

**Irene Dixon Bamford 1890 March – June,
Diary Transcription**

5034_4-1-3

Metadata

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IRENE DIXON BAMFORD DIARY March-June 1890 1890

QUEENS UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

LOCATOR 5034.4

BOX 1

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page_0002

March - June 1890

page_0003

Re-read '76-'84

page_0004

1890

59 years ago

page_0005

Re-read
'76 - '84

page_0006

I have through a mistake skipped
Tuesday 11th March 1890. A cloudy
morning. Wind south rains at noon
Welly nixed [sic] up and drove with Bell
over to make her grandmother a visit,
taking baby Irene with her and leaving
the other children here. After dinner
Johny drove over to Wills for Bell intending
to drive home with but it rained so hard
thought she would stay till morning but
Charley came over for her and I went
home with them too. sleighing very poor
drove on the ice at Mick OBrien. Roads fare

~~Sunday~~ Saturday 8th March 1890

A beautiful day. Wind light & south
Charley Bells and children and Grace
come over home. Charley drove her
again leaving Bell and children
here. they picked up Horace
Wartman on the road and
Brought him along too. he
is peddling medicine. He went
over to Wills to see Rachel come
back again with Will in evening,
fiddled, played on organ and
sung. E cleaned all the room
and made bread. I gave Charley
some cider to take home home [sic]
with him

page_0007

Sunday 9th March A fine day. Wind South. After breakfast Wells drove across the ice with Bell and the baby to Gloyds and then made Dardone a visit and then drove back to I Gloyds, took dinner with them and then home again leaving Bell at Gloyds.

Marjorie and Beatrice stay with me. Grace gone to church

Monday

March 10th 1890 Wind S.W.

A fine day somewhat cloudy.

Afer dinner John drove in cutter across the ice to Gloyds for Bell then hiched [sic] on to Charleys. Gloyds buggy and with Bell drove to Corners, saw Horace & Jane at Cutis Store, drove home across the ice & then Willy and Eveline drove to Ebbs in cutter & which [corner of page torn missing some words] [?] were gone. Mr Montgomery drove [?] there bringing Minnie with him [?] one of our boys to see her up

page_0008

Across the river but Isa Burnham
was drawing hay from his farm here
across the river to his home so Wells
Minnie a chance to ride over on a
load of Burnham's hay and hoisted
her trunk on another load. she is
going to Watertown forget what our
men folks done. Bell and children stayed
at home here all night

March 12th ~~Thursday~~ Wednesday 1890

At Bells. A rainy day. Wind South
Bells floor all marked with clay.

Around the house the clay mud
is two feet deep. Charley went to
Richard Irvin. Ma John Holliday
came up awhile and invited us
down to his house

March 13th ~~Wednesday~~ 1890 Thursday

At Bells. Wind south. Raining hard all
day. Charley washed and greased [sic] harness.

Fred, Joy, Mr H and Sandy Barrie
there Bell moped and fried cakes.

I read Mr Barnes of New York

page_0009

March Friday 14th 1890

At Bells A fair day Bell done a
big washing And hung them all on
the line Wind south and blowing a
gale at dark Charley brought me
His cloths after dark Sandy Barrie
came and stayed 'till bed time
Charley Henry and Dick made a
pumper

March 15th Saturday 1890 A cold
miserable day Wind North cloudy
At Bells I ironed Bills' clothes Bell
cleaned floors Charley built fence grown
colder towards night and snows A pleasant
day at Bells like all the other days
Henry came up in evening said they
had taped a hundred trees

page_0010

Sunday March 16th 1890

A clear cold day thawing in sun .

Wind North. Charley drove down this morning and I come home from Bells. C H stayed to dinner.

C H. drove down with buggy & drove across ^{Dick} Irvine's Bay found Hattie Joslin here came yesterday. J Morgan here.

Grace went skating till Niles and a dozen more on the ice. Will here for pans. Grace went to Wills. R came home with her. Eveline, Welly & Baby went to J Niles on ^{hand} sled.

John & Grace went to prayer meeting. Maud cried to go too. Wells not very well. the snow that fell last night all gone.

4 eggs

[margin]Edith come to Bell's to day [margin]

March 17th 1890 Monday

St Patricks day, in morning

A cold frozen day, barometer falling very low, cloudy, wind north with snow squalls from the south & West. The Irish walk to day in Kingston.

Grace started for school this morning for first in a long time. Wells sick abed, caught cold Saturday building fence. John & Welly draw 2 loads of hay from old barn & then after dinner Welly goes to Delmarsh to boil sap and carried pans. A fellow here for some wheat. Ground bare, ice poor 13 [eggs?]

page_001

Re-read
'76 - '84

page_0012

March 18th Tuesday 1880

Cold day. Wind North a hole in the channel. Eveline washed the clothes and hung them all out. Wells is some better. Grace at school. Welly and Will boiling sap at Delmar's. Rache came over brought some thing for Wells to eat strawberry preserves &c &c. John doing general chores &c, went skating dark. J Niles here in evening.

Welly came home late from boiling sap. E ironed _6 eggs_
Elmar Woodman gone to Ottawa [sic] to get married.

