MONDAY, May 18th, 1857.

Some frost last night, and a very fine day has followed, although again to night it is coolish, I have been in Guelph to day, and purchased a Bureau, and table, and other thing preparatory to the raising of the Barn I also got this Book, and the work entitled the "Tongues of Fire", —

Business seems at present in — Guelph to be exceedingly dull, — the prevailing circumstances seeming to be, No Money And No work — along the road we could see that there was considerable sowing yet to be done, and the Land still — not more than ready. a very Backward season it seems to be all over John Francey to day has finished his chopping, so that nothing more will be done to it untill the Brush is burnt, Elisha Hamilton is here to day on a visit, Robert Barker brought her she intends to be off again to morrow

TUESDAY, May 19th, 1857.

A little frost last night - and the day has turned up very fine. There is a fine bracing wind. Uncle Nichol has sowed five Bags of oats to day in the upper field, - the 15 ridges next the summer Fallow is of - the Cr. grassing seed. The Land is still rather wet, and the oxen have been greatly fatigued plodding over it. They harrowed in the 15 ridges. Adams has come to night with his Stud horse This is the third night for him. Uncle Alexander took down Eliza Hamilton to Rockwood with the Waggon this afternoon Isabella went down with them and a shopping. The Framers have been at work Yesterday And to day in addition to four days last week.

(Foals)

WEDNESDAY, May 20th, 1857.

Cooish last night, although I do not perceive any frost. The wind has been very strong to day, and the land is drying up very fast. I finished sharrowing the oats to day. Jamie did it with Edward Mc Dermaid's mare, we have had her now 3 days, Edward has my oxen to day, logging a piece for potatoes. "Flower" foaled some time last night, and the foal is very weak on its forelegs: we have had a great job with it, trying to bandage them so as to strengthen it but it would not work well. Edward Mc Dermaid came to mow and took away his mare. John Francey and William Dixon started this morning for Luther. Uncles are busily engaged preparing the Orchard for potatoes. Alec & I have been sawing timber in the woods this afternoon

THURSDAY, May 21st, 1857.

Not so cool last night, and to day has been very hot and drying. There is also rather a patchy wind, the colt is still very weak although it seems to have more courage in putting its feet to the ground; Alec and I have been ~~scoring timber in the row~~ I drew out the timber to the Framing ground that we hewed yesterday, and score hacked it edgeways in the afternoon Alec is ploughing for potatoes. Old Peter Symms was buried to day he died last Tuesday morning

FRIDAY, May 22d, 1857.

Friday 22d 1857

Rather smoky weather, and very warm and drying; appeared - something like a change, but it all went off again. Alec and I - cleared off the remaining part of the last 5 acre fallow, and ploughed - about half an acre which he gives me to put my potatoes in, the colt is now gathering strength pretty fast, and I now see, and have seen that it gets suck pretty regularly - John Francy has got back from - Sutton to night. and not bought any Land after all, we have had a visit of James Mitchele to night, and had a kind of argumentative talk on religious - matters, which did not prove very agreeable, I do not think there is any good in arguing against declarations with one of a sect, they seem to delight so much in the theory they have fostered up for themselves,

SATURDAY, May 23d, 1857.

Continues smoky and dry, The Sun comes out very strong these days and a dry hot wind is parching up the ground very much, The colt has now got strong enough to be stammering through the Field, although it certainly at best is but a very lame looking Cobble

Jannie and I, with the help of John in the afternoon Francy, have managed to plant nearly all the potatoes to day, The seed is all composed of cuts, with the exception of a Bushel of the early red Kind — Margaret cut those this afternoon — and they take up a dozen of rows in the patch, and beginning from a stake — which I planted on their western row — Hassett & Mink has moved off to day Bag and Baggage — Alex and Uncles have been working in the orchard to day, getting out dung, ploughing, and preparing it for potatoes,

very hot, with an exceedingly drying wind, there are a great many fires round, and they seem to burn very wildly, it is rather singular What things should be so dry, the country being so very wet such a short time ago, we have had a visit of Thomas Tolton he was left all alone when over home, and he stayed with us a good while, the colt seems to be getting stronger though it is but slowly, I scarcely left home to day, and had a little walk round seeing how things were, Margaret and I at night took a walk down the Line and called at Robert Morlows, it was rather late, and we stayed but a few minutes,

Continues still very drying — the wind has blown pretty strong all day, finished planting my potatoes to day. I set down the Plum trees, I helped to score a sleeper and parlour plate this forenoon, and in the afternoon drew them up to the Framing ground John Francey got home to night from another Lumber ramble, and did not succeed in getting Land, Mastin Keating has been at Guelph to day, and has to night brought up News of a terrible fire that has been raging to day at Rockwood and Eramosa and also the country round — he says such a Terrible scene he never saw of the Kind, the fire has got into Alec's Fallow to day, and I see a great many Fallows that seems to be burning People should be very cautious at this time in the putting out of fire

TUESDAY, May 26th, 1857.

A little cooler to day, but there is still a pretty strong wind I have been a good part of the day in Everton, watching with the rest, in case of the fire breaking out again, it did not rise much it appears as if it had gone as far yesterday as it could well go Mr Everist fences are terribly burnt down, I was helping with the rest to right them as well as possible but very little could be done, save putting up the very outside fences in order to keep the place from being a commons altogether — I have been asking hands for the raising of the Barn and have to night about 35 promised, Alec and Uncles have been working all day at Peels Potatoe Patch, James McKeen has got up from Esquesing to night all well down there

WEDNESDAY, May 27th, 1857.

Not too warm to day, and we have had a very refreshing Shower, the first since the dry spell commenced, it will do much good for the crops it will also make the fires less dangerous in the country, a great deal of damage I believe has been done already. Mr. Everts Barn had a narrow escape, Martin Gestin with his oxen this forenoon helped me to draw in the stones for the Barn foundation — in the afternoon I went down to Everton and brought up some scantling, I also called at Jonathan Towle's and brought along Pike poles, Alec has been out the greater part of the day asking bags, Mr. Adams has been here all night with his horse

commenced to rain this morning after Breakfast, and continued on till the middle of the forenoon when it kind of broke up and the rest of the day was made up of now and then a Shower and again a while of sunshine. we got the foundation of the Barn so far laid as for dinner as to be ready for the sleepers, and shortly after dinner, enough of hands had gathered to raise the building, the heavy showers of rain were very disagreeable, however it had not the effect of slacking the energy of the men to get up the Building Jonathan Fuel and Duncan Robertson were the Captains, and they showed themselves worthy the Post, William Dakin managed his part as Master very well, and the frame was up in good time without any serious hurt to any one, and without any disturbance

FRIDAY, May 29th, 1857.

Quite a change to day — from the fine agreeable warmth we have had this week past — we have again the chill of a november day. I packed up the Pike Poles this morning and took them home again I also before coming home went down to Liverton and as well as doing some business there, brought home a load of scantling, the otes are getting rather thin with the management of them at present, too much cart and too little feed, I have just been to night seeing after pasture for them, the colt does not seem to mend very fast, we put on a pair of Boot Legs tight round the joint, but it seemed to do more harm than good, and after wearing them from yesterday morning. I took them off to night

SATURDAY, May 30th, 1857.

Much finer than yesterday, feels like fine growing weather, Things are now tolerably moistened up. I have been logging for James McEachnie to day in rather a rough spot, The means up for Potatoes, James Mitchell, Jonathan Cox, and James Theaker were helping him we wrought through the day very agreeably and got along very well with the work.

The Potatoes over the way have just got finished with planting the Potatoes in the Orchard, The colt seems to do better without the leather Bandage on its legs, though it is still very weak.

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SUNDAY, May 31st, 1857.

Some little rain last night — and to day has been fine. Though rather cool, we have had quite a long visit of the Schoolmaster to day, Alexander Cambell — he is certainly a very intelligent young man, he has a great store of information, and at same time is very communicative — I think he is greatly inclined to be sceptical in regard to religious Matters, discarding every thing that does not seem to agree with the Cannon of Reason, This night we had a visit of Thomas and William Tolton, we put the two Mares into Dunbar's Pasture Grounds, with the Understanding that we pay one Dollar an half per Month, for each mare, the foals included with the mares —

MONDAY, June 1st, 1857.

Very fine day, we had some rain last night, and things are looking bright and fresh. I think this is the finest growing day we have had this season. I have been looking at the meadow to day and was agreeably surprised at it. I did not expect to see it looking so well, the spring wheat and oats though far behind what they should be at this season of the year, are looking healthy. The Peas are doing very well. Alec has ploughed the last of the piece left in his new fallow. He means it for Turnips and I believe a small part of it for Potatoes. I was drawing rails and heightening the fence at the house this forenoon, in the afternoon Uncle Nichol and I have been building the Milk house, but did not quite finish it.

TUESDAY, June 2d, 1857.

very fine growing day, warm and showery, with little wind I have been working this forenoon and till supper time at the mill to house, and round it, fixing the ground so that the water could get off. after supper I went down to Everton with the oxen and brought home a Load of lumber the roads are rather slippy on account of the showers when down there, I met in with Duncan Robertson and he was telling me he was going off in the morning to the Black Doctor with his son John, he continues very poorly. Ransom Adams is here to night with his horse all is well with him, and he says he is getting along very well.

WEDNESDAY, June 3d, 1857.

A little cool in the morning but a very fine growing day, towards night we had a very heavy fall of rain, and I think it things will have to grow now if it keeps warm. I went twice to Everton for Lumber to day, the load I brought in the afternoon was a pretty large one. Ben Carr also had a load and we both got caught in the heavy rain in coming home. The road work is going on to day in Everton, Alec finished planting his potatoes to day in the new land, Uncle Nichol shore the half of the sheep this afternoon, the colt is still pretty weak in the fetlock joints but I think to night it appears to be improving. Uncle Martin Gates Gipsy foaled this morning.

THURSDAY, June 4th, 1857.

pretty heavy frost last night
Appeared this morning dull
and raining like, but about —
ten o'clock it cleared up and we
had a very fine day. I was diggin
a little in the garden this fore-
noon and doing up some little
chores after dinner I started
off for Tolton's raising, Alex
and some other of the neighbours
came on behind me, Margaret
and Isabella went over in the
morning, we had all a share
of dishes to carry. The building
went up fine, and was finished
as that supper was over long
before sun down. The hands
were divided, and there was as
tight a race as I ever saw —
we are called to the road —
work for Tuesday next —
I have to take the oxen

FRIDAY, June 5th, 1857.

Somewhat cool last night and a good part of this forenoon was dull and drizzly, but it however cleared off to be a very fine day. I went down to Everton this forenoon and brought home a good load of Lumber, in the afternoon Margaret and I shore the sheep, and were not much more than two hours and a half over them. Alex went down after supper and brought home a load of Lumber for me. The colt Lilie continues very weak, its hind legs seem to be getting greatly lean, I think it is owing to the weakness of the front ones, and the consequent pressure behind. I hear to night that Alex Stewart was shivereed last night, it seems that he and Mary Black have made a match

SATURDAY, June 6th, 1857.

Very fine growing day, though it is rather drying, - the wind having a very dry feel with it - I hitched up the Mares this morning to the Waggon, and took them down to Everton, got there front feet shod and brought home the last of the Lumber with them I had 300 feet of door stuff, for which we only pay for sawing, having had the Logs ourselves, as we left the Logs behind, - the mares were exceeding fractious, we washed the cart to day, after coming home, I tried the mares at the Plough but got fairly beat with them they were so furious about there colts, Alec went down with the cart this afternoon, he intends seeing at Brambleton before coming home I broke out a few lands in the Summer fallow to night with the one

SUNDAY, June 7th, 1857.

Very fine day, not too warm — and things I think are growing fine. We had a visit of John Robertson Junr. this forenoon, I went up to James Mitchells a little while, by way of company to him he had dinner with us and then started off for home, Margaret — Mary Jane, Peggy and Betsy went down on a visit to — Duncan Robertsons, while Willie Deakin and I joined them there after going to visit George — Cutting, who is now very low — we started from there, after getting Supper and I had — quited a long conversation with the schoolmaster, we rather — differed as to what constituted virtue and vice, We have had a visit of Thomas and William Lolwin this afternoon.

MONDAY, June 8th, 1857.

Exceedingly misty day, with sometimes a sprinkling of rain, I hitched up the oxen to begin to plough in the morning but had to quit on account of the rain until near dinner time in the afternoon I ploughed quite a nice piece. it turns over very nice, and the oxen were soon pretty handy — Alex got home from Peterboro to night. he gives a very poor account of the state of the fall wheat down by Esquesing — Betsy Stewart poor girl is — I understand very poorly she seems to be very weak in both mind and body — William Justin went down again this morning to Everton and means to work there this week yet, I would like he now stay till finished

Road TUESDAY, June 9th, 1857. work

Dull and warm, with a little drizzling of rain towards night we had a very heavy shower which made us quit our road work an hour before the time. This spell of damp weather I think is the best growing weather we have had this season, we have been working on the roads to day - our job all day has been the bridge, we succeeded in laying one bank ment of large stones on the one side of the creek. Martin Jeakin's oxen and my own togeth drew the largest ones, I was at Overton to night and brought home my hat, and stuff for brown coating 8 lb 15/7½ we have been asked to belong Labels raising to day, for there Mr Adams is here to night for all

road WEDNESDAY, June 10th, 1857. work

Clear, dry and very warm —
fine growing weather, we have had
a long day at the road work to
day, we took supper to night
and then wrought till dark —
James Mitchell was desirous that
we should leave the Bridge for
the night so that teams could
cross over it without danger —
I have been there with the open all
day, James Mitchells and Martin
Jetlin's open were there also drawing
stone the most of the day —
They are making a pretty good
job of the Bridge, we finished
one Abutment and overlaid it
to day — The colt I think looks
stronger on its hind legs to night
although it seems to be loosing
a little on the front ones —
James Mitchell cut out my sheeted
Trousers to day, and began to cut the
vest —

THURSDAY, June 11th, 1857.

Rather dull this morning — but turned out to be a fine day after all, we were working at the Bridge this forenoon & and got it so that we could leave it in the afternoon, and attend Henry Talbots raising the main Bridge is now passible, and I believe the next operation will be to make another Culvert this way of it, at the raising there was a great number of hands, and the Barn was put up very smartly and without any accident, the shed was all up before we got there, I saw Alexander Anderson and he was telling me that Peter McDougall was now in a very low condition — the cancer had now worked down to his neck, and he suffered much Mr Rodgers came home last night —

FRIDAY, June 12th, 1857.

Very fine forenoon with scattery clouds, in the afternoon it colloughed up, and from about 4 oclock until about 6 we had a terrible rain, some large hail stones fell in the midst of it. The men at the roads betook themselves to the woods for shelter but soon found themselves in no very enviable condition after clearing home and getting supper we went back and finished our job, as it cleared up to be a fine night. The men were working yesterday afternoon at the Bridge, and I have had them alone to day. This days work was for the poll tax over by, we are all now clear for this year, as well as paying 3 days that lay over from last year. James Mitchell has not been with us to day, James Thacker was Boss in his place, and I think managed very well

SATURDAY, June 13th, 1857.

Fine, Breezy, Warm day, the air partaking something of the summer warmth, a luxury we have not been much accustomed to this season — we hitched up the mares in the Lumber waggon and Uncle Abraham drove Mr. Rodgers, Mary Jane and I down to the Rockwood Station, in the afternoon, on getting aboard of the cars we had not rode much over twenty minutes before we reached Georgetown, and there found my Fatherinlaw in waiting for us with the Buggy, and Janet along with him, he gave me the Girls to drive home while he took the stage to Normal when in Normal he changed on another ride which took him nearly home — on arriving down I found Mother very unwell with her hand, the Baby had troubled her much, the sore on her hand has much the appearance of a thimble turned upside down on the back of her hand and the inside filled with the tops of the cancer Weeds

SUNDAY, June 14th, 1857.

