

James Cameron (1824-1912)

1877

Transcribed by Rural Diary Archive volunteers

DISCLAIMER: This diary depicts some discriminatory content which some may find offensive. During the diary's time period, such racial terms and prejudices were commonplace in Canadian society. They are considered wrong today.

{In places, this diary is worn from weather and time. On occasion, the tops, bottoms, and edges of the pages are crumbly and moldy, making some words and sentences illegible. In most cases, a note that reads "{Illegible}" refers to this situation.}

the 1st 1877

Mr James Cameron Island January

New Years Day chopping shovelling snow Went around the Lower point a Fine Day

2nd not very well Feeding the cattle extra this cold weather in the Bush 3 men Fishing Eels at the Kit Kit to Day Charlie Rose and Willie came for their marsh hay the Engineers Strike on the Rail Road Frosty weather these Days

3rd Charlie and Willie Rose came {Above it reads: allens Birth Day} Brought a Bag of Potatoes took a Load of hay John Hamilton and Tommy Jack came took me a Load of Wood Cold and Frosty West Wind

4th a very Frosty Cold Day W Wind cutting stove Wood

5th Fine Day E Wind seen a Fox at the Sturgeon Island {Above it reads: Got the Ram} Went to Summerstown Put a Letter in the PO for C Tupper Workhou{se} Walton on the hill Liverpool England per Canadian Line 5 cents Got Vennors Almanac from Dan Received 6 Dollars from AJ Baker in Bills Bought Match{es} of J Sandfield Got a Ride From Mr Shannon to Dundee had a Treat from Mr Shannon on the Road had a Treat at J McGreggors Bought of D Baker crackers and Matches Bought of I Vipond 8 yds of Cotton 12 ½ 10 yds 9 7 yds Calico 12 ½ 5 yds 20 ¼ lb B Thread 3 Skains of White 2 Spools 10 2 Bars of Soap 12 1 lb of Tea 35 L {Illegible} 41 Bag 25 sent a shovel across with J McDougall J McDougall Treated at Tyos Walked Down to J Hopkins took supper stopt all night and Breakfast Mrs Hopkins not well

6th came home E Wind Kind of Fine AJ Baker came to see the Hay to let him have it at 9 Dollars I crossed to Hamiltons Making shirts for Gordon Races at Summerstown to Day took in the Last of the Marsh stack at the Barn Door charlie Rose Dog came here turned stormy through the night snowing

1877

Mr James Cameron Island Jany 7th

Sunday Stormy E Wind till about 12 calmed off and then commenced Blowing and snowing from the West Gordon came from Hamiltons stopt all night Freezing hard

8th HughAnns Birth Day Born in 66 11 years old to Day Gordon crossed to Hamiltons took his shirt Gave him 5 cents some caps snow Deep stormy to Day I think this is Hansel Monday Done of 1 Marsh haystack

9th Began the Marsh hay stack at the West End of the Barn Charlie Mayville Married yesterday chopping stove Wood calm But Frosty

10th A Fine Day Kind of Warm Sun Draws Water went for the Buds of the Balm of Gilead to the oak-Feild for Bismark's Foot he cut it on the sole of his Foot on the Axe Feeding cattle extra cutting Stove Wood shovelling snow some Cutters Travelling on Summers's Road to Day Bismark got his Pants made to Day and Leanders

11th Went to the Bush Randolp and I piling: snow very deep a Fine Morning after a While turned to snowing Drifting and Blowing from the South West not cold to night the wind Raised very high Kind of North West snow very Deep

12th a Fine Morning wind changed to all Quarters East wind I crossed the snow Deep in the Bush and on the ice some water near shone up in the Bay Mostly got a Ride up From J Hamilton Practising their Trotting horses on the ice had the ice cleaned with the snow plough But its very Rough and not half clean Bought on J Summers 1 paper of needles 5 cents 1 Pipe 2 cent sack of 25 lbs of Flour Received From AJ Baker 1 Dollar wind North East Frosty stopt at hamiltons {a}| night

1877

Mr James Cameron Island January 1{3th}

came from hamiltons wind changed Nor west sun shining Frosty and Windy to Day and very windy to night Drifted some Places in the Fields all Bare of snow to night Got 3 Papers from AJ Baker yesterday Got the Loan of a Bag of hamiltons as its easier to carry the sack in a Bag snow Deep on the ice chopping stove wood and Fixing about the cattle