March 19 Wednesday 1890 A fine day. Wind North. ground bare and frozen. Wells, Welly and John clean oats for grinding. John drove to Ed Rattrays to grind them. Welly went to Rattrays to work on cheese factory Charley ~~went~~ 'Holiday came and got his seed wheat. Grace at school. Another new milk cow to day which makes 5. Muriel walked all around. Welly stoped to prayer meeting. John and Grace gone to this evening Visiting 10 eggs to

page_0014

March 20th Thursday 1890

A half cloudy day. Wind South rather strong tearing a channel clear down through from Carlton to Clayton. Welly boiling sap.

Grace at school. John drove to Edd's for the provender, E took the Baby and went as far as her fathers with John. Hiram Joslin brought her home. All and Eddy B went over river in punt.

J Niles went too. R here twisting and doubling yarn. I not well.

Eat too many pickles. Churned.

Scalded milk for a sick calf.

March 21st 1890 Friday chilly ^{21 eggs} cloudy day. Wind South. E washing. Welly & I make two kettles of soap, churned again. Rained some in fore noon. After noon cleared up again sun shone out. Welly goes to sap boiling & came home late at eleven. John at J N's playing pedro, came later than Welly J.M. and W Dixon here

page_0016

March 22 Saturday 1890

A very pleasant day, Wind south.

Arose at 4 O'clock to get Wells off to Kingston.

Welly got up and cleaned fish for market, his father carried them and carried 10 butter and 4 dozen eggs for me and wheat for Ryan to pay

on taxes. Will rode as far as Irvins to run his fish nets. Ranons and Morgan helps themselves to fish. Ranons says Morgan & Morgan says Ranous.

E moved up stairs to day. Grace cleaned floors. Irene cleared up and filed all the newspapers and Books. R came over for snuff and waited till W. came home from Marysville but Wells got none. she went home sorry.

I was sorry too. Wells showed off after he got home. Welly received a letter from Volty to cross the river for him to night. Welly eat a little supper and started with a punt. A dark very dark night, cloudy but not much wind. Welly & Volty come home 1/2 past nine gay and jolly. we sat up late I and Volty and planed [sic] buisness [sic]. Youth is hopeful a happy one letter from Hugh. We sent 3 sturgeon by Chris' father to

page_0018

Sunday March 23rd 1890

A bright sunny day Wind west
ground froze last night. Got up
at daylight made two batches of bread,
boiled potatoes and cake. After breakfast
Volty went over to his grandma's And
then came home with Will with him,
had lunch, then Volty and Welly went
across the river in punt. Volty going
back to Norman's came out with
two horses. Henry Holliday visiting
here. Volty took the apples out
of the ground. Thomas Dawson and
came down to day from Marysville to
begin getting ice tomorrow for shipping [sic]
Monday 24th A very fine day light wind
west. Wells & Welly went over the river this morning.
Wells went to see Alic[e] Liddy. Welly went to
corners to get a pair of rubber boots and overalls.
E H Burnhams gang from cape Vincent commenced
at the ice business this morning. Johny took old
Jim and gone to work for Burnham on the ice.
Will here awhile. R stoped [sic] here on her way to Morgans.
Arose early this morning at 4 O'clock.
Two sundogs. John Niles here this evening.
Eveline cleaned the Kitchen & scoured [the floor]
on her knees and brought wate. Grace
at home and brought water too Will coming

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here and Wellington Burnham here too.
W Burnham trying to make a horse and
cow trade with Wells. Wells went after
dinner to B to see the cow but couldn't agree
and so trade fell out. E making her dress.
Mrs Gloyd sent me some buck wheat
flour.

page_0020

Tuesday, March 26 1890

A cloudy morning.

Wind North. Arose 4 O'clock. Wells and Will start for Kingston with buggy, came back again at eleven O'clock at night. Will carried George or led old Jack to sell him for fish nets to Bolton.

Bolton wouldn't buy him he is so thin so led him home again - old horse turned a summer sault coming home but Will brought home three hoop nets and flour and a lot of groceries.

I set up and had supper ready for them when they came, made Will a cup of ginger Geo, Welly and Johny working on the ice till three O'clock P.M. when it rained so hard they came home not through and very cold.

Wind blows hard from south a dirty mean day and not much wood. R gone down the road home from Morg. Grace at school. E washed and hung out the clothes but brought them in again.

Wednesday 26th March 1890. A dirty rainy morning. Wind blowing hard from S.W.

but John started off on old Jim for the ice. Towards noon cleared up and Welly went too & carried the dinner and worked all afternoon. John, all day. Grace at school.

Will here to dinner and helped Wells draw hay from Old barn. After dinner Wells helped Will over to Brown's bay with & punt and helped Will set three fish nets & helped himself to pine knots. Wells from some fish, sun fish, from Wells old net.

page_0021

Welly says Wellington wants to finish the
horse and cow trade he wants a horse.
Wellington is drawing straw to cover ice

page_0022

Thursday 27th March 1890

A clear fine day.

Wind S.W. and chilly, froze last night, ground all bare and brown not a particle of snow for two weeks or more, river all open and full of floating ice. Had sun fish for breakfast and dinner but no good - don't like them.

Arose early so as to get an early breakfast so the boys can get an early start for the ice pile. After breakfast boys start for ice business. Wells goes for hay and drove to the ice to see W. Burnham about the horse and cow trade. Jen came over for their flour, butter milk, and hen feed.