Very fine day, Sunshine, and although pretty warm, still it lacks the fine genial heat so much needed at this season, it is rather a remarkable season this. Things seem to be growing pretty rapidly notwithstanding. The cool weather there is a very good appearance for fruit, as far as I could observe, I put on the saddle on Nancy the young mare and rode up to Annis got dinner there and started soon after, by the way home I called to see the Credit Bridge, it is really a grand sight, after getting down I found quite a number of visitors there, after supper Peter and I went over to James Morrises and saw the Lambs with the View Lot.

calfe

MONDAY, June 15th, 1857.

Very raw and cold this morning and continued so until late in the night when it became more mild, My Father in Law, hitched up the Buggy and drove me up to Georgetown we were there more than an hour before the cars started. Mr Rodgers was waiting when we got to the Station, and he went up to Guelph in the same train with me, when I arrived in Rockwood I found Uncle Nichol with Flower and the Light Waggon come to meet me, The train came up very smart to night, when I arrived home I found that Jessie had a Calf, a fine sprightly heifer The colt is still very weak I am begining to have fears for its recovery — — —

TUESDAY, June 16th, 1857.

Quite showery and dull all day, it is still rather cool for good growing weather — George Gray has been logging yesterday and to day for Alex, it is rather murky to day for it. I drew over to the Barn the Pine Planks and cinch and piled it for drying, I expected to plough to day but it was rather wet. — Margaret had a visit from Mrs Morton yesterday, to night it is very misty and there is lightning flashing without any thunder that I hear, Mr Adams has come to night with his horse all is well with him, Margaret has now a fine lot of chickens she has had no luck with her turkeys this season. —

very misty this morning, and raining a little untill pretty well in the forenoon, it then cleared up to a fine day George Gray came to start loggin to day but they got discouraged and George went home again - I have been ploughing and got very well along for the time the oxen work real well in the plough for the practice they have had, Alec has hung his gate to day, Margaret is on picking her wool, in order to have it ready in a day or two for the carding mill I have been washing the calfs joints with cold water and salt this day or two, and do fancy it somewhat stronger there has been quite a mist this night again, fine growing day.

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THURSDAY June 18th, 1857.

Very warm, and occasional showers, as fine a growing day I think as we have had this season. George Gray has been logging to day for Abe, I have been ploughing to day in the summer fallow and got very well along. Mr. Webb has been helping Margaret to day at the picking of the wool. In the afternoon Mary Jane Perkins was helping too. They finished the wool before night. I left the colt out to night, in order to see how it will do, it seems not to get sick enough when shut up all the time. Dunbar has been working away at his outside fences, Mrs. — some time back, and has finished to night all but. I got a letter to night from Jane Marshall by a young man, now in Hamilton

FRIDAY, June 19th, 1857.

Fine day, but not very warm. I think the crops would be the better of some continuance of warmer weather. I have been ploughing at the summer fallow all day. I see Mr. Crane is also busy with his. James McMichael and John Francey have been splitting rails for me to day. They say that the cedar timber down in the 25 acre corner is remarkably tough to split. This morning we found 3 dead sheep on the side of the line, opposite John Reeder, one of which was Alex Ram. The third we could not say was ours as it had not the proper mark, but to count the lost named one, there is still a sheep and a lamb missing.

SATURDAY, June 20th, 1857.

Very fine growing day, I think it is a little warmer than yesterday, in the afternoon it was pretty wet, sometimes a pretty heavy shower, the rest of the time a drizzling kind of rain. I have been ploughing in the summer fallow and finished it to day. Uncle Nichol and Jamie were in to Guelph to day, with Tommy and light waggon. They foolishly left the colt in Dunbars Pasture along with the rest of the wild colts, and it was a little to get hurt among them, my Goal aims to be strong then up a little. I saw William Matthews to day he seems to be in good spirits his artificial leg continues to give him satisfaction.

SUNDAY, June 21st, 1857.

Very fine day, clear for the greater part of day, although we had two heavy showers of rain, one was exceedingly so. I had a walk over the Place to day, Alec's Spring wheat looks really very fine, the Fall wheat has also gathered wonderfully round again. The meadows are looking excellent, my oats are looking very well - but the Spring wheat is rather inferior, - the apple trees & plants early in the spring are all mostly leafed out, and appear as if they might live. I was rather surprised to night by hearing that John Franey had got Baptized to day, such is the case however, we need not be surprised at any thing in this life we have had a visit of Mr William Jeakins to day, he and I had a walk out in the woods

MONDAY, June 22d, 1857.

Very wet and cold day, a steady rain from the morning until about 4 oclock, when it kind of slackened off a little, I put the Mare and weak foal into the old stable a good while to day on account of the cold rain— The foal seems to be getting some stronger I continue to rub it with Vedeldor, since I quit the cold water I brought home three loads of Blocks and chips from the Framing ground after the rain quit. I had intended to be drawing rails from the swamp ~~to day~~ this forenoon to the summer Fallow but the rain prevented me, in the afternoon I was to be at the rail cars with the team but also for that, in the time of the rain I was reading away at the Rev Wm B Rosan, I have just finished reading a small work entitled the History of the Scottish Empire

TUESDAY, June 23d, 1857.

very fine day, the morning was very cold, but when the sun got up the warmth came along with it, in the forenoon I cleared the way to draw the rails through Martin Destins field, and drew some rails on the summer fallow, after dinner I hitched the mares and light waggon, and Uncle and Margaret drove down along with me to Rockwood and met Mary Jane at the station. The roads, and especially through Whiteen are exceedingly bad — they are rutted so, I got 20 Dollars from Mr Bane to on Park Payment of his account — Adams is there to night again all right, got at store to night 2 Pails 1/2 8, 1 lb Tea 3/6, 4 1/4 yards Print 9,

WEDNESDAY, June 24th, 1857.

very dull this morning but cleared up after awhile to a beautiful day, still having through it all the prevailing coolness. Alex and I started off this morning to John Gillis's and helped to raise a Shed And Barn, it was very heavy Timber, and in the fore part of the day the work seemed to go very heavily along — however after awhile the men got briter, and got done in pretty good time without any serious accident, and without quarrelling. I Paid Rufus Coats 16 Dollars to day on Part Payment of account — William Hazlett Paid 3 Dollars to day for the 6 or 8 Hay he got in the spring

THURSDAY, June 25th, 1857.

Very Fine day, and Considerable warmer than it has been for some time. I have been at Jonathan Cox's to day helping him to raise a Log Barn, and a pretty heavy job it was. he had hardly hands enough, and the Logs were pretty heavy Margaret has white washed all the house to day — and had it all done before I got home from the raising Duncan Robertson came after the Light Chaise to day. he is going down to the Island Doctor to morrow with John Poor John seems to be getting all the time worse. His Father has but poor hopes of him —

(very fine beautiful day — and I believe the warmest as yet this season. if it should keep this warm & dry it will — make the crops grow rapidly I have been drawing rails from the swamp to the summer fallow, Uncle Alexander went in my place to John Webb's to help to raise his house, Margaret is still at the cleaning up to day yet — white washing the outhouses and fixing up inside, I was looking at the colt to day and I cannot say I see much improvement — it still falls over when — walking, the Stalls is over the cows have been white washed to day,

continues still very warm indeed it has been quite hot and we are at last getting summer weather. I have been drawing ale day at the rails again, and as they are very heavy I have had a hard job with them, — however I finished to night. — Margaret is rather poorly just now I think it may be the warm weather that is doing it Mrs. Mitchell was down visiting Margaret to day, Uncles & Alec have been hoeing at their Potatoes to day, they are hardly ready yet, — but they are very dirty. William Jestin came on to go at the Barn to day, but as John wished his help to start John Wells house he went to him, I believe he means to go at it on Monday, John Jestin is finishing John Wells House, for 25 Dollars —

SUNDAY, June 28th, 1857.

very hot this forenoon, bright sunshine, and a fine breeze which made it more endurable, in the afternoon it was I think somewhat cooler, thundering a little and one smart little shower. I had a fine wash in the creek to day for the first this season. we have had a visit from James Menzies Junr from Esquesing his sister Elizabeth is now upstairs with him and intends staying a week & she will likely give us a visit. I hitched up the mare and light waggon and took Margaret down to her Uncle Duncans towards evening, John poor fellow is looking very bad, I am afraid that it will go very hard with him, he is swelled up so in the legs, his face too is swelled considerably, I hear that George Cutting has got so far round again as to be able to be out to day and take a walk

MONDAY, June 29th, 1857.

Very fine growing day, a little cooler than we have had it this some days back, but still warm enough for fine growing weather There was from 7 till about between ten and Eleven in the forenoon a very heavy rain, William Jestin has begun his work to day, at the Barn and sided quite a piece, Alex & I cut and drew from the wood scaffolding and Ladder Poles for William's work, I also drew all the shingles and most of siding from the old Lane on to the building ground, we have now these few nights back had the cows into the pasture it is getting up pretty nicely now I saw to day the young cattle they are looking real well, to be running the woods, the Erin village court is held to day -

TUESDAY, June 30th, 1857.

Levis a change last night — exceedingly cold this morning for the time of the year. Put up a fence to day, the forty rod stretch from the Line to the back of Barn, six rails high and had it finished at between 4 & 5 oclock. Alec finished the Large Ladder for William Jestin to day. William has been at work to day, John Webb's Framers have been at work to day for the first — Adams is here to night all night he intends making this his last this season. The Foal is better to night than ever I saw it. This is the first real change for the better, it is while to go about us thoughts treading down. Margaret had a visit down at Her Uncle Duncans to day. Jo[hn] was very poorly when she was there — Elizabeth Menzies came up with her she is paying us a visit

WEDNESDAY, July 1st, 1857.

Coolish this morning and very dull ~~mostly~~, the most of the forenoon there was a drizzling rain, and sometimes it would break out pretty heavy I drew the last of the Lumber over to the Barn this forenoon in the afternoon I went at the drawing of the stones to underpin the Barn with. William has been at work a part of today, Uncles and Aleg have been hoeing up the Lane today, Margaret & Elizabeth Benjies with Mary Jane and Nancy have been paying a visit to Mitchells this afternoon Elizabeth is staying with us to night as well as last night The foal continues to mend -

THURSDAY, July 2d, 1857.

Fine warm growing day —
showery and wet in the forenoon
but cleared up to be very dry —
and fine in the afternoon —
we heard this forenoon of John
Robertson becoming alarmingly
ill, and after dinner I hitched
up the mare to the light waggon
and took down Margaret, Betsy
Mary Jane & Becca to see him
after seeing him, I could have no —
hopes of him. his legs were fearfully
swollen, and he was exceedingly &
restless, after some consultation it was
agreed upon that I should go after
a Doctor, and I immediately started
off, I had not gone further than Mr Lewis's
when I met with Doctor Parker the very man
wanted, and I persuaded him to turn back
all was of no use. Poor John died a few —
hours after, at about half past seven. leaving a
mourning family behind. they were all present
Mary excepted and I were present —

FRIDAY, July 3d, 1857.

very fine growing day, pretty warm, thundering, and a little rain in the afternoon, William Jeffin has to night got the front of the Barn all sided on the one end finished, and the the north Gable. the west side of the Barn he has begun I harrowed all the summer fallow with the oxen, it was a very rough job, Margaret has been down at her Uncle Duncans to day she came home with her aunt Mitchell at night. in the waggon her Father has come up to night with the Buggy, Isabella was taken rather unwell, else her mother was to have been up with the Buggy John Tracy is now peeling Bark for me, he began yesterday morning

WEDNESDAY, May 13th, 1857.

Very fine warm day. I went down to Rockwood to day, to meet Mary Jane, at the cars — and when getting there I found that her aunt Janet Robertson was — with her. I also saw Agnes Mc. Farlane at the Train — I got the two Ladies conveyed from Rockwood to Everton by Blevins Team, and I was very thankfully for it, as I had only prepared myself with a horse and saddle "Fanny" foaled last night a fine horse colt, both are doing well appearingly.

SATURDAY, July 4th, 1857.

very fine day, bright Sunshine and very warm, there had been wet through the night which made every thing look fresh and pretty — Margaret Father started off this morning for Duncans pretty early, I started down after dinner with the Horses and light waggon taking along Bella, and Betsy, Mary Jane and Becca, — Margaret had gone down in the middle of the forenoon with Mitchells Team — after getting down we found an immense number there, and James Black took us off a very long time with a funeral Sermon, so much so that Margarets Father would not go to the Burying Ground, but started right off home taking with him Mary Jane & Becca, also Miss Aunt Janet, I was not any more than Margaret very well pleased at the way he took off Mary Jane with him I think we should for the future do if possible to do without them

4

SUNDAY, July 5th, 1857.

Very fine day, a little dull in the forenoon but cleared up to be a beautiful day, nice and warm though not too hot. Alec went off on horseback on a visit to Robert Barth, pretty late before he got home we have had quite a long visit of the Schoolmaster to day, and he was as able as ever to communicate quite a large fund of information towards night we had a visit of William Colton. Uncle Nichol and I had a walk over the place a little and really the crops look very promising. The hay more especially, the oats are also doing well, -

MONDAY, July 6th, 1857.

Continues very fine, pretty hot part of the day, in the afternoon there were some very heavy thunder clouds ~~last they~~ and the thunder was roaring and grumbling, but it passed all round us and left us untouched. The rain appeared as if it was very heavy away to the south. John Justin has been helping William to day they put on the greater part of the sheeting. Their father helped them to place it on the scaffold. Margaret had a visit of her Grandmother as she was on her way home. John Franey continues at the quarry. I have been to day drawing stones to where I intend digging the well for the new house. Ann Bella Justin has come with the intention of staying with us & with Margaret to help her. I see a marked improvement on the colt, it is now straightening on all its limbs, and in better condition

Pasture

TUESDAY, July 7th, 1857.

Very warm day, Threatened rain considerably, but did not come ow wind was pretty strong - I have been all day drawing stones, Mating up a gang-way to the Barn, Uncle Richard was helping me the most of the day, & William has John helping him to day, They have all finished with the sheeting and have on the roof 10 Squares of shingles, William drove Margaret down to Everton with Steven and Lizzie Maggie Margaret Brought 4 yards of Cotton, Melands is said to be selling off at Prime Cost - intending to give up the Everton Business, old Mrs Hall died to day, I put on the Hen to night for the first with Dunbar & Bargained for a Months Grass -

WEDNESDAY. July 8th, 1857.

very fine day, with quite a good breeze, which kept it more cool than it otherwise would have been. Things are drying up pretty fast now, John Jeston has been with William to day again, John Francey is laid off to day with a sprained hand. I have been working in the summer fallow all day, burning up roots, and drawing stones, and throwing the ends of rod, a good many round seem to be trying to burn their brush, I believe that Robert Morton gets but poorly, Alec and Uncle are now working in the Beaver meadow they have got the Potatoes all hoed, John Webb has begun to work his statute Labour to day, the colt is now gaining strength fast.

THURSDAY, July 9th, 1857.

Continues very warm and dry - The sun this day or two is drying up everything to perfection. Intend for some time in the summer to leave this forenoon, in the afternoon I rode down the mare to Dolmidge and saw Adams on to his horse - I went after to the Funeral of Mr Hill, there was a great number at it, I think there was about 32 waggons, Uncle Nichol went down to Rockwood with Betsy to the cars, this afternoon after coming home I fired some of the Brush heaps near the fence in the shop pin. The meadow really is looking very fine, to night I received a Letter from John Scott from Hamilton. The Lieto man I saw Daniel Stewart and Mister at the funeral to day. They were

lost Uncle

FRIDAY, July 10th, 1857.

A hot day, with little or no breeze until about 3 o'clock P.M. the sun has been very strong and scorching. I finished the gangway of the Barn this forenoon. William has been shingling to day but gets along but poorly - he has a boil on his sitting place. I begun to hoe the Potatoes this afternoon, they are considerably further on than I thought. My ears, indeed I should have been finishing them rather than hoeing them. Mrs Mitchele has come up to night from Geo. Greening, she says Margaret's Mother is to be up to Morrow morning with the cars. James is to oblidge me by going for her; as our way you know is at present undergoing repairs, the Sun set very red in the west to night it looks as if it will be a dry spell

SATURDAY, July 11th, 1857.

