – no entry.

Tuesday, Aug. 4 – Went to the Eau for a two weeks holiday. J. **Ruise** drove team. David & wife, Buster John, Walter, Frank, Lizzie Bogart & family – Emma Lee and Ellen McLaren.

Wednesday, Aug. 5 – no entry.

Page 64

Thursday, Aug. 6 – no entry.

Friday, Aug. 7 – no entry.

Saturday, Aug. 8 – Wheeled home from Eau and went back Sunday morning.

Page 65

Monday, Aug. 10 – no entry.

Tuesday, Aug. 11 – no entry.

Wednesday, Aug. 12 – no entry.

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Thursday, Aug. 13 – no entry.

Friday, Aug. 14 – no entry.

Saturday, Aug. 15 – no entry.

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Monday, Aug. 17 – no entry.

Tuesday, Aug. 18 – no entry.

Wednesday, Aug. 19 – Came home from Eau. Had good time and wished we could have stayed longer.

Page 68

Thursday, Aug. 20 – no entry.

Friday, Aug. 21 – no entry.

Saturday, Aug. 22 – no entry.

Page 69

Monday, Aug. 24 – no entry.

Tuesday, Aug. 25 – no entry.

Wednesday, Aug. 26 – no entry.

Page 70

Thursday, Aug. 27 – no entry.

Friday, Aug. 28 – no entry.

Saturday, Aug. 29 – no entry.

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Monday, Aug. 31 – Loading car Heading for Buffalo. Went to Eau with Handy.

Tuesday, Sept. 1 – At the Eau Duck shooting. Got six. Got home at midnight, good time.

Wednesday, Sept. 2 – Loaded car for Galt – staves. Carswell running kiln. Smith ground planer knives 2 Hrs.

Page 72

Thursday, Sept. 3 – Rain till near noon. Carswell running kiln. Self, Phenix & J. Scott started to turn ½ bu Heading at 9 A.M. Newbury & Bothwell played Ball. Score 28-31, favour Newbury.

Friday, Sept. 4 – Carswell running kiln. Scott staking barrel rocks. Phenix **Downy** staves.

Saturday, Sept. 5 – Carswell running kiln. Smith cut J. Attridges logs. Very heavy rain at night. Took stock of staves on hand. About 80,000 all kinds.

Page 73

Monday, Sept. 7 – Turning Heading, ½ gang turned about 30 B.

Tuesday, Sept. 8 – 7 Heading ½ gang, 50 Bdl.

Wednesday, Sept. 9 – Packing staves and loaded car from Dundas. Peach social at night but quiet.

Page 74

Thursday, Sept. 10 – Packed 283 Bdl staves. Loading car for Ayr.

Friday, Sept. 11 – Packed 237 Bdl staves. Shipped car for Ayr. Very hot day. Sent out 116 apple Brls.

Saturday, Sept. 12 – Went to Ridgetown. Sent out 110 apple Brls.

Page 75

Monday, Sept. 14 – Packed 353 Bdl staves 55 No. 2. Hussy & his wife came home. Jim says he is about tuckered out. Loaded car staves for Ayr.

Tuesday, Sept. 15 – Packed 204 Bdl staves. Drawing staves off yard. Partridge shooting began.

Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Went shooting, got 2 Partridge. Drawing staves off yard.

Page 76

Thursday, Sept. 17 – Sent out load apple barrels 132. Oakes & I went after Partridge. Oakes got 1, I got nothing. Drew staves.

Friday, Sept. 18 – Drawing in staves. Will soon have yard clear.

Saturday, Sept. 19 – Rain till noon. Loaded car for Galt. W.S. 20196. 30000.

Page 77

Monday, Sept. 21 - Drove out to Zone Sunday – with H. Bailey. Drove out to Palymra at night with W.E. Handy. Hunted all day – J. Handy got 3 woodcock. W. Handy got sick. I got tired and hungry.

Tuesday, Sept. 22 – Turned Heading till 5.30 P.M. Roller on Planer broke.

Wednesday, Sept. 23 – Took Planer Roller to Wats Foundry in morning. Went to Eau with G. Brown at night. Smith ground knives after dinner.