I gave her a couple of eggs. After dinner Wells went for more hay, Grace at school.

E finished her dress, hung out the clothes & ironed Mrs George Ranons. Visiting Wills folks.

Jen sent me some catnip, had buckwheat cakes for supper. Horse & cow trade concluded with a trade.

Friday 28th Marach 1890.

Strong Wind North.

Pancakes for breakfast. John on old Jim started for the ice fields went off without milking the cows but took his dinner with him leaving W Jr to bring the milk. Grace went to school through the storm for it storm & snows & blows a terror increasing in violence all day. Welly went as far as Wills stayed till towards noon then Welly & John came home bringing their dinner and milk home again. After dinner stormed so hard done nothing but get wood, water, barn chores and Wells went to school house for Grace. Wells milked the cows A.M. Welly & Johny went to J Niles & stayed till eleven

page_0024

March 29th 1890 Saturday

A great fall of snow
on the ground and yet it snows fast, no
going to the ice this morning. Wells, Welly & Johny
drew two loads of hay on sleigh from the old barn.
Will came home with them on his way to fish
nets & said they had a row over there this
morning among his women folks. Wells has gone
this PM down to Wellington's to drive home his cow.
Welly and Johny are gone to the ice fields either
to work or get their pay for what they have done.
Welly advised Will to go too and get his pay for
his days work but he said he would not go.
E cleaned the floor and brought one pail of
water through the deep snow. Boys came home
early, didn't work on the ice but received pay
for what work they done cross & A Burnham
not going to get out more ice. Welly received a
letter from Volty asking him to come for him
with a boat to night but Welly has crossed
the river this afternoon says there is so much
ice on the other shore he cant get there so stays
at home. Will went through the snow and storm
to his fish nets. Welly & Johny went over to Wills
in evening.

March 30th 1890 Sunday

Wind North. Morning clear and
bright, good sleighing, earth white with snow
everywhere, river nearly frozen over. After breakfast
Willy crossed the river in front breaking the
ice as he went with an oar. Came back
at 1/2 past 10 O'clock bringing Volty with him
at or nearly the same time came Will Dixon

page_0025

John Burnham and an other fellow they call Adam Weber all here to dinner. Will took the team and went to draw wood. On Sunday or freeze. After dinner, Volty went to Wills for fish for Petries folks & then Welly, Volty, J Burnham & Webber crossed the river again. Volty going back to petrie's. J Burnham came back with Welly & stayed all night. Volty says he is coming back tomorrow night.

John Morgan here awhile fiddling away then went to Bill Smiths. Grace went to Church & prayer meeting for the evening came Lahey and Obriens hired man, and Renb McFaden. Snow squalls in the afternoon. Is sunday a day of rest & it may be for some, but seldom or never has been for me, neither has any day

page_0026

Monday March 31st 1890

The sun rose clear. Light West Wind, river
frozen over again this morning.

Did not get up very early over slept ourselves.

Johny took his dinner and went to work for
Dawson on the ice. Welly helped his father
draw hay and after dinner crossed the
river (with Machar) in punt for Volty.

Robert Machar going to work for Walroth.

J Burnham went to Wellingtons.

Will making sugar or boiling sap at Pelmars'
Grace at home. E washed and moped [sic].

We made more soap or tried too.

Our pork is all gone which is a
terror to me

page_0027

April 1st Tuesday

Sun shining brightly, very light wind south.

Welly stayed all night and came home with Volty about eleven O'clock and brought Volty's trunk and valise went back again for fish nets. Grace at school.

April 2nd Wednesday 1890

I cant remember all that transpired from the first of April untill the 11th except it was rather cold disagreeable weather. The boys employed the time setting fish nets, making sugar ~~and working for Burnham~~ Wells went to K twice &c. Eve cleaned house and washed bed clothes. Grace went to school &c

page_0028

Jonny get your gun

Johny get your gun

Johny got his gun

Susie bay is the grateful

April 17th Thursday 1890.

A long time since I wrote in this diary since March

31st 1890. This is a pleasant day, sun

shining, clear ~~Wind South~~, grass only

starting to grow a little. Wells drove with

Grace to the dock carried butter and eggs

and two sturgeon, a grist to mill

& fish for Will. Wells building fence down

by Smiths. Johny sitting in rocking

chair all day by the stove. Grace

brought another stove from Bibby's second

hand for 8 dollars. Wind blowing strong

from the North. R went up too

[in pencil]

Note: Entries from April 12th

through 17th out of order

covering following 5 pages.

page_0029

John Bamford

page_0030

Oh

Oh Shirt I mean

Oh shirt tail Slate

Wells Bamford

Apr 24th Thursday 1890

Volty drove Grace to dock for market.

Wind blowing strong from North & sothe
cold clear sky. Volty finished setting
trees, grape vines and rose bush & plowed
garden, set out dallias [sic], transplanted pie plant [rhubarb]
&c &c. Welly painting skiff at Wills barn.

Wells working in field. John helping Volty and
fixing wire fence. E cleaned kitchen floor
and washed clothes. R here twice for
butter milk and her glass ware. Will here once
teacher drove to dock with Volty for Grace.