Exceedingly hot day. Before part of the day more especially was most unsupportable. Cattemfleet harrowing the summer fallow with the oxen this morning, but very soon the Young was calling out, and drinking them right away, and hoed Potatoes until noon, after dinner we fired the Brush and it went off with great force, had it not been that a little shower came on about an hour after we fired it, I believe it would have made a clean sweep of the Fallow, however as it is, it is a good burn as far as it went. I think there is pretty near 7 acres burnt, Margarets Brother has got up safe and sound, with Catherine and the Baby, James Mitchell brought them up, George Hamilton and the Mistress have also come on a visit to the other house, Uncle Alec is away down to Eschessing, with the light waggon

SUNDAY, July 12th, 1857.

Continues exceedingly hot. We dare comes out realy most unsupportably strong, in the afternoon there was a little breeze which helped to make it more bearable. Margaret's Mother went off to meeting with the Mitchells this morning, she left the Baby behind Mrs Hamilton was quite a while with us to day before starting off for Robert Barbers. They went off at about 2 o'clock. We had also a visit of Daniel Stewart and Mistress, Daniel was reading in our hearing a small Pamphlet in regard to the "Kingdom to Come" Mr & Mrs Mitchell had supped with us last night they were on their way home, William Tolton and his Sister Elizabeth was also with us, I have had a little walk round and the crops seem to be doing well notwithstanding the great drought and heat

MONDAY, July 13th, 1857.

Continues intolerably hot — John Tracey and I have been hoeing Potatoes all day, — And the heat in the forenoon was really too much to stand in the afternoon we wrought somewhat in the shade of the woods, and the heat could be better endured, William — Jestin has gone off to work — with John today, The Orangemen are marching past a pace this morning, we hear them fire and drumming away, They go into Guelph, Dr. McKenzie There are six Lodges that — meet at Haskett's corner — Uncle Alexander & Betsy have got home last night from Cayuga, Margaret Mother has gone down to her Brothers Duncans to stay all night —

TUESDAY, July 14th, 1857.

Quite a strong breeze to day and though the sun is very hot, it is still a great deal cooler than it has been these few days back. After nearly finishing the Potatoes hoeing this forenoon I went and fired the remainder of the Fallow, it behaved itself well enough till after dinner, but after then it gave John Tramey and I enough to do to save the fence at all, we got I suppose over 30 rails burnt and the meadow badly trampled down, we had I think to lay down over twenty rods of fence however it is worth some trouble as there is a fine burn over the dirty barry ground Margaret has been down at her Uncle Duncans all day, along with Aber Aunt Mitchell and Mother, we had to board at the other house, William Leslie has been working here this afternoon

WEDNESDAY, July 15th, 1857.

Much the same as yesterday in regard to heat. There was quite a heavy Thunder shower going round, but we got off with somewhat of the Tail of it, although as yesterday the thunder kept rolling for a long time. I finished the few rows of the Potatoes this morning afterwards fixed up the fence at the Fallow, and lighted the last corner of Brush, before my dinner. Throughout the summer Fallow the afternoon, Uncle Nichol has been at Guelph to day, and got me carded wool home with him, he brought me a Ship hat, and stuff for trousers Linen at 1/- per yard. I laid out to turn this the Hottest Day for such a job we have all had with fleas I never saw before, Alec's Barn yard is now as full as it can hold as far as I can

THURSDAY, July 16th, 1857.

A little cooler than we have had it for some time, although it is still pretty hot when the sun is out, I was down at Everton and got the Barn hinges, hook and staples, there is still a few more to get. I also got a Bunch of shingles from Thomas Nichol yet to be paid for, and 3 Doors from Rufus for the doors. James Mitchell brought me from Guelph 4 excuses for 1/2 Bunches of shingles for the ones he Borrowed, I was picking stones off the summer fallow this afternoon, William has been at work all day alone, as well as yesterday morn the way they are now going away at their Potatoes James Mitchell is to take Mother to the cars tomorrow, and she is dag to stay there all night

Ran judge)

FRIDAY, July 17th, 1857.

Still very warm, though not as much out of the way as we have had it. There is very little wind, I finished picking the stones off the summer fallow, and packed and fired the roots and dirt. That was one job, William Jeastin has finished the roof to day before supper, and went off to see and get 2 Teams to go after lumber to morrow. There are a few shingles over, if the last ones had been 20 the 21 Bunches would have covered the Barn, The water is now as low in Dumbarton Pasture that we will have to see and get the critters watered some other way, Martin Jeastin has begun Chas Young to day, but he Prints. The most of the hay is not ready yet, it is now only in the first flowers.

SATURDAY, July 18th, 1857.

Continues very warm, indeed where there is no shade. The heat is pretty great, at one part of the day there was a fine breeze, which felt very fine. I was this forenoon piling Bark with John Francey, we piled about 8 ½ cords. There was about 2 cords more to pile in the afternoon I travelled about the Gangway, and chopped out some roots in the way, William Justin went down to day to the Lagamide, to day a young Lad named James Allan was drowned after tea, while swimming, I understand that John Gillis was present at the time he was drowned, and William Justin saw the corpse when coming home,

SUNDAY, July 19th, 1857.

Very warm, although not so intolerable as we have had it of late, but last night must be excepted, as it was I think as hot a night as ever I felt in my life; it was a hard matter to sleep any at all, I was up pretty early this morning, washed in the creek, and Margaret, Alec, Kitty and I started away after Breakfast to Tolons, we found them at home, and shortly after getting there, another batch arrived from Cranross, 4 of Joseph Parkinsons Family, and 2 of Henry Tolsons, we had a fine walk over the Play, the crops look, I think a great deal better than I expected to see them. the Tall Wheat especially, it was dark, before we got home, Thomas is on the watch all night

MONDAY, July 20th, 1857.

More cool to day, and Sunshine than we have had for a long time, there has also been a good deal of rain which came in the shape of heavy thunder showers I observed some large hail stones in one of them, Yesterday there was a heavy thunder shower and a very strong wind accompanying it, which blew down some of the fences, I had to put them up this forenoon. William Justin has been here to day but the wet prevented him somewhat from getting on with his work, I finished my Ladder this afternoon with a little help from William Justin, Alex has been mowing between showers I gathered all the shingles together this afternoon

TUESDAY, July 21st, 1857.

Cool and continues chile unsettle
weather, Last night we had
more rain, and to day though
it has not rained, the thunder
has been grumbling away and
it has a threatening look, I this a.m.
transplanted my Beets yesterday
They were altogether too large
but they seem to be doing pretty
well for all, the rain is the saving
them, Uncle Nichol to day cut the
tops off them, I cleared a road
by the side of the fallow to day
And with Uncle Nichols help
brought poles and laid them
in the Bay Mow, Uncle
Alexander helped also after
supper, William Jestin finished
feeding in to day, and has begun
to the inside work, Alex
continues to mow Jamie is
also at it.

WEDNESDAY, July 22d, 1857.

Quite cool, and very showery in the forenoon, although it cleared up pretty well in the afternoon, John Jestin came along this morning and we began the mowing, but got rained off again on account of the wet, Alex and John Fraser mowed in the afternoon. William Jestin has laid the greater part of the floor to day — We hitched up the oxen and brought from the woods a load of spruce blocks, and after supper harrowed nearly the half of the summer fallow cross ways, Margaret has begun her spinning to day, she has nine rolls she says, they were done in part by the new beginner — John Francy finished the barley seeding to day —

THURSDAY, July 23d, 1857.

Quite as unsettled looking as ever, it was very wet all forenoon, Alec has now cut about 5 or 6 acres of meadow, and there it lies looking in the wet, Martin Justin has the most of his in the same predicament and many others I believe are in the same fix, I was lucky in not cutting any, Martin Justin came down before dinner asking me to go in the afternoon to help at drawing stones, I took the oxen along, and we took in two tremendous stones, one especially, we had 3 yoke of oxen hitched to them, I stood on hill most of drawing at smaller ones, he was drawing to where he intends building it has been tolerable dry this afternoon but looks so very settled yet — Willie is not up away at the — floor yet — — —

looks worse than ever this morning and it has rained a great deal last night, it is rather such looking hay weather, it has rained nearly steady all day, except in at about 4 oclock, when it slackened off a little, and at night it cleared up altogether, it looks to night a little more settled, I hope it may — late up, William Jestin and I from about 4 oclock tore down the old roof of the cook house and put on a new one, shingled it all before night, we had a visit of Thomas Tolton this forenoon, and of John Webb last night, I mended my old Boot this forenoon in the line of the west, the Garden is now looking very fresh, the Beats have hardly dropped their heads with transplanting, the oats are beginning to look very heavy

SATURDAY, July 25th, 1857.

The weather now seems to have taken up, and this has been a delightfull day. The meadows was quite flat this morning with the late storms of rain, but to night again it is pretty much all straightened up. John Justin John Francy, and myself were mowing this forenoon, and we had the addition of John Webber the afternoon after supper we all went and helped Alec to doodle up what he had made, but indeed it was scarcely ready for that operation. William Justin is now roasting at the doors. This afternoon he was helping his Father at the hay. The open wheat is now nicely headed I hear some little fears that the rust has taken the fall wheat

SUNDAY, July 26th, 1857.

Continues fine, but it feels I fear rather hot to stand so — however upon the whole it has a more settled appearance than any day last week — The Girls have gone to meeting along with the Sotton's in their Waggon, Alec is away down to Esquesing with the Mare and colt this morning I have written a Letter to day for tomorrows mail for John Scott of Hamilton, and enclosed a note for Nicholas Rogers, I should have written them immediately on the receipt of his Letter, as they desired me to do so, but I did not understand so by the first reading of the Letter We had a visit of Robert Morton and wife to night they went along with us on a visit to Duncan Robertsons Mrs Robertsons is very poorly from a hurt she got by a fall in the waggon

from pasture

took out the MONDAY, July 27th, 1857. often this morning

Very fine day, but exceedingly windy, it is an excellent drying day for the wet hay, — I took down to Everton 4 Bushels of grist, but did not get it home with me, Sales took 1 1/2 Bushels of oats and sold them 6 Pence at 2/6 per Bushels, it came to 8 1/4 d, I Paid Nicholson for the Shingles while in Tanneday's store, Bought at Wends 10 lbs pressed nails, and at Melands One Pair Butts and took for Grassary Dove, I Paid for all, I brought home a Load of Slabs, and got home a little afore tea — John had the most of the hay tedded out we cut on Saturday, we then put it in Cocksons, and with James help at raking after the Waggon we put in 5 good Loads before Supper — Warren Foster helped to take up what we did not take in of the Made Hay — Warren was working with William to day, he is just come from the Lake down Waterside Coat —

TUESDAY, July 28th, 1857.

Quite damp this forenoon. It began to rain after daylight and continued a few hours, though not heavy enough to spoil the hay for taking in, John and I mowed in the forenoon ourselves, in the afternoon — John Jeslin came along and brought Warren with him. It was fine and cool and the 2 of us mowed a fine piece. I think there is now in all 6½ Acres down, the grass is exceedingly heavy — William has got the Barn doors all hung to day and nearly finished them. Abe has been mowing this afternoon, James Neelands is up here to night — Mrs. McEachnie has had a young Daughter to day, —

The quantity of Peas about the Yard and Barn is now terrible — we can hardly live at present on the

Very fine day, The sun is out fine for hay making
John Justin & Warren with
John Francey and I mowed
all forenoon, John Justin
from Brow owed me 2½ days
work on the hay he got in exchange
and he took the remainder of
the mowing on the head of it
in the afternoon John Francey
and I with James' help took
into the Barn 4 good loads
2 of the loads we raked up
after dinner, Alex has been
busy drawing in the remnant
of the day, Williams
Justin is away up to his
Uncle George's, he left Martin
James and Warren at the
New Barn they put up
they are only now beginning
to close it in,

THURSDAY, July 30th, 1857.

A fine hay making day, and we have taken the advantage of it as well as we knew how. I fear if the weather get any way unsettled I will be in debt a bad mess with my hay, it is not a good plan to take down too much at a time, it is quite clear to night but I can see at the horizon the lightning flashing, and hear the distant thunder rolling these people do not like Uncle Nicholl and Jamie helped us in the afternoon to cock up the hay, and we got a fine lot of it up in excellent order, John Evans and James brought it together and Uncle Nicholl and I

FRIDAY, July 31st, 1857.

Pretty damp this morning on account of a heavy shower through the night, but when the morning broke out it became quite clear and dry though quite unsettled looking we succeeded in getting 40 or 5 loads of hay, and cotton it up just before a very heavy storm of wind and rain at about 3 o'clock. The cotes got considerably loosed about with the wind. John Wells and John Jester were mowing this forenoon and on account of the unsettled state of the weather Dan sent John Jester to help with the hauling of hay rather than mow any more and he took the job, Texas at the raising of Hassett's driving house after supper

SATURDAY, August 1st, 1857.

Still unsettled looking this morning, but it has been clearing up to a fine day. after about 8 o'clock I went down to Everton with the oxen and waggon, and brought home 400 feet of Hemlock Lumber for lining the Granary — I started early, with the intention of being home at the hay as soon as it would be ready for work, but I got delayed longer than I should, however from 1 o'clock we did good execution, we drew in 4 good loads which we had tossed out from the cocks, we afterwards with Margaret Kitty and Jamie's help raked in — and put up 2 cocks as well as a long winrow which we could not cock up. — when at Everton I got an opportunity of sending into Guelph for a Barrell of salt Left by William Lees —

SUNDAY, August 2d, 1857.

very fine day after the unsettled weather. Many in the hay Fields are both and doing nicely to day. Alec and Edwin the help of the Boys put up a part of a Parcel of hay to day - we thought it had more rain on it must do it a great deal of damage, and we secured it in cocks. Margaret and Kitty was visiting Mrs McKenzie to day - after 4 o'clock I went for the mare hitched her up and took to Margaret down to their Uncle Duncans. Their aunt is getting round from the burnt she got - we had a fine feast of Curns a good day and pour - supper before starting home - Dougald is getting about again

Alec done MONDAY, August 3d, 1857. haying

very fine day, with a nice drying wind that is doing good to the hay that has been long in the cocks I got up very early this morning and took Flower with the light waggon to Everton, and brought home the Barrell of Salt before breakfast, John Francey and J. Allen went at the drawing in with the oxen. Jamie raking after us, we drew in ten good loads. Alec finished his drawing in by 4 o'clock in 5 loads, they all afterwards came out to me and drew in 5 loads for me

Levi Dingman has been mowing to day for John Deaton, and has not finished the piece it is pretty badly laid down John Francey is going tomorrow to Duncan Robertson, Margaret is finishing a pair of linen trousers for him, I owe him for the days work

very fine this forenoon, but
after dinner we had a little
shower and it remained damp
and clouded untill night
Uncles and the Boys helped
me with 2 loads of hay this
forenoon, Alec has begun
to draw his bark out of the
woods to day, I helped to
clean up a 12 Bushel crop
of wheat besides 4 ½ Bushels
we sold at 7/ per Bushel —
Uncle Alec settled with —
Lewis for the salt also for a 1/8
worth of Bran, he Paid Richard
for the new fellow for Light waggon
also for Cash to Thomas Richards
The Girls were over at Tolton's
picking Berries this afternoon
they did'nt till nine o'clock, and
I think that a little too late
for decent people to stay out at
night, but they seem to like it and go on
to be spoken to about it —

Dawned a fine day, not too warm but a nice drying breeze, I finished the mowing this morning, and in the forenoon got the greater part of the hay together that was cut by Levi Dingman, Uncle Alec and the Boys helped me in the afternoon to take in 4 Loads there still remains about ½ an acre the Piece I finished cutting, Uncle Alec brought home the guest from Everton this forenoon, Alec is drawn at his Barn, he reckons to have now up in about 10 Loads for the 2 days haying. William Jestin has come on to day again to the Barn Meadows and Chirm have come to a settlement, Neland goes out two Months, Jaynes comes next, and gives over the Place to William

– Last of hay making –

THURSDAY, August 6th, 1857.

about 24 Loads of hay without any rest –
Continues fine, the weather
is now very pleasant, not
too warm, and a nice
breez blowing, Uncle Alec
and the Boys helped me
in this forenoon with the
last of my hay, we brought
it in in two Loads, there is
now 67 Loads in all, Alec
received a Letter from
Exeter this morning
intimating that aunts
wheat was ready for cutting
Alec thereupon made ready
and started soon after dinner
Alec Turney gone along with him
he has had a stay of over a week
at Hinton, Sister Bella and
Kitty is with him, William
Lestin and I cut out the hole
for the new window from 3 o'clock
and got the frame in, Re unable
case it up in the morning –

6 the Pasture

Put in the

FRIDAY, August 7th, 1857. often 6 inches

Very fine day, with a nice healthy breeze, Uncles have finished hauling Alec's Barley, from this side of creek, this forenoon, - in the afternoon they fired the remainder of the Barley in the Fallow, it burnt very well - William finished the window this morning. I glazed it - I blocked up some sleepers this forenoon in the Barn under the Granary and Chaff house, in the afternoon I began to the summer Fallow by drawing out some dung on it and beginning cross ploughing it, I am in the custom these times of having a bathe in the creek at night it is a little cool but it is very bracing, Jamie is always with me, I see that my corns are now nicely out in head and only sore

SATURDAY, August 8th, 1857.