14th change in the moon to Day a Fine morning turned to Drifting wind West Kind of Fine sun shining charlie Rose's Dog came again to Day Banks of snow in the Barnyard after Last nights Blowing and Drifting

15th cold Windy shovelling snow

16th shovelling snow Frosty Windy

17th Went up to the Bush Turned Back the snow is so Deep came Down on the marsh Water Raising on the ice close to shore

18th crossed took AJ Bakers Bag home and J Hamiltons took over Gordons Flannel shirt Received From AJ Baker 1 Dollar Cash Bought of J Summers 25 lb of Flour Matches heard of J Grants Wife having a young Son Last Monday the 15th its awful Travelling on the ice snow Deep from here Got a paper from W McLeod the London Free Press Talking of their Trotting Races 49 Walter Bakers Father Buried to Day Benjamin Baker

19th cutting Firewood next the Marsh I cannot go in the Bush Kind of a Fine Day Windy at night

20th Raining snowing and Blowing very hard from the West Began to Freeze to night some hail Water and snow on the ice

1877

Mr James Cameron Island Jany 21st

{Fi?}ne morning calm Began to snow Wind from South East again Due West heavy moving let out the sheep this morning as I Did not let out since the first snow came Cattle Picking where the snow Left Foxes crossed at the Head of the Island no Ducks in the air hole awful Frosty Weather we had Before this thaw this is St Agness Day

22nd A very fine Day West Wind Raised some about 10 o clock Cutting Firewood up in the side of the Marsh Lots of Travelling on the Summerstown Road a change in the Moon First Quarter

23rd Went to Dundee A Fine Morning some wind West Called at Jim Hopkins ironing one of his Runners of his sleigh walked all the way took Dinner at Bill's Got my Boot Fixed at Norman Bethunes 30 cents Bought of D Baker 2 Thimbles 4 2 cents for matches almanack 5 cents crackers 2 cents 4 cents Cash to 1 Rat to D Baker Bought of Vipond 1 yd of Calico 8 5 needles 2 Bought of J Tyo 1 pint of Whiskey 15 Trotting On the ice heard Charlie Mayvill Left his Fathers Dont agree since they are married one of the McCowns Keons is Dead and one of the Stephens scarlet Fever is at Dundee seen Hugby Rankin the Blacksmith Got a Ride Across From Dan Frasher of Point Lovat he Treated Twice at Tyos and Twice at Summer's cold Windy afternoon windy to night John Hamilton here to Day Jim Hopkins went up with a square stick of Timber

24th Charlie Tupper's Birth Day Stormy Wind from the west snowing and Drifting

Mr James Cameron Island Jany 25th 187{7}

Started for Summerstown met AJ Baker and Jo Parisha coming for hay turned with them took 2 Loads of hay to Day Brought me 100 Wt of Flour I sent with them for ½ lb of Tea 25 cents Brought it Down to me a Fine Day but Frosty Lent them the Whippetree as they Broke their own Dan

Frasher Bushing or Drawing Stones to Johnsons Light house as I see 1 Team and 2 men Going Down On the ice and part of the Ice Bushed

26th AJ Baker took the last of his 2 Tons Randolph and I put in part of the Fine hay stack Fine and Frosty

27th John Hamilton Drew me a Load of Wood A Fine Day

28th A Fine Day E Wind near night Began snowing and Foggy cleared up not cold

29th A Fine Day chopping Firewood J hamilton Drew me a Load

30th Went to the Bush met G Bosell on snow shoes a Fine Day Kind of soft Talking about the sugar Bush Gave it to him to make churning to Day not very well

31st chopping a Fine Day warm Seen a Weasel in the Bush {Above it reads: rain to night}

1st of February Fine Cloudy Thawing Raining J Hamilton Brought me a Bag of Potatoes put in the Rest of the Fine hay stack Dug some around the heap of stones

2nd This is Candlemass Day the Bear comes out to Day to see his shadow the sun shone some and cloudy Went to P.O. Bought of J Summers $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Tea $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Soda 1 Pipe Matches Went over with George seen his horse he Traded Greer wanting to Buy out Spinks heard Mrs Carey was Poorly Got a paper from charlie Viponds Drawing their Marsh hay from Christees Island ice very slushy snow and Water stopt at Johns them going up with ashes