April 23rd Wind South, cloudy looks
like rain. Rains little towards night.

Wells working in field. Grace at school.

Volty plowed garden and set trees. Welly
worked on boat at Wills. Wills here. E moped [sic]
all floors & done chamber work. I got ready
market 12 lbs butter and 27 eggs.

page_0031

John helped dig post holes.

Apr 25th Friday 1890

A clear bright day

cold Wind north. Ground froze last night, dry no rain. Wells sowing grain in field. John helping his father.

Volty plowing and working in garden.

Grace at school. Welly working at his boat (painting it) & after dinner finished cutting the sail and run the fish net off the reel. E done chamber work and made Muriel a new pink dress.

Made her one last night After Grace came home from town. Wells set a turkey.

Rachel came over in evening for yeast & a cup of tea.

Wells crossed the river after supper.

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Apr 22nd Tuesday 1890

A clear bright day. Wind south
Welly & Volty finished loading the
vessel with ice came home at 2 O'clock
P.M. Welly worked at his boat at Wills.
Volty dug up the apple trees John
buried last fall. John went with
Will to ferry and stoped [sic] there till
Will came back from Kingston.
Will went to pay his taxes. Grace at
school. Wells working in field.
We kneed [sic] rain very much.
Wells sent by Will and paid his
taxes on house & lot at Marysville.

April 21st Monday 1890

Light wind South.

E washed big washing and cleaned
floors. Grace stayed at home till noon
then went to School. John went to Niles
for books limped up there and back.
Volty & Wells Jr working on ice loading vessel

page_0033

take

take

thank

page_0034

Sunday 20th April 1890

A fair day Wind South

Wells reading Whig

and in afternoon went to bed. I slept in fore noon. Eveline slept too. Volty and Lahey went down to cedars to inspect the ground. John limped there too, first he has walked since he hurt his foot. Grace and John went to evening prayer meeting. Dry, no rain.

Saturday April 19th 1890

Arose very early.

Wells came got an early start for R & Wells Jr & Devolson can go to load the ice vessel. Grace and Eveline milked eleven cows. Teacher went to the ice and came home with boys. Wells came home at 10 O'clock P.M. said he had dinner on the Blanchard. A postal card and a letter for Wells. The postal from Hugh for taxes on Marysville lot. John hops around some and reads Gun boat fam. Grace & E do cleaning and general house work. Wind South, no rain. Wells bought 10 lbs pork.

page_0036

Friday April 18 1890

A fair day, Wind

south. Boys working loading ice for Dawson.

Johns foot pretty bad. E washed in fore noon.

Grace at school. Wells building fence afternoon
noon. Wells & E set up the stove.

Wednesday April 18th 1890

Dawson drove

here early this morning for the boys to
work on the ice. Vessel came in last night.

After breakfast, boys started for ice. Wells
went too gone all day. John mourning

because he can't go too, his foot very sore.

Grace at school. I get ready for market.

Mrs J Niles here for quilt patern [sic].

Tuesday April 15th 1890

A fair day. Wind

South. Wells building fence down by Smiths.

Welly & Volty drawing hay from the old
barn. Johny stepped [sic] on a nail and

fixed his foot in a bad shape through
his old rubber boot. Welly went for the

Doctor Buchanan, poor Johny paid him
two dollars & half of his hard earned money
working on the ice.

page_0038

April 14th Monday 1890

A raw cold day.

Wind North. Wells building fined by Smiths. Grace at school. Teacher commenced boarding here. John Niles here in evening playing poker with boys. Dawson drove in here after dark to tell the boys to come next morning to commence work on the ice. A real pretty man.

April 13th Sunday 1890

A very fine day

light wind, South. After breakfast Maud & I walked over to Wills to make a visit. Mother gave me flower seeds. Grace came for me at noon & said the school teacher wanted to see me about board but didn't go till I got ready along towards night. Rachel went too. Bill Horn at Wills stoped on his way home from church. Volty, Teacher and George Morgan Jr run sturgeon not got a sturgeon, teacher & GM Jr stayed to supper. Teacher engaged board for 6 dollars per month. R and G went to prayer meeting & Johny too.

page_0040

April 12th Saturday 1890

Arose early so Wells can go to Kingston. A cloudy day forget which way the wind is. Welly & Will went to their fish nets. Will came home. Welly stoped and worked for Tom Dawson building ice slides. J Morgan here in evening playing on violin. Wells came late and brought pork and groceries.

Saturday April 26th 1890.

A fine morning, light wind North. Welly and Lahey went to Gananoque with Roys staff. Wind changed at noon South blows quite strong. boys will have a hard row from Gananoque. Wells sowing barley; Volty & his father building wire fence in fore noon and Volty set out more stawberries. John foot lame cultivating yesterday. Volty worked in field in PM. John sowed onion seeds. E done chamber wrok and cleaned floors.

page_0041

Welly and teacher came home while
we were eating super [sic] cold tired wet &
hungry

page_0042

Sunday 27th April 1890

Wind North, rainy, damp day set the tub for water but caught not much. Had the old rooster for dinner, cooked him 6 hours tough as bull beef. Will came over for his newspaper, was not here. A letter from Hugh and a postal from Watson. Grace & John at evening prayer meeting, had bread & milk for supper. Wallace Niles brought the cards. Jimmy Dawson called for Welly to work on ice.