Continues very fine, but it has been rather hot. I have been ploughing in the summer fallow but got rather slowly along as the plough did not clean herself, and the day so hot, one of the oxen had his tongue out a little while. William Jestin and Kennedy of Exeter have been letting together to day of the rents of the new stores in Exeter. William is away down to Nfld to see something in regard to it. I have been taking notice to the crops in Stanley wheat to night it really looks very bad. I understand harvest has begun up here, Duncan Anderson has begun last Thursday to cut, Alex Stewart is also busy

Weather still very fine, though much more cool than yesterday, to night it has somewhat the appearance of a change, these nights this some time are fine and cool.

We have had this forenoon a fine picking at raspberries in Dunbar's flashing

after dinner Margaret and I paid John Webb a visit, both he and the Mistress were at home and we staid visite after supper, they seem to be a great deal more comfortable since moving into there new house, and besides the new Barn being so convenient to them

The Misses Roberton called in as they were on there way home from Mitchells to night

MONDAY, August 10th, 1857.

Very fine day, Sunshine the most of the day, but fine and cool, — There was a very heavy dark cloud that went over us, but no rain seemed to accompany it, there was some wind, I have been Ploughing in the summer Fallow to day and got a little better along than on Saturday, the Plough kept tolerably clean, — Jamie has been in the summer Fallow a good part of the day burning up roots and stumps — Margaret Picked a few Pounds of Rasp Berries to day for preserving out of Dunbar's Clashing — Martin Jestin has brought his new Family from Guelph to day — The Peas continue to better a great deal yet although it will not bear a comparison with the time gone by

TUESDAY, August 11th, 1857.

very fine day, pretty warm but a pretty nice breeze. — I have been Ploughing in the Summer Fallow until supper time, and got along pretty well after supper I went down to — Everton on the mare on the hunt for preserve jars, as Margaret is now at that work, but we were too late, they were all gone, Alec got up from Esquesing at about 2 oclock — Margaret Rogers is along with Nellie and them, but no one from the McCartock Family, they sent up some Currants for Margaret I see that Hassett has got in a number of hands cutting his wheat, Alex McArthur is also at his, Benjiman Carr was into Guelph to day and he tells me that the Fall wheat thro' way is very badly rusted, Uncles fred Abes log heaps

WEDNESDAY, August 12th, 1857.

A very dull day, about noon we had an exceedingly heavy shower, it cleared up a little after dinner and though pretty dull we had no rain of any account, Alex was thinking up his log heaps this forenoon I was helping he got a good burn on them John Tierney has had them Carr, and himself chopping up the old logs in my fallow this forenoon. in the afternoon they helped me to log, Alex was also helping us — and we got pretty well along after getting out of the corner which is generally bothersome I helped Martin Destin with the oxen to take a very large stone out of the summer fallow, just before dinner, we had a joke at it —

A very warm day, and though there was not a bad breeze of wind, the heat was nevertheless very oppressive. I was ploughing in the summer fallow but I did not do much on account of the great heat, the oxen seemed to feel it much, — I wrote a letter after dinner to Margaret's Father, I wished to have some of his Goldspot Wheat for seed, — but I am almost afraid I have been too late in seeing about it, Uncle Nicholl took down the letter — and was in time for the mail — We Sailed over the way have been picking Raspberries over at Maidens to day. They say it is a fine place for them —

FRIDAY, August 14th, 1857.

Another warm forenoon — last night I think was — the hottest of the season as yet, it really was unsufferable after dinner to day we had an exceedingly heavy storm of wind and rain, it lasted but a short time, it however laid down the oats and wheat considerably, I logged this forenoon with the same hands as on wednesday, and after working an hour after dinner, the rain stopped us, and we did not start at it again, I was sorry however that we did not as it turned out a fine afternoon I sold a pet Bee to Benbarr for 5 $, he pays as soon as he can, there is considerable bickering about these some days back, but this last storm has brought it quite cool again

Barn SATURDAY, August 15th, 1857. Burnt

Continues very Warm, although last night was very Cool after the great storm & have been Ploughing in the summer fallow the most of the day, and got it finished I could not drive fast in the Plough on account of the heat, Jamie has now started to learn the flute Playing, and seems to get along pretty fair

There is a Barn & Shed near Burnt over on Erin by the Lightning of yesterday Pm, New Threshing Machine & Fanning Mill, Waggon, and so on were destroyed with it, I hear to day (Sunday) that it is John Glen who is the Loser, Williams Feather Bed was over the Barn,

SUNDAY, August 16th, 1857.

very cool last night, and all day it has been cold there has been some appearance of rain this afternoon and at night it has been raining some, I have been up seeing Samuel Stevenson this afternoon, he met in with an accident which has hurt him considerably, he had been chopping lately, near his house, and a small tree fell on him that had lodged against the one which he was chopping down, the crops up that way seem pretty good some places though considerably lodged about, I cannot say that I think much of that part of the country George Destin & Thirsa have at their Door Farm, very dandy with great hemlock stumps

MONDAY, August 17th, 1857.

Rain last night to all intents and purposes, A very heavy wind accompanied it, and Thunder. The Oats and Spring wheat is laid nearly flat with the Ground. A good deal of Fall wheat is now in shock in the country and I fear there will be but a poor account of it, after this Deluge, The coolness of the weather however may prevent the wheat from growing as much as it would otherwise do. It has rained a good part of to-day although in the afternoon it was but slightly. William Justin is again at the Barn fixing at the Granary, I have been mending Margaret's shoes to day while it rained. I took out both the oxen and the mare from Dunbar's Pasture to day

TUESDAY, August 18th, 1857.

very fine day after the rain, the sun came out pretty hot, and it appears as if things might dry up again a little, ~~it has~~ there however very little prospect of steady dry weather. I have been cutting poles for the Inner Beam of the Barn, and putting up the slabs and Lumber over the Granary. Uncle Alec helped me awhile, William Jeffries still working at the Granary, James Grieve has come up to day from Hamilton. I believe he was a night on the road. I am troubled a good deal with Hassett's steers, they break down the Bars, and with themselves bring a mob of cattle into the Peas

WEDNESDAY, August 19th, 1857.

Quite cool and Showery
not at all good harvest weather
I have been working the most
of the day at the Swing Beam Poles
and other fixings, and got them
finished, & have yet the scaffold
Poles to get, William Jestin
has got the Granary Bins all
finished to day, Uncle Alex
Uncle Nichol with James
Greene and Peter conveyed Maggars
Rogers down to the Railway
Station, James Greene was
seeing after Dunbars Farm to
rent, but could not get it —
the crops that got thrown
down have partially risen
again, but I fear not enough
to do a great deal of good
especially the oats —

sent a newspaper to William Hall

Very fine day after the rain
the sun has been out very
bright, and altogether it
was a good drying day —
Alec and I have been
working with Benjamin
Carr all day, helping him
to cut his Fall Wheat —
Alec cradled in the
forenoon and I cradled
in the afternoon, some of
his Wheat was growing on
the Grain standing on its
feet, Ben has a very heavy
crop of Wheat both of Fall
and Spring. Thomas
Dolton is with us. to day
he would have liked to
over tomorrow to help him
but he was too late, as
William Hackett was before
him, and got our promise
of help —

FRIDAY, August 21st, 1857.

Continues fine, although this afternoon showed some signs of change, at night we had quite a bit of a shower. Alec and Ted have been at Hassetts threshing today, and it has been a very unlucky day for Hassett, the machine was delayed a while now, after having all his hands from the morning on the ground, after they did get started there was very little done, the wheat being very damp, and shortly after supper the machine broke down, I think to the amount 39 bushels, a good many people are hurrying in their wheat today into their barns although I hardly think it can be ready for it.

SATURDAY, August 22d, 1857.

Quite a heavy rain through the night. This morning and the most of the day it has also rained without intermission. There was some very heavy thunder and lightning towards evening, one clap especially seemed very near. I have had to get another batch of poles for the scaffolds in the Barn - the other ones I got being too short.

Thomas Tollow has been over to mind and wishes Alec and I to help them on Monday at the wheat we promised to go. If nothing occurred to stop us, Uncles are now a good way on with the ground for a root house and hear that a great deal of wheat is growing. Down on its feet -

SUNDAY, August 23d, 1857.

Still raining and as unsettled as ever throughout the day, towards night however the rain ceased and a very cold wind has got up. it almost feels as if it would bring frost, all accounts of the state of the grain in the country is most distressing. Duncan Robertson I understand has all of his forty acres cut and none in the Barn — Tolton's are very little better off, and Hasdett in the same fix, Alex's wheat Uncle Alex was saying is growing a little in the head in some spots —

Margaret has had a visit of the Misses Gestin to day — Margaret yesterday made 1 Kettle of soft soap, and another of hard soap, she also preserved some Berries she got in a present from Harriet Tolton, she rains now [illegible]

about

MONDAY, August 24th, 1857.

sent a newspaper to James Wilkie

The first settled looking day we have had for a long time, Farmers are now looking very anxiously for the weather to take up, Alex & I have been over at Tolton's to day helping them to cut their wheat, I was cradling along Thomas & William and we cut down about 6 acres of very heavy wheat, Thomas Hamilton, George Tolton & Alex followed us, and they had a very hard job of it, their oat crop over there looks very heavy and lying down considerable the spring wheat looks to be a very fine crop. Uncle's have been branding in — Alex Tallon — and nearly finished it,

TUESDAY, August 25th, 1857.

Another fine day, And quite
settled looking. The new moon
as the saying goes, "stands
well up", And dry looking,
may it be so, it would be
a great boon to the country
Alex has begun to cut his
Fall wheat to day, it is
no more than ripe however,
I have been harrowing my
Summer Fallow to day
and before night came I
drew out some loads of
dung on it besides
Margaret has had a visit
of her Aunt Mitchell this
afternoon, Williamson Jessin
has been working at the Barn
to day, Martin Jessin is
now cutting oats, I see our
Peas are now getting pretty ripe
and the spring wheat is colouring fast

WEDNESDAY, August 26th, 1857.

Continues fine, it is pretty warm, and the Spring wheat is ripening fast, there is some appearance of change, I hope it is not for wet. but there is no security on this weather — Gillibon Jestin has rented his store to Kennedy to day. as soon as Kennedy got it, he commenced moving into it, I have been drawing dung out on the summer fallow all day, I might have drawn a load or two more but did not like to put it out, on account of Canadian thistle roots, there was a fire in what I took out, and I was afraid they might grow again Alex has nearly finished cutting his fall wheat. he cut 50 sheaves yesterday, and 55 to day —

Barn finished

THURSDAY, August 27th, 1857.

very fine this morning, and forenoon, it however became cloudy before noon, and it has rained the greater part of this afternoon, towards night it came on very heavy, with heavy thunder and lightning. William Jestin has finished the Barn to day, all that is to be done this season, he is to fit the floor in another season, and leaves some lining to be done along with it. Margaret and I went down to Everton after dinner, in the Waggon, I opened an account with Kennedy, and got a few tools, in coming home we called at Duncan Robertson's he has just got in the last of his stall wheat before the rain to day, and drawn in the last of his hay when we were there, although it rained a little. The Schoolmaster is home again.

FRIDAY, August 28th, 1857.

Exceedingly heavy rain last night, with great Thunder & Lightning. The holes in the fields are filled with water to day, in a manner that I do not think I have seen this season before. There has been considerable rain to day though not steady, to night it is going to be unsettled. Mother, Margaret and I cleaned and red up the Barn this forenoon. Between dinner and supper I was chopping in the timber Fallow at the Log. Stained after supper that I could not go out again. I had some unpleasant words with John Francy to day in regard to disappointing me with the Log[illegible], by agreeing to stay on with Ben Carr after promising me long ago, William Hasel has been here to night

Very cool to day, and a little showery, there was little or no sun, and consequently it was a poor drying day, I have been pulling flax all day, Alec and Jamie came along in the morning and helped me all day, but the greater part of them, they would have been finished had they not been so grasey, John Thomson came along to day, and talked very sensibly, done ~~to day~~ in reg as to what I said to him yesterday he says he will do neither Alec's job which he took, nor mine I think surely John has been put up to it, by some evil adviser what he professes to take so hard is my saying that he was not a man to his word Uncle Alec has been drawing the firewood logs out of the bog for

SUNDAY, August 30th, 1857.

Very Fine day, the sun has been out, and it has been a beautifull dryen day — the very thing needed at present, Alec's Fall Wheat is in very good order considering the very great wet that has been, Alex and I took a ride down on the mores as far as Daniel Stewarts after dinner, we staid on till near night, Miss Scott is now there on a visit, we had not much exchange of thoughts Daniel seems a little troubled in regard to his worldly matters after comming home I found that Mary Paret had been visiting Mrs. Wm & Mrs. Mc Cachen and Mrs. Morton, John & William Mitchell were still there, John is now selling a staid looking young man

MONDAY, August 31st, 1857.

Another fine day, Cost me first
intended it, James & I
finished cutting the Peas
in the first half of the day
between dinner and supper
I cradled in Alec's Spring
wheat, Alec followed me
after supper we helped
Uncles to dig and load up
a load of Potatoes, which
Alec intends taking to Guelph
to morrow, they are Mechanics
and are taking the rot badly
the Grass has taken excellently
in the fields of Spring wheat
Alec is now cutting, but the
wheat is a very poor crop
a great deal of smut is in it
And it is very badly lodged
about, this oats are now almost
ready for cutting,

TUESDAY, September 1st, 1857.

Pretty hot day, and very fine, the sun has been out all day, I have been cradling in Alec's Spring wheat all day, Uncle & Alec and Jabez were raking up after me, it is an exceedingly hard job to cut it, it is too set so much, and so thin — Uncle Nicholl turned over peas to day, they intended to sow in the Fall wheat to day but it was not dry enough, Alec got back from Guelph in good time, he traded the Potatoes to Brown at ½ Dollar per Bushel, The horses were very warm and sweating the afternoon being so hot, This is a beautiful moonlight night, a cool

WEDNESDAY, September 2d, 1857.

Another hot day — beautiful sunshine, and splendid ripening and drying weather for the crops — The Folks over the way have carried the most of the Fall wheat to day, tied it up again and have it nearly all in to night, it was growing in the heart of the sheaves. I have been reaping up to day with the horses. Alec's knee is rather poor just now with that heady colt sucking at her, and she seems to be oppressed in the flow of the summer heat. It is rather wet and sloppy. Flower is in great heart at present and will keep in flesh, under rather mushy pasture for the good of the colt.