1877

Mr James Cameron Island Feby 3rd

cleaning the Pipes and chimney not very well Cut 2 Waterholes a Fine Soft Day turned snowing near Evening I Did not see the Teames Drawing to Johnstons Lighthouse to Day not many Ducks coming to the air-hole this soft weather

4th sunday A Fine Day Turned cold at night froze a little

5th a very fine Day Randolph and I chopping in the Bush the soft maple sap runs to Day snowed a little to night cattle picking out this few Days Back no Birds of any Kind Flying about 1 Team went to Johnsons Lighthouse to Day crust not very Good

6th chopping Firewood taking some snow out of the small canoe took some snow from the stone heaps Left the Wild sheep out to night 3 Teams Drawing to Johnstons to Day A Fine Day Thawing wind Raised high to night from the West EEI Fishers in the Back Bay 3 of Them a Great Deal of crossing on the ice to Day

7th a Fine Day Soft in the Bush

8th Froze some Last night made {Above it reads: Gordons Birth Day} some crust cleaning Brush and Trees on Bank along the South side to the lower end put the Brush on the ice a Great lot of it Fine but Wind Raw

9th Went to P Office Brought AJ Baker Bag home got a {AEtna?} insurance paper from Dan heard Jack olivy had to Leave Viponds for too much spending with Maria Grant Races in Dundee a Fine Day

10th J Hamilton took 100 lb of Flour from AJ Baker for me Drew 2 Load of Wood for me to Day and 1 yesterday when he came Down with the cream 2 pails a very fine warm Day 3 men and 3 horses up on the ice Fishing EEIs Gave John the springs to fit on his Gun Races in Dund{ee}

11th Sunday a Fine Day E Wind Raw a Great many EEI Fishers Below Frashers old Mrs John Summers Departed one of those Days I did not here which

Mr James Cameron Island Feby 12th 1877

A Fine Day churning the 2 pails of cream th{at} we got from J Hamilton made about 10 lb of Butter Raining hard split some rails at the Door

13th Froze some and Froze last night 3 Teams came up from Lancaster wit{h} Boards for the acadamy in Fort Covington Shrove Tuesday

14th St Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday a Fine Day cutting Firewood

15 cutting Firewood J Hopkins came for the saw-Logs took 4 to Day of them a Very fine Day

16th J Hopkins came took 4 Logs I went to F Covington to Mr Mears's Mill Vondall Left for not sawing peoples Lumber right Bought R Baker ½ lb Tea 3 Bunches of Matches Bills Team seized to Day By Baker came to hopkins Stopt all night Froze hard to night good Going on the ice a surprise party at Rob Grants in the {Illegible} to night Looking at the Pot Ash coolers I Vipond to Send J Hopkins for the Hay

17th Jim Charlie and I Weighed the hay a Ton some cold but Fine froze to night a sleigh came up from Lancaster going to mill and came Back this way Viponds Drew a Load from Christee marsh

18th James Hugh's Birth Day windy Cold and Fine

19th J Hamilton Drew me 2 Loads of Wood Fine

20th Some sleighs passing a man passed Down with one horse sleigh and came back with 6 Barrels of herrings a Bull in a sleigh Passed tied Down in the sleigh nothing to be seen but the Horns as he is all covered

21st A very fine Day Went to PO Bought salt matches sweetys salt Peter coal oil Gallon heard Hugh McGillis in the Gore was Buried to Day

22nd 1877

Mr James Cameron Island Feby

chopping Firewood Brushing and clearing a fine Day Washingtons Birth Day Bad with the Toothache East Wind Freezing some to night

23rd E Wind high and cold this morning AJ Baker and Jo Parisha came for hay took 1500 Wt they say Tommy and Gordon Down took me a Bag of Potatoes 10 lbs of Pork a Fine afternoon Tapt 3 soft maples for Randolph not running very well cutting Firewood and Brushing at the side of the marsh

24th St Matthias E Wind very Bad with my teeth Brushing a Great Deal of Travelling on the ice and all this week a awful Lot of EEI Fishing on Both sides and the middle snowed a Little to night some hail

Sunday the 25th a Fine Day E Wind Lots of EEI Fishers on the ice seen the owl to Day and Yesterday a man came to night Mr Ward he Got astray I went with him over near Frashers Point to put him on the right Track handed me 10 cents as had not more