Monday 28 April 1890

A beautiful day, calm and still, grass looks green after the rain. Very light wind south & warm fine day for washing. Evaline got her clothes all out by noon & files the floors after dinner. No clothes hanging on Mrs Niles or Woodman's line. Welly painted his skiff at Wills barn after noon. Welly & Johny worked on ice in forenoon. Johny sowed cabbage and set onion's &c. Wells put Wills cows in Eb's pound. R & Jen got them out & drove them home. They were trampling our strawberry plants this morning in the garden and eating our hay stack up. Wells sowing grain and cultivating. Volty helping him and working in garden. Johny set out Volty's mangle [?]. Tilly Niles here in evening to deliver Laura's card. Grace at school.

page_0044

April Tuesday 29th 1890

A cloudy morning

looks like rain and does rain at dinner time hard and continues all the afternoon. Volty & his father cant work in the field. Welly and Johny loading ice for Dawson. Grace at school. A sleepy time for me. Volty cutting potatoes to plant down cellar. Wells at barn patching old bags and I hopping around trying to find twine to sew them with. Sent Graces ulster [working coat] and the umberella by the teacher. A cold nasty rain warm weather dont last long.

This has been adisagreeable April very cold and nasty weather. We are milking 12 cows and can not make enough butter to carry to market. Wind South and blowing hard discouraged some time but hopeful of better time is coming - but when?

April Wednesday 30th 1890

This is the last day of April. Wind south calm in the forenoon, after noon breezy. A circle around the sun then V dark clouds arose in the south, went and threatens rain. Grace at home fixing over her green dress. Welly, Volty & Johny loading the ice vessel for Dawson at \$1.75 per day. They struck for wages. Wills cow got cast in Wills stable took 5 men to lift her after dark. Wells and boys came late after supper, all go to Wells. Well

page_0045

killed four roosters. I sat up till 1/2 past 11.

Ramming quite hard all nighth.

May 1st Thursday 1890

Arose at 4 Oclock

Welly up first & built a fire. Grace goes to market carrying 7 lbs butter & fowls.

Coudy forenoon, cold, Wind North & so clear but chilly. Wally & Johny working on the ice. R went to town. Wells working afield. Volty drove to the dock for Grace.

Wells and boys went to Wills to get the cow up. Only two scholars at school to day.

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Friday May 1st 1890

A fair day.

Wind west and chilly. Welly & Johny loading, send Leighton with ice.

Wells working in field. Volty working too, not much wood for fire.

Grace at school. Finished working on the ice to day, did not get their pay. Dawson promised that Tom Dawson would come down Tuesday and pay them

Sunday 2nd

Cold, rainy

disagreeable day. I slept while Wind North very chilly all through the town boy all at home. Got a late breakfast and the girls got a [illegible] had corn meal [illegible] for supper.

Monday May 2nd

A very fine day. Wind South and mild. Eveline washed all her clothing and brought them in before dark for it looked like rain. Wells working in the field.

[remaining page faded and illegible]

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7th May 1890

[page written in pencil and long faded rendering it illegible]

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John Bamford
George Niles
Edward Bates

page_0053

May 9th Thursday 1890

A cold chilly day. Wind west.

Volty drove with Grace to dock
carried Rachels grocery case to Princess.

Johny sick abed with a bad cold,
sent two fowls and 9 lbs butter to
market, butter only 17 cts per pound
fows [fowls], 75 per pair. Welly working
on the skiff & finished it. Eveline walked
down to her grandmothers. Ed Bates worked
here with team, we had beans for dinner.

Well & Volty working in field. Wells sowed.

Set up late. Welly went to Niles for pills
for Johny. Doctor Betts came to see Charlie
Woodman to day, Johny smoked
the sturgeon.

page_0054

May 9th Friday

A chilly Windy

day. Wind South and blowing a stiff

breeze. Rained in the night

trees as bare of leaves as in December.

Grace stayed at home to help me.

E washing. Wells and Volty in field.

Welly making oars for the skiff.

Johny better, but abed. Lahey at school.

Voltie, Lahey & Grace went to Church

to hear the lecture. The subject was

"where fools sprung from". The Rev Mr

Thompson exhorted snorted him at a great

extent, telling the boy's about wasting

money on tobacco and telling the

girls how they looked when they were

chewing gum & said smokers should have

a smoke~~pipe~~ chimney through the top

of their head and all snuffers should

have their noses turned bottom side

up to mimicked such bad habits,

blowed tobaco smoke snuffed chewed

gum and made an old ass of himself

in general

page_0056

Saturday 10th May 1890

Morning cold, fair and windy. Wind North. Afternoon rained.

Wells & Volty worked half day in field
and then puttered around till chore time.

Wells is very late about getting in
spring crops all on account of ice
buisness [sic]. Johny sick abed. Lahey went
for the mail. One for Wells from Wm
Miller about sailing and one from
Hugh. E moped [sic] dining room. Gracie
moped kitchen floor. I would at all
sorts. We received letters from the Hon.
Roman Petrie. He's got grubs. A young
colt at the barn all right. Welly, Lahey
and Volty go down to Ebbs for
the skiff.

