

John Jardine Sr. (1836-1905)

1871

Transcribed by Rural Diary Archive volunteers

The original Jardine diaries are confusing. There are pages torn out, pages inserted, and duplicate pages that he has rewritten. The occasional page has no month or year identified. We have done our best to reorder them and present them in chronological order in this transcript. Readers wishing to work with the Jardine diaries extensively or consult the handwritten pages and their irregular arrangement should consult the original diaries in Archival and Special Collections, University of Guelph.

February 1871

1 Wednesday I am cutting down hickory for cordwood on the railroad line

2 Thursday forenoon I went to ask men for bee on Saturday this afternoon {missing} cutting down hickory trees for co {missing} it is very windy it is freezing to {night?}

3 Friday I cutting down hickory on the {missing}

4 Saturday I had a little bee to day {missing}

5 Sunday we went to church with the waggon it is very cold to day no snow

6 Monday I skided {skidded?} som {some} sawlogs

7 Tuesday I went to Jackson {Above it reads: 477} bee

8 Wednesday I skided som sawlogs freezing

9 Thursday I skided som hickory

10 Friday I went and helped boby {Bobby?} to draw hickory spoks {spokes} out of the bush

M 2/11 Jardine Tilbury West Trudel

11 Saturday I went and helped richard Dodd to make spokes it is freezing hard {weather?}

12 Sunday morning there is about 6 inches of snow it is stormy and cold to day

13 Monday I am drawing sawlogs to the mill

14 Tuesday I am drawing sawlogs to the mill

15 Wednesday I drawing sawlogs to the mill

16 Thursday I went to bapteste creek with a load of wood for edward Trembly

17 Friday forenoon choring in the afternoon a big snow storm rained in the evening

18 Saturday very windy and snowing till about 12 O'clock it clears up freezing a little to night

19 Sunday we went to church it is very poor sleighing the snow is very near all gon {gone} to night

20 Monday I am skidding hickory logs

{21} Tuesday forenoon I drew 3 logs to the mill I don {done} nothing this afternoon

{22} Wednesday skidding hickory logs to day

{23} Thursday I chopping on the railroad line the wood of it it is thawing fast to day

{24} Friday the little bit of snow is all gon it begins to rain about 9 O'clock it rained about half a hour it turned out a butful {beautiful?} day after that the sun shines but very strong wind I did not got to the bush I split wood at the door

{25} Saturday I went to the blacksmith and I went to see Mr Goulden to get some medicine for lizzy {missing}

{26} Sunday it is raining {missing} snow about 5 O'clock {missing}

{27} Monday morning still snowing a little i choped cordwood in the afternoon I took the horses into the bush to skid logs

{28} Tuesday I went and helped boby vicker{man}

March 1871

1 Wednesday I am chopping hickory {missing} down for cordwood on the railroad line

2 Thursday boby vickerman and me sawed hickory logs to day it is beautiful weather it is warm i seen a snake to day

3 Friday this morning it is raining and snowing and freezing a little this afternoon I went out to chop ~~Kill~~ and fix my skidway for {??}

4 Saturday I skided hickory logs all day it is very splashing it is half up my boots Sam and {missing}

5 Sunday we stayed home the roads is very bad it commence to snow a bout 5 O'clock

6 Monday I oiled my harnes {harness} to day the snow is gon it is a beutful {beautiful} day {calculation: 60+60+60= 180}

7 Teusday I helped Mithel {Mitchel?} Trembly to saw 50 ties in the afternoon lizzy and we {wendy?} out to the store with our lard and {missing}

8 Wednesday I commence to bord {board} up the ends of the old builden {building}

9 Thursday I finished bording the ends to day

10 Friday I went and helped boby vickerman to fraim {frame} the foundation of his kitchion {kitchen}

11 Saturday I went and got my boots mended and looking for som {some} clover seed cant get any

12 Sunday we ar {are} home it is fine day the {missing} {Above it reads: it rained}

13 Monday I was fawling {falling or felling?} trees for grainery {granery}

14 {missing} I went to the con{gregation?} {Above it reads: meeting lizzey}

{missing piece of page bottom} this forenoon and ground

{much of side of page missing} I didnt do much this afternoon I went to the bidge {bridge?} at vickermans {missing} noon I helped vickerman to lay {foundation} of his kitchen

{today} I had som {some} men helping me to {take} the timber for the grainery

Satuesday I went to dick dodd choping {chopping} bee

Sunday I went to church on horse back

Monday I opened the pit of potatoes I sold 1 bushel and a half I took the pork out of the brine I put strings to it and hung it up