26th George Bosell cutting wood for the sugar Bush a Fine Day cutting Firewood John Hamilton Drew me some Wood took Gordon to the House

27th George tapt some a Fine Day cleaning the Barrels and Pot Peter Grants boy came for the Pot seen a crow for the first I seen I went to J Hopkins for the Pot its broke Jim and wife at Brushe's Mills George Renshaw here took a Bag of Potatoes Mrs John Arthur Departed on the Kings Road

28th I went to Summerstown Bought soap Matches Drawing stones with charlie Rose for George Renshaw Races in Dundee

1877

Mr James Cameron Island March 1st

John Hamilton and Tommy Jack came for my soft Maple Log to take with his own to Mr Mearss Mill Fort Covington I and John went seen part of the Races at Dundee A Fine Day Bought of R. Baker Matches coming home went with Tommy up to Paul Jo's to trade his Rabbit Trotter did not trade came home northern-Lights to night seen Mr Tuthill and he Treated us

2nd some Raining to Day Gordon came for my EEI spear Filled 7 Bags of Ashes took Georges horse and went with the Ashes Got the Pot at Brennans at Charlie Roses Bought of J Summers Tea Broom Matches a Bottle of Dr Wilsons Pain Reliever Pins Thread soap Bought of AJ Baker 100 wt

of Flour 50 lbs of Corn Meal Got some Newspapers from AJ Made about 2 Gallons of syrup to Day the ½ for us 1 Gallon

3rd William Henery Shadgate's Birth Day one of Johns Boys the eldest Gordon and Tommy Jack Down with the cream Gordon came tonight had his scates Raining Some Windy to night and Rain took the Pot and the 2 Barrels to the Bush

4th snowing and Raining this Morning Turned fine to Day ice Glib and Good

5th Gordon crossed to Hamilton's Charlie Rose came for ½ Ton of Fine hay got it for G Renshaw to pay for it Brennan with him to take the rest of his Marsh hay heard the Cannons in Fort Covington it must be for the President Bonfire to night boiling in the Bush Brought about 1 Gallon of syrup to the house a Fine Day Kind of Raw cut some at the Lower Point ice opening at the Lower Point

6th chopping and clearing some G Renshaws and J Grant here wanting to see if I had any oak cold to Day Windy to night from the West no one in the Bush to Day a Great Deal of Travelling to Lancaster and across the River

7th - 1877

Mr James Cameron Island March

Stormy Flurries of snow Drifting writing some Cutting hay to the Bottom of the East end about 3 feet where it is Bad against the wall

8th East Wind stormy Blustering turned to Hail and Rain to night chopping some in the Bush piling Brush went for the Pail took their axe to the house

9th Raining fine in the morning wind changes to South West high Mr Russel called here to make a stake for his sleigh wet ugly time icicles on the Trees this Morning Foggy for a While snowing hailing squally

10th chopping a Soft Maple at the Marsh Fence cold some fine Windy West a Man Crossing Down the Way of the Kit Kit some cold to night a Load of hay crossing to Summerstown

11th 2 Men Fishing Eels at the Sturgeon Island snowing Drifting Fine cold West Wind Tip had her Puppies Found a Pipe in the Barn it Must Be Mr Silly's as he Lost one when he was here this summer the stem is of off it

12th On This Day of the Month D McMaster first came to the Island I crossed to Summerstown stopt at J Hamiltons Wrote a Letter to D Smith a Fine Day Lewis Henery and Peter his Brother here showed me a 10 Dollar Bill confederate Money he found cutting the Black oak Trees Donald McDonald Poorly

13th Tommy Jack and I went to Mr Mears Mill for our Boards my soft Maple for sawing cost 50 cents Got 13 slabs from Mr Mears for Nothing a Fine Day Donald McGillis rode over with us seen Mr Tuthill Treated me as usual David Baker a Bee Drawing Wood sailing with the ice Boat

14th a Fine Day Drawing Firewood and took Down my slabs and Boards Gordon and Tommy Jack

1877

Mr James Cameron Island 15 March

I crossed cold Raw Wind Frosty snowing From the N West a Bee at J Grants Ashery at the Wharf Charlie Parisha Bought Jim Hopkins stack on the Black horse Island seen John Birch at Summers's Buying horses Back of Martintown Got from Charlie Rose ~~Got From~~ an order for a Dollar on Johny Summers Bought $\frac{1}{4}$ of Tea 15 cent $\frac{1}{4}$ of Tea 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb soda 5 cloves 5 canister Powder 35 Lamp chimney 10 Matches 5 soap 8 cents paid 5 cents on a Corn Broom I owed to him