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Sunday May 11th 1890.

A clear bright day.

Wells reading the Whig. Will came over while he thought Charlie and Bell would come down but they did not. It is very chilly wind south.

Volty went over the river to get a horse to go out to Petries but could get none, came back, lunched and went to foot of Island to get a boat to go to Clayton in the morning, could get none, came back, skinned a sturgeon, eat his supper and crossed the river again in Ed Bates' punt, stayed all night with some of his beautiful relations and starts early to take the folks the sturgeon. Wells goes to Breakfast. One of us goes to bed and finds dinner all ready when we get up. Lahey goes to Morgans visiting. Grace goes to Niles visiting. Eve, Maud and Grace row the skiff to Niles to carry Niles sail home. In the evening Eve, Grace and Lahey go to

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May 12th Monday

A cloudy day

wind south, not very cold, river still. Wells working in field all day sowing grain &c. Welly milked the cows & rowed around the foot to set 5 sturgeon nets. Eveline washed. Grace churned, moped [sic] the floors and helped me. Grace not very well either. John up and gone off up the river somewhere. I suppose he thinks it a good time to catch cold again. I burnt Walls knee with hot tea and he swore horribly if there is any dirt in a man hot tea will bring it out. I was ashamed for him. We have got a squealing pig in the house. Dandelions are large enough for greens but no leaves on the trees yet. Quarterly meeting yesterday. Thompson preached and then went home with Rev Watts. Martha then went to George Woodman's. Eveline got a very bad tooth ache. I don't know what to get for supper. Will D came over for garden rake, met with

page_0059

Thursday May 13th 1890

A fine day. Wind south, cloudy and warm,
rains some. Wells working in field through
wind and rain, not well pleased because
he works alone. Volty came home at noon.
Eddy Bates went over for him. John not very
strong yet. V set some of the raspberries bush
and at 4 O'clock V and W Jr went
to the North side to set nets,
gone till after dark. Charlie W sick yet.
I tired of working

page_0060

Wednesday 14th May 1890

A very fine day, not cold, grass growing but no leaves on the trees, rained a little in forenoon. Grace & I picked greens-dandelions for dinner. Welly and Will gone to the cape with fish, got back after dark. Will got 12 dollars for his fish. Welly bought Muriel a pair of shoes, 75.

Welly went early to the nets before breakfast, got one sturgeon. John abed most all day.

Wells worked in field. Volty working in garden till chore time. Our flour is all gone again.

& clear rosy sunset. Charley Gloyd came over and stay's all night. I write Bell a letter.

E moped floor.

page_0062

May 15th Thursday 1890

A fair pleasant day,
wind South. John made a flower bed for
me. Welly went early to the nets, rowed around
the foot. Will came and went with him. I put up
lunch for both Will & Welly. Willy came at noon
not feeling very well. Volty drove to dock with Grace
& Charley Gloyd. Wells and Volty work in field
all day, currant bushes are just putting out
their yellowish green leaves. The green leaf buds are
just starting to open on the ivy vine just by the window.
We had fried eggs and preserved pie plant for
dinner. Will came over P.M. and Johny & Will set tree and
rose bush at (Albert's grave). Will stayed and shaved
before going home. Wells sent a grist to mill to day
E cut papers for the cupboard. Volty crossed
the river with Charley Gloyd, got back just
at dark. Wells helped Johny milked the cows

page_0064

Friday May 16th 1890

A very good day in forenoon got cloudy and dark in afternoon and rained some, didn't mop floors to day.

Lahey taught school half day, few schollars [sic] and gathered flowers P.M. Wells and Volty worked in field. Volty sowed seeds at noon in garden. I went to the garden too. Johny planted some potatoes. Lahey is going to Kingston with Wells tomorrow. Welling is setting sturgeon nets, got one sturgeon and is pike. Wind commenced blow from South.

Saturday 17th 1890 Saturday

Arose early

so Wells and Lahey can go to Kingston start at 5, rather cold. E moped and cleaned chairs and windows. I slept awhile. Grace got dinner. Wind blowing a terrible gale on Lake Ontario to day from S.W. Bessie Breck lost and all hands at the head of this Wolfe Island to day. water loged [sic] Wells came at dark. Wm Lahey gone home to Sydenham. Volty plowed at home and P.M. went to Wm Dixon plowing bee, 5 teams. Johny planted potatoes in garden and got wood.

page_0065

I got a letter from Watson. Wells got a letter from Horace telling him to come to Detroit.

Wills brought home another [?]

Burnside gave him a wolfish looking cretin, now we have 3 dogs. I forget to send Wills twine back and he came for it this evening and is disapointed I [?]

May 18th Sunday 1890

A fair morning,

cloudy evening, wind south. Charley Holliday here their baby Irene will be christened to day by Rev Chambers.

Will and Jen & Charley & Glory here awhile.

Wells is going away tomorrow to stay a long while, poor Wells.

Johny is gone to Niles to visit. Grace 16 at sunday school. I set up late to fix

Wells clothes. Welly went to look for his

colt but could not find her. Sam

carried his daughter. Sylvia back

to Kingston again to day. E bates here

page_0066

May 19th Monday

Arose early for

Wells is going away this morning. Volty went to Kingston with him. A cloudy day, wind south and light, not very warm.