Tuesday in forenoon I am triming {trimming} the apple trees th afternoon I split stovewood at the door

Wednesday I finished triming my appletrees the afternoon I split stovewood at the door

{Thursday} I went to William cornwill bee

{Friday} I split stovewood at the door

Satuesday I split stovewood at the door {Above it reads: 2/3}

26 Sunday home today no church

27 Monday I finished to split my wood and fixed up the gate post it is cold it snows a little

28 Tuesday I cleaned the mud of my horses and fixed the truck's for drawing sawlogs

29 Wednesday I drewed sawlogs to the mill John {????} work a month he ditched

30 Thursday drawing logs to the mill

31 Friday drawaing logs to the mill

April 1871

{1 Saturday} drawing logs to the mill {missing corner of page} went to church lizzy is home JOhn and I cleaned up 29 and 36 bus of barley and till about 4 Oclock my grist the road is muddy

4 Tuesday JOhn B and I {missing} raked the manuer {manure} to pices {pieces?} in {missing}

5 Wednesday John Benwa {ditched?} {missing} oclock I went two trips to the logs took 5 logs and fetched {missing} grist it comence to rain about 3 oclock it is 8 oclock it rains very heavy

6 Thursday I ditched in the forenoon the afternoon I went to palmer raising in the forenoon John Benwa I went to church in the afternoon went to Palmar shed raising

7 Friday John B and I ditched forenoon the afternoon Benway fence I went mill with two sawlogs and shod {missing}

8 Saturday I and banway in the forenoon the botom {bottom} of the fence in the afternoon JOhn finished the fence I went to {???) shed raising to finished it butful {beautiful?}

9 Sunday no church mother came down to us

10 Monday John cultivated bearley feild {barley field} and harrowed in 1 hundred of barley and furrowed it, it rained a little to day I was ~~fixe~~d digging {digging} about the currant bushes

11 Tuesday in the forenoon Benwa and me drawed stones out of the oats field in the afternoon John cultivated and I went out to James atkison for my apple trees

12 Wednesday I finished sowing my barley John Benwa finished harrowing {missing}

13 Thursday I sowed 13 {bushels?} {missing}

14 Friday I planted som {some} {missing} finished harrowing this {missing} I drawed out the {field?} {missing}

{Script practice alphabet on top of page}

BB CCC DD EE FF G HH JJ K LL MM N OO PP QQ RR SS TT UU V WW {missing} YY ZZ

{Edge of page missing} Z

Commenced to work for me on {missing} noon the 5 of July this week 4 days & 1/2

second week		4 days and 1/2
Third week	froze	6 days
fourth week		5 days & 1/2

Theodore commence another month agust {August} the six at noon

{Siberty?} This week		5 days
This week		5 days
This week		5 days 1/2
This week		5 days

{Written upside-down in gap in table it reads: M 2/11 John Jardine Tilbury West Trudel Office}

{Written upside-down below table it reads: Ont Tilbury West West W.}

In a guinea pigs nose

A man without {mammass?} and wearing fine cloth is like a gold ring Command you may your mind from play every moment in the day

Solomon was the wisest man that ever lived John Jardine Tilbury West Trudel Post Office

{More script practice: U W H}

Averei Mr Chand {??} Ai De Mar chand

Henry Richard Marshaw Henry Richard Marshaw 11 11 64

{Sideways it reads: John JJ James Jardine Township of Pembroke County of Renfrew March 31st 1873}

A True Sketch of Christmas

I went the buisy {busy} street along
Where everything was gay,
For all the merry, merry throng
Were keeping Christmas day.
Small hands were full of costly toys
Small feet to mirth kept time,
Nor ever happier girls and boys
Were seen in any clime.

Anon their {there} came with feelbe pace
A woman, pale from care,
With such a patient, angle {angel?} face
As gods poor sometime were
With tender hand she led a child,
As wan as poorly drest;
Not skipping singing, laughing wild,
Yet happy like the rest
For see the fingers bare and slight,
Their Christmas gift can boast:
One stick of candy red and white, -
A penny it as cost.
A single penny, hardly spared.
Mid thousand flung away: -
Twas this one ~~single~~ child and mother shared
The Joys of Christmas day

{I am John?}

Mr John Jardine Tilbury West Trudell P.O., Ontario

Command you may your mind from {missing} Between two stools you come to the ground
Go where you may birds will be found Joun Try and never throw yourself down John

For more information on John Jardine Sr., check out the “Meet the Diarists” section under “Discover” on our website: www.ruraldiaries.uoguelph.ca