16th I crossed to hopkins this morning for to Get the Boards home charlie came Down with them we put them in the Barn 27 Elm 9 ash 3 Basswood 1 oak 40 Peices chopping stove Wood the hay all Done on the East mow and a hole made on the West Mow

17th St Patrick Day Firing some salutes Randolph and I crossed to Summerstown stopt at Hamiltons took Dinner and John Went up the Races Going on Viponds Mare 1st charlie Parishas 2nd Russells 3rd James Grants some Keeping St Patricks at Summerstown A Craig not well Pleased at something or other John Sandfield took a Bad turn in the Summers store {Above it reads: - Summers} had to go to the House a Fine Day But cold

18th cold and Fine 2 Cutters Passed here

19th chopping Firewood cold Windy

20th chopping and Brushing {Above it reads: First Day of spring} cold Windy cut a Waterhole for the cattle Randolph Drawing Dry stuff

21st E Wind Stormy snowing Hailing Blustery not very cold

22nd Livinia Birth Day the older) George Bosell Got the adze or addis for Parisha sap running some

23rd went to Summerstown J Hamilton Fixing the Machine to saw his Wood at G Renshaws a Fine Day Gathered 32 Gathered Besides What was in the Troughs

24th First Sugar made to Day Races at the Front only J Cameron Abram oxly First about 34 lb of sugar made to Day sap running to Day 20 pails in the Barrels to night Got 25 lbs of Flour From AJ {cut off}

18{7}7

Mr James Cameron Island 25th of March 1877

Palm Sunday The Annunciation of Virgin Mary Raining hailing Freezing snow and Fine E Wind some cold Tommy Jack came Down for Gordon and took Down my 25 lb sack of Flour First Sugar went up stairs to Day old Sugar yet

26th The Babys Birth Day He a Year old to Day Fine sawing Wood Randolph and I ~~27th~~ Raining

27th Raining snowing George took his horse to take Peggy across

28th Raining some the Biggist or Largest Flakes of snow I ever seen was what fell to Day for a While some of them were like the Palm of your hand I be{illegible}ved them for a Long time as I was in the Barn

29th a Cold Day snowed {Above it reads: First Wild Geese came} some in Bush George and Peggy {Above it reads: came for the clock} at the Sugar cutting Stove Wood

30th Good Friday Pete came for Sugar I Gave him a cake too as he was Going to the store Bought of J summers 50 lbs of Corn Meal $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Tea $\frac{1}{2}$ lb soda for the sugar I stopped at J Hamiltons to help them at the sawing stove Wood with the sawing machine up at the store at night very fine Day W N West Wind in the morning a Very Fine Day sap Running Well

31st at Hamiltons Done sawing Went to James Grants Bee Drawing Stones to the Wharf at the Ashery I stopt at Johns all night Freezing hard these nights

Sunday 1st of April All Fools Day I came from J Hamiltons early this morning Easter Sunday Gordon and Yorkie Baker came Pete Rookey Antwine and Lewy Bosell came put up the Clock and set it Going Gave him 5 lb of Sugar Frank Laplante and his Boy in the Bush

2nd Seen A cutter crossing Summerss Road its John Hamilton a Going with Tommy Jack and Joh James across to Dundee as they are Bound for California

3rd John Hamilton and Gordon came Down for the Rain horse and cutter cleaning the cellar Peggy and George crossed and came Back to night as there is a Big hole at Francis Island Pewits came

1877

{Mr Jam}es Cameron Island April 4th {The left side of this page is torn and folded over}

{Illegible}led with AJ Baker I owe him {Illegible} from him Bought $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Tea Got {Illegible}m AJ B I am take him a cake of {Illegible} Summers Being Down in Montreal {Illegible}ods ice opening in spots Last Crossing {Illegible} Blackbirds came Got Flour and {Illegible}om J Hamilton Brought over {Illegible}hirt Brought home AJ Bakers Bag {Illegible}

5 ice open cutting stove wood {Illegible} Weather

6th in the Bush all Day for the first time sap is got Better as Before this Did not turn out very well the sap must {be} weak (Bosh)