Page 78

Thursday, Sept. 24 – At Esau all day. Brought back roller from Foundry at night.

Friday, Sept. 25 – Put in roller, set knives, planed lumber. 7 Heading ½ day.

Saturday, Sept. 26 – Turned Heading till 4.30 P.M.

Page 79

Monday, Sept. 28 – Sawed ¼ dy. Moved Walkers Gallery. Made 5 barrels.

Tuesday, Sept. 29 – Ten years ago today Susie & I were married. C. Tietzil & I made 68 B. Bls. Rain all day.

Wednesday, Sept. 30 – C. Tietzil & I made 16 Bean & 11 apple, then turned till 4.30 and made 12/28 Bean Bu. Rain all fore noon.

Page 80

Thursday, Oct. 1 – C. Tietzel & I made 72 bean Bls.

Friday, Oct. 2 – Went to Ridgetown with wife, busy in shop – advertized for cooper. Will likely need more A. Barrels. C. Tietzel made 31 B. Bls.

Saturday, Oct. 3 – C. Tietzel & I made 70 Bean Bls. Frank took load stock to Ridgetown. Fine day. Notation: 275 Bean, 11 Apple [barrels]

Page 81

Monday, Oct. 5 - C. Tietzel & I made 70 Bean & 33 apple B = 78. Jim Scott helped W.A. Gosnell from 3 P.M.

Tuesday, Oct. 6 – Turned Heading, Sawed posts for fair grounds. Rain. Scott & Pray worked till 4.30. Carswell started at 1.30. Ridgetown Fair Day.

Wednesday, Oct. 7 – Turned Heading.

No further entries for 1896

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1900 - written in pencil in same diary. Day & month match 1900 calendar.

Monday, April 16 (November stroked out) – Did not get started until noon. Back Hand Hole leaking and had to fill boiler. Turned ½ bul Head ½ dy – Fine Day. Loaded car for Ayr.

Tuesday, April 17 – Turned till 10.30 A.M. Finished loading ½ car with ½ bul stock. Started to rain at noon, had to quit work at 3 P.M. Very heavy rain but quite warm. Sent local lot cooperage to **Dutton**.

Wednesday, April 18 – Finished filling kiln at 11 A.M. Abe **curled** 2500 Hoops – slow job. Got saw back not working right yet. Girard started to Fire nights.

Page 94

Thursday, April 19 (November stroked out) – no entry.

Friday, April 20 – At O.U.W. Presentation at Ridgetown. Took up Saw Mandril to Foundry.

Saturday, April 21 – no entry.

Page 95

Monday, April 23 – Went to Ridgetown Monday night for Saw Mandril.

Tuesday, April 24 – Cut 3 Box Hoops.

Wednesday, April 25 - Cut 3 Box Hoops.

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Thursday, April 26 - Cut 3 Box Hoops.

Friday, April 27 - Cut 3 Box Hoops.

Saturday, April 28 - Cut 3 Bx Hoops.

Page 97

Monday, April 30 - Cut 3 Box Hoops. Hired Paul Clever stave cutter to cut Hoops & staves. Wages \$2.75 per day. He says he can get me a cutter \$1.25 per day. Hired Sullivan to pile staves 9 cts per M. Hired Marcus (Buthwell) 1.10 per day.

Tuesday, May 1 - Cut 3 Box Hoops.

- No further entries in pencil.

- Next entries written in pen, same ink colour as 1896. Unable to confirm the year, but suspect it is 1896.

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Monday, Dec. 28 – A. Miller & I went down to Duart. I paid D. D. McDonald and Mrs. McDonald for the Elm. I also let job of cutting to S. Thompson and Davidson at \$45.00 per M. [The above was written and stroked out].
Closed Bargain with the above parties for the Elm.

Tuesday, Dec. 29 - And went down and paid for it as above. Turned Heading 4 hrs.

Wednesday, Dec. 30 b- Let contract. Mr, Gilmore to cut and Deliver into my yard all the Elm I bought from Duncan D. McDonald at \$1.90 per M. If brought in on sleighs if he has to truck it 2.00 per M. Also Bot all the Elm on McGregor Farm, Comer Town Line and Silver Street, Aldborough for \$44.00.

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** approx. 33 employees identified