Continues fine harvest weather
to day has been very hot
and drying. The dews that
fall at night are very heavy
and it takes nearly three hours
of sun to dry it off. I have
been at the ridging up this
forenoon with the Horses.
In the afternoon I got
Uncle Nichol and Jamie
to help me in with the
Peas. I expected to take
them all in at 4 Loads
but found that after taking
in 4 large Loads we left 6
2 more in the Stackyard —
Uncle & Neph. and Alex
have been working at the
wheat all day. Alex has
to mow it & done are —
Thinking that there is a change
in the air to night. The Northern
Lights are beautiful to night

Peas FRIDAY, September 4th, 1857. all in

Another beautifull harvest day, very heavy dew last night, and the sun has been out very strong to day we finished taking in the Peas this forenoon, and took in a Load of wheat of Abe's before dinner, I continued to help them in the afternoon at the taking in of the spring wheat, and took in 5 loads Alec Rapp mowing away and we have been taking it in without stopping it up the colt is minding us now very fast, it is losing its old hair, and straddles in up on its hind legs and seems to be about as spry as the others although it is a year younger than any of them

colt SATURDAY, September 5th, 1857. weaning

Quite a change again, and for the worse. A great quantity of rain has fallen to day — and I cannot think that there was any need of it one shower in particular was very heavy, there was also pretty heavy thunder and lightning. I have been doing a little at the ridging up in the dry spells between showers for No 1 the oten — Alex had the horses at rockwood conveying Agnes — Mrs Farlane up, she is on a visit, they had a wet time of it — John Webb got our light waggon last night. His Father in law being very sick, and we borrowed Roberts destiny, Alex has taken the colt from his mare to day they are both in a bad way —

SUNDAY, September 6th, 1857. (Esqueleing)

Fine day after the rain. —
The sun is out pretty hot —
and everything is drying
quickly up again — I —
I wrote a Letter this forenoon
for Rachel Rogers desiring him
to come and work for me. I —
take it down to Esqueesing and
send it off to morrow. I started
afterdinner with the mares and
Lumber Waggon for Esqueesing
me went by Acton taking Agnes
Mrs Parlane down as far as Esq
Hills on her way home. John
Mitchell is along with me all
the road, we found the road —
better than might have been
expected. After so much rain
we passed by a mud hole —
was not in. And got down
in very good time the Folks
are all well.

a mistake of WEDENSDAY. 9th a leap when writing

~~MONDAY~~, September 7th, 1857.

Very heavy dew last night and to day has been very fine, Alec's Spring Wheat is finished drawing in to day, John Mitchelle has been cradling for me to day and I raked after him, we could not make much headway in it, it is so much lodged and beat down, it is not so bad a crop as I expected the orchard is looking very well just now, I thought in the Spring, that there was about ½ trees that would not, I now see them all doing something except one, so good many are burning this fall does sound, and I am very anxious about logging so as to get in some seed

TUESDAY, September 8th, 1857.

Some frost last night, though no
thing to hurt, it has continued
cool all day, but it has been
very fine, I sold a sheep to —
Crane this morning, 6 ℔ Shearl
ing weighing 60 lbs or over, if under
5½ ℔, I have been cutting in the
Spring wheat to day for the first,
it is greatly laid down and tossed
I have been cutting, raking and
binding my rye, Alex is not
brought yet with his wheat
his oats are now ready for
cutting, he has a few down
Mr. Wilcox over at James —
McKee's I went to night to see
if I could get them to help
me to log in the beginning of
next week, James Mitchell
was there, they both think
they may, help me some

MONDAY. 7th "

a mistake ~~WEDNESDAY~~, September ~~9th~~ 7th, 1857. Shingles

Fine Morning, and continues a fine day, Pretty cool, which made it a good travelling day. I got the wheat bagged up - after breakfast, 12 Bushells - got other things ready and Bella and I started for home at - about ½ after Ten, we called at Lunts, stayed only a little, - I have had to Milk. Flower a few lines.; Although she is not so fractious as I expected I bargained for 5 Thousand of shingles at Balinafad from Cam Blake the store keeper 6 Months credit 2 3/4 per Thousand, we got home shortly after 6, and the Mares have sweat none & Below all the road, the roads were - very good the most of the way -

THURSDAY, September 10th, 1857.

Another very fine day
heavy dew last night
And very warm. Johnson
Mitchell staid all night
and helped me this forenoon
we finished cutting the
wheat, and bounded & stooked
up 12 stooks, the rest
we cut is so green, we
thought it would better lay
in the swarth awhile. In
the afternoon I hitched
up the mares and finished
ridging up the fur side of
the Land. I intend if
possible to plough this
side of the Land to morrow,
Uncle's have been burning
the Brush on the Beaver
Meadow. Alex is cutting
away hard at his oats
they dont stand very well

Sale wheat FRIDAY, September 11th, 1857. Sowing

very hot last night, and to
day has been very hot, had it
not been for the fine breeze that
blew, it would have been —
exceedingly so, about suppertime
time, it came on some rain —
with heavy thunder & lightning
after dark there was a very heavy
shower, I have been ridging
up all day with the horses
I think I Ploughed over the
acre by supper time, Uncle
Nichol sowed 4 Bushels
of seed, on the part of the
fields beginning at the south
side of the lane ridges to the
fence next the orchard, about 2 acres.
I harrowed it in with the oxen
the night before last this morning
the night & Rad this morning
out the most of the time —
I am wishing to night that I
had taken in my wheat this afternoon
Uncles have been tying up oats —

SATURDAY, September 12th, 1857.

Very Misty this morning, and damp
it however cleared up to be a
fine sunshiny afternoon, there
was very little if any sunshine in
the forenoon. I finished plowing
this forenoon by 11 oclock, got Darius
fed as Alex has her away down to Esquire
Wis afternoon, Alex finished cutting
his oats this forenoon, we had dinner
and supper Jamie & I finished
harrowing and water furrowing
the summer fallow, Uncle
Nichol sowed the 6 Bushels
of seed on the field as nearly
as may be, I thought to have gone up
after supper some wheat that was
left in the swath, but found
it too wet after binding a little
of it. I took a walk down to
John Jestins house to night, to see
his hands logging, but he was not there
I believe the young man is doing pretty well
who got his arm taken off last Thursday
with the Threshing Machine at John M. Wells

8.

SUNDAY, September 13th. 1857.

Very warm to day. The sun is out quite strong and hot, and it has dried up the wet grain considerably I raked and tied up some little wheat that was left unbound on account of its greenness, after doing that, I had intended to start after dinner to the fifth line to hear a preacher one of the "Plymouth Brethren" I believe, but the weather began to wear an unsettled appearance thundering a good deal too - and as the wheat was ready to take in, we went at Uncle's & we got in 2 Loads, and had not the last quite in when the rain came on, and a very dark dismal night followed -

Thomas Colton is over at the other house, and William Jeakins here to night

MONDAY, September 14th, 1857.

Very dark looking this morning, and all forenoon we have had broken weather. There was one very heavy shower, in the afternoon it cleared up fine I have been on the hunt a great part of the day to get hands for loggy. At John Jestin in the morning before breakfast, after breakfast went over to Ben Carr, from there to James Mitchell, and on to John Copland to see Arthur Hassett, and then to David Stewart to see William Dickson, James Mitchelo and James MacEachnie comes tomorrow if weill, Ben Carr a day when he can and Arthur Hassett Friday Saturday. I set Reps fine from this to their, William Dickson then to be over, come, I suspected old Cog in the Fallow after supper

Castoy TUESDAY, September 15th, 1857. wheat

One day, much to be relished in this troublesome time, James Mitchell and James McEachen have been logging with me to day, we got along middling well, Uncle have been binding Abes Oats, after supper I hitched up the mares and Uncle Nichol and Jamie helped me on with the last of the wheat - we made 3 Loads of it - some of the sheaves were a little damp on the heart, I notice some of the wheat shooting Rye above ground, it might a damn'd looking rather suspicously dull I am afraid it bodes for more wet,

very dull and unsettled looking
this morning, and very
damp and unsuspicious
for harvesting, a great many
oats are yet to cut in the
country, and in a very bad
mess too generally. I have
been all day helping Thomas
Vare to thrash. I had the
mare along too, he got very
little done in the forenoon the
machine not going right
in the afternoon he got
somewhat better along.
I was up at James Mitchells
after dark, seeing if I could
get him to log tomorrow, Vare's
man is to come to help me.
Uncles are preparing for
the new Land sowing. Peter
Irvin 1 Load of Oats
to day for the first.

THURSDAY, September 17th, 1857.

Very Showery and unsettled to day, the morning was very misty, and ~~and~~ and it was not till some Thunder and rain came that it broke away, we logged from about ten oclock this forenoon till dinner, but the afternoon looked so bad that we did not venture it again it cleared up somewhat before night, and I fired a few heaps, they seemed to go pretty well considering the wet, Came to draw out and sell this Spring Wheat to Tilley at 80 Dollar a Bushel — — The Fall wheat is now getting nicely up in the Stomach Fellow —

FRIDAY, September 18th, 1857.

Very fine day, it did not look very well in the morning but it cleared away before long and we had a fine cool day for working. I had a fine purge logged to day, Arthur Hasdell, Bank hired man, James Mitchell & Uncle Alec were helping me, and we got along well, Alec is sowing sand harrowing in with the horses to day. John Treacy has been here helping him to cut logs in the Fallow to day. John was giving me salts over the coals in his foolish way again, I was down at Uncle James Mitchells to settle but as James did not take me up. I just took the sole off of John's hands

Pleasant day this forenoon although it threatened wet enough, in the afternoon we had some rain, and a very cold wind along with it, my log heaps are burning very well, I fired them last night and they have burned very well considering the wet in the afternoon, I have been piling up and firing what I missed last night Alex drew in 5 loads of oats this forenoon, some were not fit, a great deal of them are still in swath, I never saw such a season, there is never a chance for binding what is cut, I stone picked into the barn, rain, rain, rain

SUNDAY, September 20th, 1857.

Pretty fine day, although the morning looked very cloudy And unsettled looking. It has been rather cool, but some of the sun blinks were pretty hot. Isabella and the girls are away over to William Tollons in Grandma's the 3 Boys and Harriet have them away with them in the Lumber Waggon. There is 8 in all and a pretty good load it is. They went home in pretty good time. I kept at home all day. We have had a visit of Duncan Robertson and Wife. They were on their way home from James Mitchells. The fires burnt pretty well in the Fallow to day. I do not think there will be much branding

MONDAY, September 21st, 1857.

Very hard white frost last night, the first frost of any note we have had this season, It has been a very fine day, although in the afternoon it a gain threatens rain, Alec has finished taking in his oats to-night I have been a part of to-day on the Station, in the afternoon I began to cut his oats, William Justin has been cutting with the cradle but it is an ugly job, the ground is very wet, and the oats are laid pretty flat although pretty much one way, Old Mr O Hearn has been reaping in them this afternoon And I expect him until they are done, I also expect Edward tomorrow

Some frost last night, but not so hard as ~~last night~~ the nights before. The day has been very fine although in the ~~morning~~ forenoon it was a little wet. Margaret has been very sick last night and part of to day, her aunt Mitchell has been with her all last night, And to day I had to go after her aunt, Robertson, as well as Mrs Lorrey She however got well before very long again. William Justin has been cradling this afternoon at the oats, Edward Robertson has been reaping in them also in the afternoon we had a visit of James Mitchell to night, as well as Duncan Robertson, they were anxious to know about Margaret

WEDNESDAY, September 23d, 1857.

A little frost last night again, and it was rather dull a part of the day, although little or no rain. I took home Mrs. Lorbe and Mrs. Robertson this morning after breakfast. Margaret has been fine to day, I branded up the Fallow after coming home. Uncle Alex and Dennis helped me, we cleaned the most of what we logged, of the large brands, a good part of the small stuff is yet to pick up. Alex is harrowing the last of his Fallow to day. The Pigeons are harboring greatly about it, they are shooting away at them now and again. The cattle have now full range of the after grass — — —

THURSDAY, September 24th, 1857.

Warmer last night. No frost. It has been a very fine day, Alec and I finished branding the fence for fall wheat. This forenoon and picked it up partly aid Mr Sheridan has been reaping all day in Meadow Edward and him were both all day yesterday

I began to cradle in them after dinner, but been aided by Martin Justin to help & draw in his Peas, I do all the loading all the time and he pitches, he had 2 Teams going John Francy is now chopping up Alec's Gallow logs and scattering trees

I notice the fall wheat now in the second leaf, considerable fallows round are yet to plow/h

FRIDAY, September 25th, 1857.

Peter McDougall died to day

Misty this morning and not cold, the day broke out beautifull an hour or two after sunrise. and it continued a fine dryer harvest day. I have been at the oats all day the old man cut at them till about an hour after dinner, I cradled all forenoon, Jamie also was a good while at them — Uncle Richard was binding a good part of the day and Jamie and I in the afternoon, pretty near the half of them is done they are a fine crop and very clean. Alex has been at James McEachins raising, he did not get the walls of the house all up. Uncle Alex's sister to day,

SATURDAY, September 26th, 1857.

Very fine day, the sun came out strong, and it has been a fine drying day for outstanding crops, Alex & James have been helping me all day at the oats, Edward & Neeran and his Father also in the afternoon. Edward from about 11 o'clock to, we finished both binding and drawing in, we took in two loads after sundown. The oats seem to be in good condition, I think there is a 121 shocks of them, I believe both the Tolton and John Webb have made a late finish of theirs as well to day. I got "Flower" shod to day, and agreed to let James Mitchell take her to Alltan Village on Monday, for Lumber for James McEachie, Margaret keeps pretty well, Uncle Alex keeps sickly to day yet, Peter McDougall died yesterday at noon & believe, he had Dunderstand a bloody flux

SUNDAY, September 27th 1857.

Very warm and very fine day
there has been the most of
the day an heavy wind
blowing and pretty hot
there has also been scattering
clouds flying, to night it has
considerably darkened up
and we have had very heavy
thunder and Lightning, there
was a great blaze of fire in the
South west, I was afraid it
might be a building, Alex started
off for the Funeral at noon,
2 o'clock was the hour for departure
with the corpse, I left here at
about 3 o'clock, in order to
meet them, I called at Dunsmuirs
taking the Ellora home to Mrs
Cambell, I was on the Ground a
considerable time before the Funeral
arrived, and before we got through
and home again it was not far
from nine Mr. William Tolton is here to night

MONDAY, September 28th, 1857.

A little showery to day, a pretty cool, not at all a drying day for those that have crops out, Thomas Crane has a good many Oats out yet, he is busy cutting to day, Jamie and Land had the oxen and waggon on the Fallow clearing and Picking up matter ready for sowing we got about 2 acres all ready, there is a great quantity of trash left on the Ground on account of the wet weather, nothing has been burnt up but what has a very good chance we got a Letter from Esquesing to night, all is well, they have just nearly got over their harvest, I think the same day that I did

TUESDAY, September 29th, 1857.

very windy, but fine weather somewhat cool, frosty nights and occasionaly showers Alec and Uncles are busy with the root house they are now putting up the log walls of it, Uncle Richard sowed about 2 acres of the Fallow to day pretty near all that is ready, he sowed 2 bags on it I was afraid it would be too thick but time will see it was on the end next the woods, and about 19 rods this way, I and Annie harrowed in the forenoon and I drew down Barnes, and Reed Bates Mullen &c, in the afternoon I harrowed while Jane took the hoe, I shifted in the cooking stove to night it is getting pretty cool now —

Frost last night, every
thing seemed white enough
this morning for snow to be
on them, I expected the
mare home this morning -
but they did not get home
till 3 o'clock, Jamie
finished cross harrowing
about an hour after
dinner, I have been
hoeing pretty nearly all day
at the potatoes in the fallow
Alec has been drawing
off his firewood from the
fallow, after Jamie got
done harrowing, fine clear -
nights now & the moon is
getting fine and large, we are
beginning to experience the
days they short, after supper
is now very short, and we
cannot sit long after it. if we
want any thing done -

THURSDAY, October 1st, 1857.