7th in the Bush George {cro}ssed with the canoe

9th Sunday in the Bush {to} Day and Boiled some to night

9th {Illegible}king the Banking from the house chopping fine Day a long time of E Wind ice going {Illegible} Fine E Wind put out the canoe Bismarck and {Illegible} the Sturgeon Island taking the Banking {Illegible} and its all Froze seen a pike to Day {Illegible}gar soft to Day they all went home to night

11th Taking the Banking from in the shed Fixing {Illegible} went up in the Bay Randolph 2 Indians came to night they were Fishing EEIs Lewis Smoke and Rosar Got some salt From Bosells Got about {Illegible} of Gallons to night

12th All the Children went {Illegible; y}esterday to the Bush got about 1 and 3 Quarts to Day

13th John Gray and Smoke and Rosar here {to} night Bought 4 lb of sugar 50 cents I went {to} Summerstown sold AJ Baker 11 lb of Suga{r} 10 cents a lb Gave G Renshaw a small cake Gave {Ch}arlie Rose a 7 lb Cake of sugar for the Pot {Bou}ght of J Summers 1 peck of salt 5 cents {Illegible} ½ yd Cotton 10 cents took Dow{n; Illegible} from G Renshaws Farm {Illegible} Pari{Illegible}

Mr James Cameron Island 14 {A}pril

{Illegible} First Trip for the steamer {Illegible} Summerstown and Back to Dun{d}ee A Great Lot of ice Going Down to Day I stopt at J Hamiltons Splitti{ng} and piling Wood John Went to Lancaster to Buy a plough Went up to {Illegible} Got 50 Wt of Flour from John from th {Illegible} paid the pipes and Bunch of Matches to J Summers 4 cents made 2 Gallon of Syrup to Day {A piece of the right side of the page is torn off, containing only the first letters of some words, with the only complete words being: ice, 12 or 14, Black, on the}

15th Sunday Jack Oliva here and Maria and Katie Grant Charlotte & Geo{rge??} and Johnny Hopkins Gave a Puppy Dog to Kate Grant George and Peter Bosell here a Fine Day Indians on the Water spearing EEIs 2 Indians in the Bush they say that the Indians stole their Knife ice Before the Door yet

16th Went to J Hamiltons to Trim his apple Trees. Trimming on the North side of the Road John Went to Viponds Raising Bee

17th An Indian here Traded for EEIs with him Careys Raising their Barn John Went {Illegible} Trimming the Orchard a Talk of Jim Cameron selling out a Fuss about this Business with Seely AJ Bakers store took Fire the chimney the French Lives in it E Wind

18 Trimming the Trees John Ploughing for Wheat Our Duncans Birth Day

19th Came home Raining East Wind Bought a Comb 16 cents 2 Bunches of matches John got a Telegram from Tom Jack that he is going home and to send him {Illegible} me at home spread{Illegible} the F{Illegible}

20th Raining {Illegible; bottom of the page is folded over and cut off}

{This and the next two pages appear to be written on different paper than the previous pages in this diary as these pages have columns printed on them.}

April 21st 1877 came from Hamiltons Bought of J Summers yesterday 2 yds of Calico ½ lb Tea Matches snowing hard

22nd Jim Hopkins and wife here a Fine Day Gave here a 2 lb cake of sugar

23rd The Festival of the English St George's Day a Fine Day Firing in the Morning I went to J Hamiltons Trimming trees

24 Began to Dig the Garden

25th St Marks Day cold north Wind part of the Day Fiære at J Hamiltons Gordon and I came with 50 lb of Flour

26th crossed to Hamiltons Livinia Planted 12 Beds of Top onions

27 Trimming

28th Raining to night Steamer Anderson came up

29th The Anderson went Down Dan Summers and Rodney Briggs here tonight their hunting on the Kit Kit I came home this morning

30th Planted 68 hills of Potatoes Digging the Ground First Light Lit up to night Taking away the Banking from the house Rain and Windy

1st Day of May Digging the Potato ground

2nd Digging I Forget the Rest of this

6th HughAnn Bismarck and I went to the Kit Kit Ross's and Charlies Island Found an axe a Fine Day