Johny rode up the Island on the black mare. The dog devil bit Maud. I wish Wells had never brought the cur here. Welly went to his nets took 3 sturgeon and some pike. Will got one. Grace went to Mrs Niles for sleve pattern. Welly went to Henisy's for his colt.

A dull melancholy lonesome day, poor little Maud. I'm sorry the dog bit her sorry. Well is gone. Volty came home early at 5 O'clock, chilly day, raining hard at bed time. J Niles here in evening.

page_0068

Tuesday May 20th 1889

A very rainy day, Wind North. Boys couldn't do much work. Will here twice, ate supper here. Rain pouring down all night and most all day, flat flooded with water. I slept awhile.

We sent the milk to Factory 126 lb. Volty set night line and sturgeon net. Welly went to Bay

Wednesday 21 May 1890

Winds West, rather warm day. Rained some. Johnny plowed for peas. Volty building fence around lower pasture. Welly fishing and rowed around foot long after dark, got home at 10 evening with fish. Volty killed veal for market. Will D helped him, got done at midnight. Then Well went home but Welly and Volty went to river and skined [sic] sturgeon, got done and went to bed at two O'clock in morning. Children coughing bad with whooping cough

page_0070

Thursday 22 May 1890

Arose at

half past 4 AM. A fair bright day,
warm Wind S. Grace went to Kingston.

I went to Bills and carried the steam
washer. Volty drove to dock. Wellington
Burnham took charge of Volty's veal
and sold only the hind quarters
& brought the rest back. I found
Bell and children well. Watson came
home with us as the Princess Louise
gone. Niles & Will here in the evening
& Frank Woodman sent eleven lbs butter
to market. Lib B & Ady, P & Else P [?]

Friday 23rd May 1890

Wind South

blowing a gale. Welly rowed Watson in
skiff to J Holliday's doc. Watson
embarked on the Princess for Kingston.
Welly eat dinner at Charley's & plowing
bee there, Welly got two sturgeon,
rained all fore noon.

Saturday 24th May 1890

A fine day,

wind South. Grace cleaned floors, baked
and swept, made beds, dusted &
sewed on dress and helped me sow
flower seeds. Hattie Joslin here, brought
our mail, a letter for Wells and
two from hugh. Volty and Johny plowing
and building fence. Welly fishing and
playing ball with Niles

page_0072

Sunday May 25th 1890

A fair morning, Wind North but rather warm. Wind changing south and blowing a gale. Wash tub and boiler fly off the veranda, away they go. A black cloud arising in South West. All abed, taking their Sunday nap excepting myself. Grace went to church and to Mr Rattray's & came home after Prayer meeting. V with Johny commenced to rain at 4 PM and poured down all night.

Volty covered the little turkeys, 12 of them, from the rain. Children's cough very bad.

Will Lahey came in night after all are abed at eleven

Monday 26th May

A bright breezy day.

Wind south. Volty and Johny working afield.

Welly at home part of the day and fishing.

I went after breakfast to Wills to borrow butter and a bar of soap and mother gave me two cactus & a pail of multipliers onions. Johny made a bed and set them out.

Grace done house work and washed in after noon. Volty came late from work, went & hired a horse from Spaff to finish working in field.

page_0073

[random calculations]

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124

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9,92

page_0074

Tuesday May 27 1890

A fine bright warm day. Wind south.
Towards night a dark blue cloud in N.W.
with distant thunder & lightning rises
but it works around to N.E. & grows colder.
Volty and Johny working in field
sowing peas and cultivating.
Welly went early to the North side for
his nets, no fish, took them all day
and rowed around the foot with
them & brought them home
and set them on this side
of the Island. Will here too running
nets and night lines. Grace went
to school. Eva cleaned chairs and
moped [sic] kitchen floor. I churned all
afternoon for a little butter. Wellys colt
got away from V when leading to water
and couldn't catch it again.

page_0075

Re-read
'76 - '84

page_0076

Wednesday 28th May 1890

A fair day

quite breezy from N.W. Volty and Johny working afield. Wellie gone to cape with fish. Will came over, run nets, caught a rock sturgeon, put in in a tub of water alive.

The boys caught Welly's colt in barn yard.

Mr John Holliday made us a visit, stayed till after dinner. A

specticle [sic] man called here with

a bag of spectacles- didn't look

at them, had no money. Got a

letter from Wells- makes two

since he went away. Welly came

at three O'clock. M brought me

ten lbs sugar. I sent Jen 30 cts for

butter. Welly had to lower his sail

going to Cape Vincent, wind blows

so George Niles went with him.

Thursday 29th May 1890

A very fine

day, hotter than the very old Dickens.