A very disagreeable day — very cold, and raining a little the whole day — I was very anxious to — make a finish of sowing to day, and so I did — but Jamie and I had to work on through all the wet to do it. The wet though not very great was still enough & along with the cold to make it very disagreeable. Uncle Richard sowed it for me, it took all the seed to a few grains. — Uncles and Alec are working very constant at the root house they intend raising the upper house on Saturday. I got Alec to kill a Lamb this morning — Isabella is now busy making my shirts, and Margaret & Emily knits for me. ——

FRIDAY, October 2d, 1857.

Last night was very cold — and to day has been fine and dry but also very cold. I have been helping Alec all day, in getting logs out and drawn for the new house, for the first time this season I have worn my best under my over shirt, and wrought with it all with comfort. This night is again blowing and extremely cold, at least so it feels now to me, Uncle Alex keeps Porter away at the fired stumps and they are burning wonderfully away. Jane Dee is still working away at his harvest he visits dd at his Pas John Mitchell brought to Margaret about a Peck of Plums to day and she has Dressed them

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SATURDAY, October 3d, 1857.

Rather dull to day — Through somewhat — warmer than yesterday Alex has got the Work-house raised over the root house to day, I have been there helping to raise, Martin Jesse and son William, with James McDermand & William Tolson took of the Corners, there was only John Webb and Ben Carr with ourselves ~~helping~~ to raise the Logs — I went after getting through and brought home a load of Sand, I think Bane has just got through with his Harvest let me see he is the last I think of the neighbors although I believe there is considerable out in the country yet —

SUNDAY, October 4th, 1857.

Very fine day, the sun has been shining all day and much finer and warmer than we have experienced for some time I have kept the house pretty close all day. on account of Margaret being alone. Isabella had been at meeting. Belay accompanied her, Thomas Holton and his Sister Jane has paid us a visit to day as also John Hansen John Mitchell, and Jamie and Duncan Robertson. I took a walk down as far as Robert Morton's to meet it, and wondered on coming back that Isabella had deserted Margaret for other company

MONDAY, October 5th, 1857.

Very fine day, and pretty
calm, The sun has been
out and it has been
altogether a fine day—
I went at fixing up
mortar for plastering
but found the Lime
not easily mixed on
account of standing so
long, I then left it and
after dinner went at digging
out the ground for a pit
for the Potatoes Jamie
helped me and I got it
dug out nearly 2 feet deep—
and a drain also dug from it
Alex Chas drawn 2 Loads
of Lumber from Creston,
and taken down a grist
of 14 Bushels of wheat—
Alex got Danny shod
all round to day—

TUESDAY, October 6th, 1857.

continues fine, pretty warm
we have now such weather
as would have done a great
deal of good to the country
2 or 3 weeks ago, however
some People will get the good
of it, there is still a good deal
of grain out in the country —
Our horses have been all
day at Rans's Threshing —
Alex has been there all day
& was there in the forenoon
and got Jamie to go in the
afternoon for me. I went
down to Everton in the
afternoon with the oxen and
waggon and brought home
a load of slabs, for the
root house. I wrote a letter
for Esq Mesick to day, and as
Jamie was getting the Spirit this
forenoon, I got it sent to Rockford
by Simon Reeves —

WEDNESDAY, October 7th, 1857.

Still very fine weather
This day has been rather
more so than ordinary —
fine. I have again
been with Lane all
day Thrashing —
Jamie was there in the
afternoon. Alex went
down to Ballinasloe
for Mary Shingleton to day
he brought 6 Thousand on
the hay racks, Edward
Fahey has been thrashing
Oats for me to day —
I have to be with James
M'Cabe to morrow if all
well, to help to thrash, the
horses have also to be there
Mrs Cox of Emerson died
last night at nine o'clock
we had white frost last
night,

THURSDAY, October 8th, 1857.

Continues very fine. It is really charming weather. I was this forenoon along with Jamie and the horses at James McRachie's Threshing, have Threshed for him and got along very well, James had 60 Bushels of Wheat, 11 of oats & some of the Threshers went to Cop's Funeral after getting done — Jamie and I after coming home fitted and put up the rafters on the roof house, and covered it with Slabs, Thomas Tolton with his horses have been at Threshing yesterday and to day —

FRIDAY, October 9th, 1857.

very dull all day, with the exception of sunrise when there was a few minutes sunshine — There has been a white frost most all day. Alec & Uncle Nichol & Isabella have been at Guelph to day. They had a load of Potatoes & with other things to dispose of. They saw Gubbins shew wheedon. I have got the most done to the skeleton of the root house to day — Uncle Alec helped me with the most of the forenoon. After supper I was drawing some rails & stumps in the pasture field, and fired them — The stumps burn real well just now. Isabella is troubled a little with toothache

Continues beautiful weather
this day has been exquisitely
fine, Margaret took sick
this morning before 5 oclock
and continued very bad until
about 2 oclock, when the Baby
was Born, before taking
Breakfast I hitched up and
went for her Aunt Grace, Jamie
afterwards went down and
brought up her Aunt Mary,
after awhile again he went
down and brought up Mrs
Lorree, I took Mrs Lorree
home after dark, and called
at Robertsons to give them the
news, Alec and Uncle have been
putting the Rafters and sheeting
on their root house, and digging for
fattening the Hogs; the two aunts are
to stay over to night, Margaret appears
to be getting round again, she is as
well as could be expected

SUNDAY, October 11th, 1857.

Quite misty this morning
untill about 9 or 10 oclock
it then cleared off to
another very fine day -
it continues to be pretty
warm, Alec and James
started off this morning by
5 oclock for Esquesing -
with the Lumber Waggon
he means to bring up a load
of apples to morrow from
Haines Margaret has been
tolerably well the greater
part of the day, towards night
she became very sweaty and
faintish, The Baby sleeps
very quiet and appears to be
doing well, we have had quite
a number of visitors to day
all appearingly anxious regarding
Margaret & Baby, Grace Robertson
is dressing as all night, -

MONDAY, October 12th, 1857.

very dull all day, and there was considerable rain in the afternoon, it is rather a change from the very fine weather we have had for so long a time for a week's fine weather this season is considered a rarity. I have been fixing up around the house to day, plastering &c. I agreed with William Cutler to day for a week's work, wages the same as he gets from John Webb. Margaret is some better to night, although she has been pretty weak & low through the day. The Baby seems to be doing pretty well. Alex & Jane have got home before dark, with 22 Bushels of Rye from 1/10½ to 2/6 per Bushel. They were at John McIntosh all night and started from there at 6 this morning

Hogs TUESDAY, October 13th, 1857. Fattening

Put the hogs up to day to fatten very fine day after the rains, it has been fine and warm with steady sunshine, William Cutting has come this morning and been digging at the Potatoes all day, Margaret had a very uneasy night, and this forenoon I was greatly alarmed about her, - having yesterday taken a Doze of Castor oil, and last night take a Doze of No. 1 Pills, and not moving her she desired me to give her a Doze of No 2, I accordingly gave her them but she suffered much severely by them, indeed I was afraid they would make an end of her, I think they are a Pill that should not be used by a very weak person. Margaret's Father & Mother came up to day, they were up by about 2 o'clock Margaret had got a turn to the better before they came up - - -

WEDNESDAY, October 14th, 1857.

Another fine day, with a pretty strong breeze, but has been overdasling a little, Uncle Alec is away down to James Barnes after a load of Apples for me, he volunteered to go for me as I could not well leave myself, Margaret's Father would like to have stayed over to day, and gone to the Cramond Show, but her Mother would not hear of it, they started off home after dinner, Father had a walk over the Place before dinner, we were back to the slate, Margaret has been a good deall better to day and the Baby seems to do well had a visit of Mrs Carr, Finished Plastering up the house to day, and William D began to cover in the roof house after supper

THURSDAY, October 15th, 1857.

Cloudy this morning, and continued rather dull all day but no rain, it has been a mild a very fine day. The Fall wheat is growing finely by this weather. William & I finished the roof house this forenoon, in the afternoon we took down the rag gourd and dug potatoes bringing home a good days work. I turned them into the house by the spout after dark. The folks over the way are now peeling apples every night. Uncle Alec has got home in good time with his apples 16 Bushels; 10 at ½ B. 6 at ¼ B. Margaret is gathering strength I thought it may be slowly, her Breasts trouble her a good deal she is applying Borax & sugar to them. Isabella is a good nurse, and she gets pretty well tired

Rather a change of weather — Cloudy and cold. looks like rain but none as yet, this is the day of the County Show — Alex was at it, William Cattle and I have been diggin all day at the Potatoes, and pretty nearly finished them, we brought home two loads. They are a fine crop. The Red Merrinos especially the old Man across the way was helping us in the forenoon. The Fanning Dealer came along to day and left an Fanning Mill for Alex, I gave him My Note Payable 2 months from this date, 22 Dollars, we have letters Margaret is gaining strength slowly, she is sitting up to — night. Uncle Abe busy at the Potatoe diggin —

SATURDAY, October 17th, 1857.

Rather Gloomy to day, and very cool, It rained a little towards and after night — William Cutting and I have been at the Drury drawing out to day, with both teams we were covering the Orchard we took out 21 Loads from about Ten Oclock, Uncle and Alex have been at their Potatoes digging, Margaret is now so far better as to be able to be up the greater part of the day, but she suffers severely with her breasts, the Boy seems to be doing very well, but causes Margaret much pain when sucking she has been applying several Potions to them but it does not seem to gain much benefit from them

SUNDAY, October 18th, 1857.

Much finer than yesterday though cooleish, The sun has been out shining all day I have kept the house the most of the day, never off the Place. I gathered up the Balsam Trees some of the Gum for Margaret's Breast she has been trying that mixed with sweet Butter, It seems to have a biting effect on at first application, but it may do good for all, We have had a visit of Harriet, Jane, and Thomas Fulton this afternoon also Grace & Catherine Robertson with the Boys. James Mitchell and all the Family except Jamie, Margaret has been up the most of the day but is still much distressed with her Breast

MONDAY, October 19th, 1857.

A good deal of rain last night and this forenoon has been rather showery, it however cleared up some in the afternoon and towards night got pretty cool. I went out during this forenoon to the orchard, and in the afternoon finished drawing in the Potatoes, I measured them, 28 Bushels in the two Loads, I reckoned that there would be nearly enough in the other 2 Loads to make 80 Bushels altogether, or nearly so, The old man has been threshing Peas all day, over the way, they have an Apple Paring Bee to night. The Tolton's are there in a body at least all that were in Erin, Margaret has had a severe headache all day and Sister Betsy is very sick

TUESDAY, October 20th, 1857.

Quite an appalling change of weather, we have this morning, winter in no mistake both the feel of it and the look of it are present with us the wind is high and most piercing, the snow also where it is drifted is half way up the trees, it has continued very cold all day, but as the day wore on, a great deal of the snow melted away, the sun however went down with considerable still on the ground, the old man has again been thrashing all day at the Peas William Justin has began the timber for the stable to day, Warren Justin and Alec with myself were stone hacking, no Potatoe digging to day, Alec & are all out yet Uncles have been putting some earth on the heaps to day for fear of the frost going through the

Potatoe tops

Though not so cold and
stormy as yesterday still
it had quite a winter feel
about it, it froze so hard
that neither Uncles nor I could go to dig the
Potatoes, We were again at
the scoring to day and expected
to finish Kent we fell short
somewhat of it, we intend
finishing to morrow morn
before going to John Cabb's
raising, William Dixon
came down to day wishing
to take a Hole of Shopping, but
I could not give him a
decided answer having before
partly engaged to see if Dorrance
friends could not come to term
with me when coming to this part,
he gives till tomorrow night
to see about it, and I must
give him an answer

THURSDAY, October 22d, 1857.

A frost last night, but much finer than it has been these two last days - one might dig Potatoes to day, we finished sowing this morning, Alex and I have been with John Webb helping him to raise his old log sheds, I quit at about 3 oclock and took down the mare to overlook got her shod in the front feet, found that Torrance had not got word from his Steers, in coming home I calls at Robert Mortons and gave the shoppey to William Bryson Warren Jestin has been drawing from the woods he has timber he got every thing but the slaper Margaret continues to be much distressed on her breast. I wrote down to her Father to day, sent it by Rochester

FRIDAY, October 23d, 1857.

Another tolerable fine day, I would have been digging Potatoes all day with Tiller, but could not go until the afternoon. Uncle Nicholand I in the forenoon went to Canes and cleaned and Bagged as well as brought home 5-6 Bushels of oats Alec had formerly got 2 Bushels from him which made in all 76 Bushels - 1/4 ℔ per Bushel is the price - and he owed 19 ℔, we took off the debt in oats for fear of losing all. Cane has made a very poor speck of that farm and does not seem to try to make it much better. William Justin and Warren are working at the framing of the Stable

SATURDAY, October 24th, 1857.

A very disagreeable day — although it has not rained very heavy, still it has been pretty constant and uncomfortable, I took down this morning to Everton a Grist of chopped stuff, 14 Bags, 12 Bushel of Oats, the rest of oats William Jestin, Warren, & Alex helped me last night to clean them, I went to Kostmond's to get some things for Margaret and the Baby, they are neither very well, Margaret still suffers very much from her Breasts, I called at John Stewarts in coming home got dinner, but did not business as I ~~intended~~ desired, it was very late before I got my Grist, and I had a dark uncomfortable ride from the Thirteen road is now shocking bad

Rather dull kind of day
though not wet as yesterday
towards night there was some
little rain. The Lord Isabellas
have been away on Horseback
to see Mrs Glen. They say
she looks bad, but seems to
be in pretty good spirits—
we have not had many
visitors, Duncan Robertson
and part of family called in
as they were on their way home
from Mitchels, I was sorry
to see James Mitchell he
had had a very sickly week
of it, he has been confined
the most part of the week
I suppose a very bad cold
is the trouble, I have now a
very bad cold. Alec the same
and I suppose others of the family
Margaret is not yet any better
and the Baby seems sickly too

Paid MONDAY, October 26th, 1857. Pasture

Lumber

Exceedingly windy and cold last night, the greater part of the day the wind has kept up very high, and the cold is pretty severe, I had a very bad night of it. The Baby has not been very well, and Margaret is far from able to work away with it when it is fretful. I have brought home 2 Loads of Lumber — I borrowed Jack Martin's Justin, 36 scantlin in one the rough edge is yet to measure, — The old man is taking up his Potatoes to day Alec and Uncle are taking home the Potatoes from Leland, today, 101 Bushels — on about 3/4 of an acre

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TUESDAY, October 27th, 1857.

Not so immoderately cold to day. The wind keeps pretty high. I measured 12 Bushels of Potatoes for the old Man and took them home, he owes me about 2 days work, I had also 2 or 3 Bushels to add to my own pile, I was drawing the leaves for the stable home from the woods and they are a very hard job, I got Perrons end of the cart wheel, but still they were heavy enough, Margaret and the Baby are both now very sick they have fallen away very much in one day. I have been over at Tollons to night after Steers to help to raise on Thursday, I have asked other hands

Much milder to day, but great appearance of a storm in the sky. There has been a little snow falling. Warren Jestin and I have been drawing in shed logs and preparing for the raising to morrow. Curran shot the horses, William Jestin helped us awhile, we cut 9 rafters and drew them home. We had a visit of Mrs Amey & Harriet Tolton also of Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Robertson. The Baby still continues very restless, it seems to be very sick. James McKechnie has been at town for things for the sick. Tolts from Guelph. Margarets Breasts are still very sore —

Raised the THURSDAY, October 29th, 1857. Sheds to day

Somewhat misty in the morning, and a little dull in the middle of the day, but a very fine day Through all, we got at it pretty early this morning, and got things ready for the hands when they would gather we got up the frame shed in the forenoon, and in the afternoon put up the other two, covering one with the big Basswood troughs again we had altogether about 18 hands and had enough to do with the Troughs it had to be put up by pieces and Uncle Alek came near getting a very serious hurt, but as it was, it injured him slightly, an axe fell on his head from the shed Beam while he was holding a shed below, John Rafferty is now up seen absent selling with Bane, he has been helping us the most of the day

FRIDAY, October 30th, 1857.

very fine day, again misty this morning but it soon passed away, and a beautiful day followed for the most I have been at, & have been down at Paterson's old mill for a load of lumber for William Justin — thought the roads are pretty heavy in some parts still on the whole they are not so bad as I expected. I started a good while before daylight — and it was nearly 8 o'clock before we got to Egerton, William — Justin came along with me — and we brought home a load of Rough Eddy I borrowed from Martin Justin. It was nearly 11 o'clock before we got home — Margaret and the Baby have both got a turn to the letter now — I am pretty wearied with my jostling to day over the rough roads —

SATURDAY, October 31st, 1857. Lumber

Cool, raw sort of day — not much sunshine — with flying clouds — William Justin is on — working at the Stable to day, I have traded to day with George Gray the white faced Heifer for a — fat Cow. He at first bargained for the little red cow, but on — second thought he ~~would~~ would rather have the other, and I made no objections, I measured the Lumber I got from Mast — Justin, and there was 96-0 feet of rough edge — — Alec took a grist for the hogs to day and got it ground he got 15 Bushels of — Peas from me — Margaret and Baby are both getting better but the Baby is very Cross —

SUNDAY, November 1st, 1857.

Pretty fine this morning but soon got up to be a dull cold sort of day towards night. it rained a little but as the wind changed from east to west I think there will not be much rain.

David James Mitchell on visit this forenoon. Mrs Mitchell is very sick she kept her Bed all yesterday and today while I was there. James is getting better though slowly the Girls have all been over at Tollans this afternoon Uncle Alexander has been down and Mr Fife with the Sheep at last so to day with the schoolmaster. I spent in the Peats and Parsnips to day when it threatned cold and rain.

MONDAY, November 2d, 1857.

Cane cleared, hurdy gurdy today
Cold stormy day, The wind
has been high, and a
sleety snow has been
falling the most of the
day. I brought home
& cut the remainder
of the staves this forenoon
And William cut them too
short in the framing. Hm
number, spoil I shifted the
fence about the Barn-
yard & put up 7 Rails
& 8 Posts & Boards for chopping
and took them down to
night to the mill & got
a Receipt & to night 24
lbs of shingle nails, Also
received a letter from Aunt
Ellen by Post to night,
Margaret's Breasts are getting
better fast now, but she
continues weakly otherwise, the
Baby seems to be doing well

TUESDAY, November 3d, 1857.

Forenoon rather stormy more snow falling I took the opportunity to haly sole my Boots afternoon I put up the fences about the Barn Yard, put the saddle on the mare and went for hands to log tomorrow and after I went across to Colton's and Ran Carr, they both promised to come as also Jamie McEachin on Friday & Saturday, William Justin and Warren have been clearing in the stable, Alex has been ploughing at the sod with the oxen, The Baby seems to thrive but is very cross

WEDNESDAY, November 4th, 1857.

very fine, but great appearances of rain — it can hardly pass off without rain the signs are so great, we have logged to day, got but middling by along — the timber too close crossed to get along fast William Tolton, Warren Jestin, William Dixon & myself were the hands — William Dixon Teamster, we fired all the heaps — to night they are burning fine there is a strong breeze, Alex is ditching the orchard, the Ewes are now not able to eat so much hay did a week ago, they are looking very fat for the time of the

THURSDAY, November 5th, 1857.

Threatning rain all forenoon but held off till after dinner, it then began to rain and continued steady till nights — we logged in the forenoon, did middling, the chopping is not first rate, Uncle Alex & John Seamon superintended the place of the late Williams of yesterday this afternoon while it rained, Warren Justin & myself picked the most of the daly Dollar apples home it from the Barn a Bag & daly to peel, peeled and cored a Bag — had the help of the other folks — we also laid by in the cellar 2 Bags of Picked ones, and a bag of small ones, ceased getting up to nights

FRIDAY, November 6th, 1857.

Fine day after the rain sunshine with a nice breeze. The same hands have been logging to day as did yesterday — We expected James Mc Rachie to help us but he came and plead off as he wished to do and serve on some of Bane's Sale property they are making quite a great ado about poor Bane now that he is away — We got pretty well along with the logging to day — better than yesterday — Miles is drawing at the dining and Arnold is with me in this place — We have had a visit of Mr. Stewart & Mr Scott — this afternoon. They walked up through the wood —

SATURDAY, November 7th, 1857.

Pretty nice day - Great appearance of Rain and about noon had a little but none of any account we have been Logging - again to day, James - Mc Rachle in place of John Francy of yesterday we got along, but very slowly the Partnership the Fence was exceedingly hard to day - There was so much old brands - that had been taken out of the other fallow, old Hemlocks and one Pine and another, John Rafferty has had a Plough to Bee to day, Abe cuts these they had quite a fuss here between Bey and Rafferty but did not do much after all

SUNDAY, November 8th, 1857.

Some wet this forenoon but cleared off in the afternoon, it was very muddy in the morning we had John Robertson Junr with us to dinner to day he was at James Mitchells all night, I took a walk down with him to Duncan Robertsons, Mrs Robertson is very sick, and in bed, we had last night a visit of Martin James Jestins Friends from the West, Miss Mary Ann seems to be a very nice young woman Good Bell is their name, the Baby is very cross these times I do not know what can be the matter with him

Exceedingly disagree-
able day all through
, rained the whole of the
day and sometimes
pretty heavy, to night it
snowed a good deal but
it melted nearly as fast
as it fell. I took down
a grist of 6 Bushels of
wheat, the last of the old
wheat. I could not get
a home with the one, but
brought it home the chopped
stuff I took down the other
day, I took down on the
waggon on top of the grist the
Jarnigin sleigh to Martin James
to get fixed, it was rather
shaky in the Box —
I shifted the hens to night
up to the Barn. the poor
creatures had no shelter
from the storm down here

TUESDAY, November 10th, 1857.

Pretty hard frost last night, and this morning was very cold, the frost gave way as the day wore on and we then had a very fine day, I have begun to plough to day with the horses in the little field at the house Alec is ploughing the sod Warren Hastie had been ploughing and finds it very cold work, Uncle Abr— is away down with the Cows this afternoon, we have had a visit of Mrs Stewart and Mrs Philabeth this afternoon, James Greene has come along from Hamilton he has a Horse and single Waggon, with a Load of things I bought at the Gun from Mitchell to night, on condition that his father has no objections

WEDNESDAY, November 11th, 1857.

Frost again last night pretty hard, it had been cold to day but nothing so much as yesterday — I went down pretty early this morning to Everton with the horses and brought home the grist of wheat I took down on monday. I did not start the Bloodhuntile after dinner, and it took till then to make it right for ploughing it was so much froze. Allen finished his sod to day. He says it was pretty hard this forenoon. Warren Justin is shingling to day. He did not find it so cold as yesterday. I turned the little field plough better than last year when breaking it out,

THURSDAY, November 12th, 1857.

Some frost last night but little to be compared to the last two nights — It has looked like rain since the breaking of the day, but it held off pretty well until some time after dinner when it then rained enough to make it disagreeable to work. Thought hardly enough to make us quit. Ploughed all day in the little field. George Gray came along in the afternoon but quit some time before night on account of the mist, The Baby is not at present doing well at all. She seems to be sick. What make her so cross —

The old man plowed the rest of the day in the orchard today

FRIDAY, November 13th, 1857.

Light frost last night
I got the little field —
finished by noon to day
George Gray has been
Ploughing potile nearly
my lot. when he quit it
it stormed pretty hard
with snow. He plough
this afternoon two rounds
about each of the roya
of trees, I Ploughed —
there about two hours in
in the afternoon, after
dinner I went to John Wells
and borrowed some Lumber
William Jestin has hung
all the doors to day, on the
stable. I got a Letter to day
from below, James Sanderson
keeps the mayor for his
own use, Isabella got a
Globe sent her, The Baby Allie
is very fretfull and sickly

SATURDAY, November 14th, 1857.

Very heavy frost last night, so much so that the Slough is shut out of stubble ground - a little snow lies on the ground. I got at it quite brisk this morning early and prepared for the killing. The Old man and Uncle Nichol were helping us. After we had finished breakfast we did them up pretty smartly, had them all finished between 12 & 1 - excepting one which Alec had not quite brought with Uncle Alec got home to - night. Got a letter or no morning from Thos Reid, very hard times every body feels the pinches. The choppers have been on a day or two at Alecs underbrushing. The Baby seems a little better. He is a trifle coming out in his skin

SUNDAY, November 15th, 1857.

still frosty at night, but the day though cold has been a very pleasant one the roads are now pretty rough and hard but a little muddy on the heat of the day I had a turn out with Margaret and the Baby for the first time as far as Mitchell, as it was near night, and they were not at home we came right home again. The two Isabellas were at centre meeting to day, had some visitors towards night, and after all the rest had gone, the two General Sunday night visitors came along William and Thomas Holton, Alec has been down on a visit to Daniel Stewarts to day, he has been away on an excursion to Toronto

MONDAY, November 16th, 1857.

A real winter day, some frost last night, and very dull, great appearance of a fall of something after dinner the snow came on, and by night it was two or three inches deep. This afternoon I got the hoops out and salted. William Dixon out at us for me it being too stormy for him to undertake I am a little troubled to see such weather and the sheds not roofed, we have been housing the calves to night for the first time the Bullock pretty hard at the flies

TUESDAY, November 17th, 1857.

As winter looking as ever the forenoon was somewhat milder but the afternoon blustered up again snowing away round again, we have had old Mr. McDermaid butchering for us to day, he killed the steer of Alecs in the forenoon, the Cow got from George Gray in the afternoon, he was done in time enough for Alec to go up with the Steelyards and weigh an ox they had slaughtered Robt Isabella down to her Uncle Duncans with the waggon after dark, she is away home again after a good long stay James Greene has been up this morning up to day Peter

#14 the Cattle, she came last night

Still quite wintry looking
the snow that has fallen
still continues to lie —
it is a good deal milder
to night but I am afraid
it is for more snow —
I cut Poles this forenoon
for covering the shed —
in the afternoon Uncle
Abe and I were at
Ben Coons helping to raise
a shed for him, Alex
has been with John Peck
helping him to thrash
he is to be thrashing to morrow
and wishes me to go. —
we cut up and weighed
the Cows to night, she
weighed about 430, Alexs steer
weighed about 400, the
Baby is still fretfull. —
Margaret is now alone, and
I am glad she is getting some
stronger

THURSDAY, November 19th, 1857.

Snow last night again — and this forenoon it was [redacted] quite fast — I was almost beginning — to hope that we would — still have some open — weather, The wind in the afternoon however turned and it got up as cold as ever — altogether it has been a stormy disagreeable day, Alex and I have been at John Webb's Thrashing all day, They got but poorly along, what with bad weather and poor beans — they just thrashed about 130 Bushels of wheat, we got Mr. Kenzies — Message to night, The first since he went for the Sweets rest, The Baby has some — sores under his arms and ears which makes him very cross

FRIDAY, November 20th, 1857.

Strong frost last night
again, to day it has
been exceedingly stormy
and cold, the wind has
been very high, and
considerable drifting and
falling of snow, Alec and
I have been at John Webb's
to day again, we expected
at least to get through by
noon, but we were nearly
till six at fiddling away
with it, it was Barley
and a very nasty job
there was about 130 Bushels
I had "Flower" there as
Johns Colt seemed sick.
I went down to Everton
to night to try and sell
a Quarter of Beef, but did
not succeed as I wished.
Sophia Jestin has come to
Margaret to day.

SATURDAY, November 21st, 1857.

Snow drifting very much
it has been a continual
storm all day, cold
snow and drift, winter
has come very early and
very severe, all expected to
expect a slackening of —
after this bright weather
as it is so early in the
season. I have been —
down in the woods —
drawing the poles for the
shed that I cut before the
snow fell, I had a job —
getting them, I believe there
is nearly a foot of snow
on the woods, I am compl —
-letely caught by this weather,
having nothing done with —
my sheds yet, the cattle
are living on the old stack
of straw of last year —

SUNDAY, November 22d, 1857.

A continuation of snow drifting, but more mild than it has been for two days back — to night it is mild but the sky looks as if gathering for another storm. I — hope not, as I am laying out to be at the sheds fixing to — morrow if health and weather permit. Alec and Betsy are both away down to Dogpeace to day. They have the — Cutter and the Span with them he means to bring up the sleigh the long wheels. Property Sale, James — Mitchell has been in to night and talks of Breaking for Texas and Mexico

MONDAY, November 23d, 1857.

Rose dull this morning
And from breakfast to dinner
time it snowed very hard
after that time the snow
gave up, but it became
very windy and cold
I have had James Mc
Rae to all day helping
me at the shed, Uncle
Alex also in the forenoon
he helped me, in the afternoon
he went Jonathan Cox's to
help him to raise a shed
we shifted the Rafters
from the Barn floor on
to the Pole in the horse stable
there was a man looking after
ship timber to day. I had been
down at the woods, John
Stewart was down to night to
see after the stock, but stood
not quit time,

TUESDAY, November 24th, 1857.

Cold and blowing as ever, some more snow — and so badly drifted that it is hard getting along — & think that in the woods it is a good foot deep — I was asked for both — Colton's & Mitchell's thrashing to day, but had to refuse both as I had to attend Martin Gatlin's raising — we got the shanty up in good time, but it was a cold job, Alex has got home to night with his sleigh, James Greene has been down at Georgetown & Stewartown to day. Thelemon he has rented a house in Georgetown and intends living there this winter. The old man's thrashing Pease today. The Body seems now to be getting well.

WEDNESDAY, November 25th, 1857.

Continues pretty cold though not as cold as yesterday. The old man finished the Peas Thrashing this forenoon. I made ready this forenoon and Alec & I with James Crewe went down to the sale at Wm Dilphants — There was a pretty large attendance but people seamed to be rather — careful about bidding very high I bid on one thing I should not and should ld a Lesson for the future. I was not aquainted with Henery Talbots old mare (a cripple) and bid for her. I bought a Cowe at 6 1/2 D, and a Cow at 5 3/4 D, 14 months Credit — — Alec bought a colt from David Stewart for 25 1/2 D, the same Credit — —

Very fine day, This is the
first settled day after
a week of stormy weather
Uncle Alexander and I
were thrashing with James
Mitchell and after dinner
had to leave him in a great
hurry, Uncle Alex in going out
at the door slipt his foot on a
piece of ice, and fully seemed
to fracture the Bone of his arm -
immediately behind the first joint
leaving one of our horses at the Machine
& hitched off the other and drove
Uncle down to Malcom McFadyen
and there got it ~~[illegible]~~ Bandaged, and
~~[illegible]~~ settled up, after giving it great
pulling Thinking it was only out of
joint, I agreed with Williamina
~~Abbott~~ to come and Thrash
for me on ~~Monday~~ Saturday, and have
called my hands to night

FRIDAY, November 27th, 1857.

Another very fine day — James Mitchell is Thrashing to day again, Alex & Steve John Webb sends a hand for me to day, our team is — again there, & have had Jamie helping me to make ready for my thrashing to morrow we cleaned up and Measured 17 or 18 Bushels of Peas — Put the straw into the horse — stable, cut and drew logs from the woods for a straw pend and other sundry jobs — Isabella drove Greines horse in the Cutter nearly to Guelph Wm Ging to meet Uncle Nicholas but she came home without him Greine and them went into Guelph yesterday, and through some misunderstanding Left Uncle in the Lurch, he got home with Martin Gestin to night.