The wind North part of the time &

South the rest of the time. Wills

Jr & John went to town, Ma went

page_0077

Bells' for to stay a week, Evaline
and I work pretty hard all day.
I am so tired, I can hardly
wiggle. But I have got to go the
dock and carry Auntie B's apron
& took to her. I wanted to pick
a boquet [sic] of flowers for the Capt
& Auntie but did not get the
time. Mrs J Garnsey & her daughter
May went to town to day and so
did Mrs G Farr and her son George.
Charlie Woodman got hurt. A horse
ran away to day and knocked him
down. Wellie and John came home
without any groceries. John & Wellie
got each of them a new suit of clothes
May 8th 1890

Another very warm
day, guess we will get some more
rain. Evaline & I very busy to day.
Evaline washed some clothes for
the baby in the afternoon. Muriel
kind of cross and Maude is after
the same fashion. Mary Dignum
14 years old yesterday. Lill & she
& Jack here yesterday.

page_0078

I went up there to take her pills home and get a yeast cake but she did not have any. When I came back I went to Jen's after butter, milk and kerosene and a yeast cake. She did not have any yeast cake or butter milk, so she gave me a loaf of bread. Voltie sorting potatoes. John pulverising potato ground. Wellie working at A. Joshlin another after noon. Hiram Joshlin here after the section ladder. Frank Woodman & Uncle Charlie here in the evening. Frank play very well on the violin. Wind South to day.

May 31st 1890. Wind North West all day until night and then it angled in & to the South.

All the lazy boys of the neighborhood played base ball to day in our pasture. Lillie and Shellie Miles came down to go to the ball play. We got out in time to see the boys go home. C Halliday here to day after potatoes.

page_0079

Voltie & John to work on the field
in the forenoon; Voltie washed sheep
in the after noon & Lahey helped him.
John worked at something in the
fields. The boys drove the cattle to the
other place. The cheese maker down
to the consession [sic] about 6:30 oclock
talking with Will, Lahey & Voltie.
I went to Wills after sour milk &
butter. Will Dixon ate dinner &
supper here. Muriel & Maud still
coughing. Didn't anyone receive
any letters to day only W Lahey.
Evaline mopped & done the sweeping
& ironed. I did nearly all the other work,
I made some cookies for one thing.
I guess I will go to bed. This has
been a very hot day. Good day.

McGuinty

June 1st

Wind North. Wellie, Will D
went across the river. John gone
to church. Voltie asleep in the
parlor on the sofa. W Lahey read

page_0080

Shakespeare. Evaline talking care of Muriel some of the time, she help do up the work. Maud very good nature to day. The cheese maker came in the after noon, he took supper here & stayed until 10 O'clock in the evening. The boys took him for a sail on W's boat. Maud W & I went up to Mr Niles' in the evening. John went down to Mr A Joslin's. No sign of rain.

June 2nd 1890

Wind North

yet very hot. Everything is green & beautiful. John & Voltie to work on the field in the forenoon. Wells Jr fishing. John planting potatoes in the afternoon. Voltie shear my sheep in the p.m. Eva mopped and ironed. I did house work.

Will Lahey at school. Wellie bought a pound of butter from Mrs Niles, he paid 16¢ per lb. Maud a pretty good girl

page_0081

Muriel has not coughed very much to day. Evaline made salt rising bread. We are nearly starved out, no nothing to eat only just what we beg. Wellie Jr went to Will D's to get some more kerosene oil.

June 4th Wed 1890

Wind blowing from the South & a very warm wind.

Will Dixon ate dinner here.

Voltie hoeing in the garden. John went down the Island after seed corn but did not get any and so he had to get some of Mr Niles's. Devolson sold the sheep to Mr Doyle to day.

He got 87.00 for the two. Evaline did washing and got it on the line about 2

I did general house work wrote [pencil fading out - illegible]

page_0082

June 3rd Tuesday 1890

A very pleasant day. Voltie went to Kingston & got the lost groceries & got him a nice pair of pants. John working in the field. Eva knit & I worked at everything. I took the carpet off from my bedroom floor & put it on the line. Wells Jr fished. The cheese maker & James Dixon here fishing. Mr OBrien went home & the Cheese maker & John & Will L went over to Breaker Bay fishing for bullheads & did not get any.

Thursday June 6th

Very nice day
in the forenoon rained. Very hot in the p.m. John & Grace went to town. Eva did the work at home. Ma at Bell's yet Grace stayed on the boat with Aunt Rashel [sic].

Friday June 7th 1890

Another beautiful day. Eva washed & mopped and did housework.

page_0083

Muriel & Maud crossed the river
dickens. Grace on the boat with
Aunt R ready for the excursion
to night. Voltie, John & Will L went
to the excursion, the boat did not
arrive at our dock until 12 p.m.
The Hennessy Girls & Rattrays
Girls had to walk home. Devolson
had the pleasure of going home
with Hannah Rattray. I rode with
C Woodman as far as the bars at the
road. Mr & Mrs Gloyd here after a pig.
Saturday June 8th 1890
Wind north, kind of chilly.
Evaline mowed & mopped. I did the
other work & sewed on my white
skirt, do not feel very spry to day after
trip on the boat. Eddie Bates here,
the boys are going to Mr A Barry's to
a bee. Cheese maker here in the evening.
Will Dixon & Frank
Woodman here too. Ma received
a letter from papa.

page_0084

Sunday 9 June 1890

Came home from Charlies to day. Charlie brought me home in buggy.

A very windy day, cold, west wind but clear. Bell came as far as the Holliday's.

page_0085

Re-read
'76 - '84

page_0086

PHOTOMOUNT
PAMPHLET BINDER
Manufactured by
GAYLORD BROS. Inc.
Syracuse, N. Y.
Stockton, Calif.

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