SATURDAY, November 28th, 1857.

Another fine day, it has been very warm, and the snow has melted away very much, we got up the steam pond before commencing to thrash, and before we got the Machine and all else ready it was nearly ten o'clock we however after getting started got along very steady and nice, we had done and the machine loaded up some time before night, there was 45 Bushels of Spring wheat and 160 of oats, (3 cents for the wheat and 2 for the oats thrashing) after getting supper Alec and I went down to Daniel Stewarts and got a saddle and two Dirsingles for the ten Dollars he owed us for the oats we had a visit last night of John Johnston from Norval Uncle's hand is very sore and has been very painful and much swollen

SUNDAY, November 29th, 1857.

Very Dull this morning — and had some appearance of rain or snow, but it cleared up however to a very fine day — we have had a very fine sleigh ride to day, over to the other side of the Town — Salt, on a visit to Robert Barkes, they were all at home and we had a pleasant while there, and got dinner along with them, on the way home we called at William Tolton and had to stay there a good while David, one of the Twins from little Yellow met in with a bad accident, he got his arm broken yesterday while playing with one of his Comrades, the Doctor set it to day, he is exceeding patient under it, we got home after night a while, Thomas Tolton had his sleigh with Harriet, and Ourdeaska, we had Alec — and Betsy, Margaret and Sally and myself

MONDAY, November 30th, 1857.

Quite a thaw last night
it has been raining through
the night, and all forenoon,
the snow was melting yesterday
but to day it has fairly run
away, to night there is but
little left, Alex Pulled
his Oats this forenoon, I
was helping him, Martin
Justin came along and he
staid and helped us
Alex helped me to cover my
shed this afternoon with old sheets
Mrs Greene is away down to Georgetown
but she came to night, Jamie took
her to Rockwood with the Team
James himself went down on
Saturday, he bought James
Mitchells single sleigh and took
his things down, The Baby seems
somewhat easier to day, but he
has passed a bad night of it, Alex
and I are asked to Tolton's shed
raising tomorrow

TUESDAY, December 1st, 1857.

Rather dull the greater part of the day, some appearance of rain, and rather mild. Alec and I have been over at Tolton's raising this afternoon. I was fixing up about the Barn yard this forenoon and find it a hard matter to get stuck at it long enough to get fixed up. The sow has gone away yesterday afternoon and I am afraid I will be put to trouble with her. The machine fork left the fence down at the line and she made out by that, the Baby is again very fretful & seems to be much pained

WEDNESDAY, December 2d, 1857.

Very mild again to day
I fixed about home till
about 11 o'clock when I
started off on quest of
the cow. I had a very
hard job of it running
while after dark and
made nothing of it -
I really was out of all
patience with the nasty
beast, but however that I
never minds the matter,
William Jestin raised
his store house this
afternoon, Betsy Bawn
took very ill last night -
Alec and Jamie helped
me to clean up 20 Bags
of oats after between 7 &
8 o'clock to night, Dinted
going to Guelph to morrow
with them, if all is well -

THURSDAY, December 3d, 1857.

Rather colder than yesterday and more windy and winterly looking. I was early at it this morning preparing for a start to Guelph. It was however about ten o'clock before I got away. I found part of the road very good Waggoning, but through it was intolerably bad. I had 48 Bushels 27 lbs of oats sold at 15½ per Bu, brought home a Barrell of salt, a Pound of Tea and Rings from Doctor Parker for Margaret & the Baby all the Boys so now the want of Money. Uncle Nichol is very unwell at present William Dixon takes off the work.

FRIDAY, December 4th, 1857.

More Mild to day again but not much sunshine I have had James Mc Rackie helping me all day fixing Mc cattle shed and stable — we chinked and plastered the shed, chinked the stable and nearly fixed up the stall in it. Alex was helping us awhile in the afternoon, Mrs Carr had a young Daughter last night Uncle N. Shol is a great deal better to day — Henry is on to day for the first, they have all the others under but if it holds on this weather and William gets better they will soon get it done

SATURDAY, December 5th, 1857.

Very cloudy and misty day, the damp must freezing and causing a feathery appearance to the trees. I covered the root house over with — during, and had quite a — hard job to get it, it was so much prize, I got ready as soon as possible after doing my chores, saddled the horse and went off for Sawing, I paid Ten — dollars to Mr. Campbell store keeper, in Ballinasad, on part pay for 6 Runches of shingles, $6½ I yet owe him. I got down to Sattras by Nine o'clock, after calling at Greens And Gearys Hamiltons, it was about 2 o'clock before I left Erasmus

SUNDAY, December 6th, 1857.

(6 degrees)

A dark, damp, disagreeable day, it did not rain much this forenoon, but it rained a little in the afternoon all the time, I left for home at about 3 o'clock, and got home about 4 in the afternoon all my stoppages were a call at Geo. Hamilton's and one at Fieldings to get a dry. The roads were very slippy and the mare not being to sharp shod, made it very hard on her to get along. The Rebellion continues. This day or two to improve a little

MONDAY, December 7th, 1857.

Very fine day all through
It has looked very much
like a "fat day", fine.
sunshine and quite mild
Alex has taken a grist
to the Mill to day, he
borrowed 8 Bushels of
wheat from me, I
have been on the hunt
all day for the lost
cow again, and came
home at night as wise
as ever as to where about
it is, really as most
disheartening job to run down
as much as I have done
and made nothing of it
I brought home the young
dog from Daniel Stewarts
to night with me

TUESDAY, December 8th, 1857.

Exceedingly fine day — more like Spring time half gone than any other thing, it has been very warm, I have been fixing up the sheep pond to day, Uncle Michel fixed on the door, William & Warren Jeffin were down this afternoon and would have finished the shingling to day, but I was disappointed by George P. Bacon who promised me the shingles Michel Rogers came down this morning — he told them at Concetta all was well, Alex had a great job takin the sow to Concetta, he had to take her in the sleigh, the Baby seems now to be doing nicely

WEDNESDAY, December 9th, 1857.

A good deal of rain last night, and to day has been very misty, and wet a good part of the time, I have been chorin round some to day. I covered the well, worked some at the cattle stable, and Alex and I went over for the sheep at Tolton's we got them home before it came down right dark, but we had nothing to boast of. John Frazer has got down from the woods he has bought a Lot of land, Margaret is very sick. These times, she seems to have got the cold. The Baby Sometimes keeps well.

THURSDAY, December 10th, 1857.

Pretty cold but not a disagreeable day. — My forenoon was put off at James Heaberlin's. Expected to be threshing there the machine however on account of a break-down did not come along, and we all had to go home again — after dinner I piled up the stones and trash about the Barn yard, and then went down and measured off the fallow for the men we went 6 rods further back in the south corner of the fallow than I had been in the habit of plowing over the line,

Rather mild to day — There was considerable snow last night, but to day's sun has taken it away nearly as fast as it came, it is nice weather for getting around now — The snow is no impediment. The ground being nearly bare in many places; William Dixon and Henry have been sawing logs all day — I have to pay for one of them, I. piled and drew the sheep pond to day and fixed a rack, I has — drawing out a few saw logs that fund it too soft for the oxen it goes very hard when there is not frost and snow, Margaret is bothered with the toothache

SATURDAY, December 12th, 1857.

The frost was a little hard last night, and it has kept harder than yesterday, Alec and I drew over a load of oat straw to the old barn, Alec finishing the thrashing machine - would come along - I rigged up the sleigh and began to draw out the Barley, I had to quit a little early, the shoeing of the sleigh going wrong - The men have had to day again been sawing all day Nicholl Rodgers had the horses into Guelph to get his things - - Edward and his Father & Mother have moved to the shanty to day; they have had a long walk for it -

SUNDAY, December 13th, 1857.

Very fine day, though rather cool, & have had a very bad night last night, been troubled with something like a flux, and had to lie up a good deal through the night, much pained. Am a good deal better to night, after taking 2 table spoonfuls of Cayenne Pepper, Alec McFarlane came last night to the other house and has been with us to day, he means to be off home in the morning. Kept the house all day, not feeling strong enough to go abroad. The Bull, Uncle Noahs and Betsy are now both on the sick list as well as myself.

MONDAY, December 14th, 1857.

A little frost last night but it has been quite a mild day. The snow is going very fast. There is now only a little in the woods the greater part of the roads being bare and muddy. Alec Mc Farlane started for home this morning I have been opening roads into the Bark and saw logs, and drew out a number into the clearing Alec and Nicholas are now busy chopping firewood, James took a load to the school There was a meeting of Electors held D. Clarke up at Drumhill, D. Parker was there and called at Peavys in going from Stoots down Margaret and the Bay and let him see them, he will not say too much for the Baby

TUESDAY, December 15th, 1857. Death

Quite misty and mild to day looked a good deal like rain the snow has mostly gone to day, I have been working in the Bush, took out a quantity of saw logs and Alex and Nichol helped me to haul 18 logs, William and Henry are busy at the underbrushing the Bally has had a bad turn yesterday and to day I have got medicine to night from Dr Foster sent out by Mr Pearson I also got a Bottle of Godfrey's Cordial at Everton, but will use the Drs first, Mrs William Green died this morning, Uncle Nichol has had another bad turn last night he is greatly failed looking

WEDNESDAY, December 16th, 1857.

Very fine weather, This day has been more like Spring than this day of the year, The snow has now all but gone away and the frost is leaving the Ground, Alec got a Load of hay from me to day, I drew out 4 Load loads, 3 large ones, but as the road got soft I left them for another time, — in the afternoon I stuck at the Barb drawing, it is with the crow and Rod — sketch and it runs hard without proud, The Baby seems somewhat easier than yesterday, but still nothing to boast of, I have been this day or two back to feed the Cockatoo once a day —

THURSDAY, December 17th, 1857.

Rather dull to day, — some frost last night — which made the ground a — little hard until noon — I drew out all the saw logs but 4, those I left till it comes snow, it is so very bad on the open, after dinner Alec & Nichol helped me to skid 12 logs, there are now 30 on the skids, after — getting done, we all went at Alec's we managed to put up about a dozen in the woods, it was rather a forward work, I would — rather have them out in the clearing, after supper the men have left the underbrush there is still a little to do — but they think it will be easier done in the spring. I have — written a Letter to Helen to night

FRIDAY, December 18th, 1857.

Very wet morning, and has continued so all day, a good deal of rain has fallen this forenoon I cleaned up the Barn floor somewhat, filled 2 Bed Ticks, one oat chaff the other half straw & chaff in the afternoon I gathered all the Lumber about and laid the floor for the horses to stand on this winter until the stable is finished for good and all, This is rather a bad day for the Elections, the roads are also very rough at the present time, Ann Sally is now a great deal better, the medicine we got from the doctor seems to be doing him good, Margaret seems also doing very well we are somewhat encouraged with the present Look of things

SATURDAY, December 19th, 1857.

Quite a hard frost last night and everything so dry and hard this morning. Ader and I with Nichol Rogers were early at Robert Morton's expecting to Thrash. But on account of the ice on the roads William Abbott could not bring the Separator along in time to Thrash before noon. Burns and Anderson was there and got Ader and I coaxed along with old Mr Theaker to go and vote, we did so thinking it too bad to let Roggers and villains get the upper hand if we could do anything conscientiously to keep it down. James Theaker telling me in the morning there was a stray sow at Portis Abeband I came that way, saw her and brought her to Robert Mortons Robert Morton to night operated upon Henry Turner in the Mesmeric sleep before a good number. It is really a very Strange thing in our nature, that we can be brought so much under the power of another by such an operation — —

SUNDAY, December 20th, 1857.

Continues a pretty tight frost — The day has been pretty fine but I fear that the fall wheat will receive no good from the hard frost and the ground so bare of snow, Nichol Rogers and I went down to Robert Mottons this morning and led the cow home with a rope at her leg the people over the way have had a visit from Harriet Dolson and her two brothers William & George, we had a visit of the two Misses Robertson towards night, Margaret & I visit William Jeffrin and Sophia conveyed them down as far as Peavey's Corner, and before coming we went over to see how Elizabeth Peavey was doing, she is yet very feeble — the Baby continues to do finely but sometimes bothersome at night —

MONDAY, December 21st, 1857.

Strong frost last night again
Through the day it became more
mild, and it has been very dull
all day, having the appearance of
a storm a breeding, it kept fair
until after dark, when the snow
came down in right earnest. I believe
there fell 2 inches in about an hour.
I was again this forenoon with Robert
Morton Threshing, we got finished
before dinner, he had a good crop of
Fall wheat for this season, 56 Bushels
off 2 acres, he had 80 Bushels spring do
100 Bushels oats, the machine left there
after this got dinner, and was again
all ready for action at ½ past two, —
they threshed 82 Bushels spring wheat
from that time till night, I was
there and Nichol Rogers was also —
there for me, Alex was there too —
I have up the cows to night for the
first time, the snow comes down for
certain

TUESDAY, December 22d, 1857.

Windy and cold, although fine weather for working, Michal Rogers and I were again with Martin Jestin this forenoon threshing, after dinner they quit with him and came down to Alex, they got a start at between 2 and 3 o'clock and run through the largest part of the spring wheat, it is turning out but poorly, — at Martin Jestin's they threshed 98 bushels spring wheat, and 70 of Barley, it was in good order for threshing, and they managed to put through a good deal of straw — The Baby seems to be doing fine — and Margaret looks better than she has done for a long time — Janet Mitchell has been with Margaret all day getting a Bonnet made — Alex's Mare is so lame he will not put her on the machine to morrow, I am afraid it will bother her yet —

WEDNESDAY. December 23d, 1857.

Very cold day, and the wind has been very high and most unfavourable for Alec's Thrashing we tried to thrash and put the straw out at the door, but found it no use, we then had to shut up the doors and put the straw up in the swing Beam Mow — and when like to choke us cut a hole out of the side of the Barn and push the straw out at it — but for this we would have had to stop, in the day and half, there was thrashed 66 Bushels of spring wheat 74 of fall wheat and 95 of oats — they staid all night Men and Horses, and intend to be at George Gray in the morning — This has I think without exception been the dirtiest Thrashing that ever I was at; the smut was terrible among the spring wheat, and no wind to blow it away — — —

THURSDAY, December 24th, 1857.

Another cold day, but more sunshine than there has been for a few days, Nichol, Alec and I have been with George Gray, Thrashing. The wind was pretty strong but more favourable for George than for Alec, they thrashed for George 6½ Bushels Spring wheat, 86 of Fall, and after Nichol and I left just through 18 of oats. Nichol and I left a little before dark, and came home and drew up 2 Bags of wheat, got our suppers and Jamie came along with us to Everton, we waited about 2 hours there, and got the grist home with us, we also brought the Pleasure Sleigh after its repairs and the 1/2 Bunch of things I got from William Foster

FRIDAY, December 25th, 1857.

Not so cold to day, we are all at home and feel rather dull after so much Phrasing it is only one days rest however — we must be at it again to morrow All is well, Nichol, Jamie, and Henry Turner have been away this forenoon on a shooting Excursion this being Christmas, Helene they shot a woodpecker — I have been working away as usual to night I salted the pork again the second time, I believe it should have been done long ago, and there was a fine chance too of soft weather but I overlooked it, not known enough about it. The Baby has taken rather sick to day — Betsy has been very bad but is to day rather better again, great kindness of Dickens this some time back —

SATURDAY, December 26th, 1857.

A little snow last night which will help the roads a great deal. This day has been pretty mild, and a very little snow falling. Alex Nichol and I have been at Sheackers thrashing all day. Mr. Sheacker had a very good crop of wheat and got a good days thrashing 23 Bushels altogether 8 5 of it was spring wheat. The rest fall. William Abbott is now going out of the neighbourhood with the intention of coming back in a week or two. to thrash again. The Baby is still very cross to night, but I think is not so sick as last night. Margaret has sent me and the pair of Mitts, we intend to all walk to go down to Esquesing tomorrow.