8th setting Fires

10th Fixing Fences

11th Went to Summerstown Got a Letter and paper from charlie altering Johns Colt a year old John Cary and McDougall {blank space} Got a Bag of Potatoes 50 lbs of Flour from John Spotty calved to Day

12th Gordon came home

13th Bismarck and I in the Bush

14th Covering the milk house {Above it reads: Jack came home}

15 the heifer Maud calved the Steamer Frank Maxwell came up

16th Fishing Got 28 Fish Rain and Thunder to night

17th Digging and Fixing Fence

18 West Wind Blary calved cutting Brush

19th Went to PO Rec Pay from G Renshaw for Hay and settled what was Due him Bought 1 sack of oat meal and a sack of cornmeal Tea paper pipes Box Matches Towel Got some potatoes from Tom Summers and a pail form George Planted Toms the {Pie?} less to night

20th Went to Christees for Wild onions

{Illegible} Week with them to Tom Summers Got cake of sugar

{Illegible} Went home Gave 1 Doll 20 cents to Bal{Illegible} Dog

{Mr James Cameron} Island 25 of May 1877

25th Fixing the Calves Pasture Fence and Planted some Potatoes yesterday

26th Working at the Brush Fence

27th Gordon Went to Hamiltons Fine Day Randolph Leander and I to Na-houta's Island found 2 Ducks nest Roasted

28th sheared the Sheep

29th Trying to put in Don Pedro Broke the shed Door Royal Oak Day

30th Gordon and I to Dundee Found a canoe at the upper end of Alexis Towed it there & left it till we were coming home took 7 lb of Butter 20 cents a lb Bought of Vipond Cornmeal calico soda Rope matches plates Bought D Baker 1 Butter Tub got Potatoes Bought of Burdo 7 lb of Fine salt 10 cent Got of J McGreggor {Swanton Lime?} a Treat ½ pint Hopkins and Fred working at the Distillery sowing oats the St Francis Dundee Brought the clock to Jo Lemay took Dinner at Bills

seen McCabe married to McIlwans Daughter Got a paper from Bill got some Potatoes and a Butter tub from MM Baker I to Fetch him a sturgeon

31st Corpus Christi The St Francis passed the Bohemian at the Lighthouse Planted Potatoes hilling some Potatoes

1st of June Glorious put in Don Pedro Got the Rope in the Ring with working at him all Day Fishing to night Got Sturgeons EEIs suckers perch pike

2nd Brought an EEI and an EEI skin to Margaret Hamilton Brought my spearpole to John to plain Rookey put his cattle over yesterday Bought of Summers with 7 lb some oz of Butter 18 cent 50 lb of Cornmeal 3 ½ yds Cotton {Illegible} Gave a sturgeon to Donald Cameron 2 Con,, Rain high Wind crossed to Hopkins with Pete Grant had a hook took tea at Petes Got a Herring Barrel from Jim Hopkins Wife some plants a Fine Evening

Mr James Cameron Island June 3rd 1877

Sunday Seen the sheep

4th Looking for Blue clay for plastering Gordon Plastering Hoeing and Weeding the Potatoes and Garden

5th Whitewashing some of the appletrees the Blue clay comes off

6th put out the Beds up stairs

7th Cut the calfs pasture

8th Gordon Went to J Hopkins with some smoked sturgeon took home my 2 inch augur {Above it reads: A Lamb the Big Sheep} a Fine Day went to Fish to night Got about 90 lb of Fish Heard John Tyo and Bob Baker and Jo Lemay

9th of June Marys Birth Day 64 years old to Day warm Fine Rain East Wind and West a pic nic on the Bohemian to hamilton Island from cornwall Seen the Little Lamb to Day a Good many Trowlers on the water some strawberries Rain much wanted

10th Sunday Raining very high Wind West cold some no Boats to Day Spotty Kind of Lamé with Rheumatism I think I Did not Write any from this Date so I am at a Loss of a Great many things I should have Down Mr Harper Departed this month and Mrs John Frasher the Dates I forget our Dans Birth Day 22 of June

1st of July Dominion Day George Renshaw and I went Down for Captain J Rankin and you Bet we had a hard time Coming up high high West Wind stopt at the Foot of Hamiltons Island took Tea at Hamiltons Went up with George

2nd Got 50 lb of Corn Meal a Dollar to pay George George came Down with me

{Mr Jam}es Cameron Island July 4th 1877

{Illegible} and I Fish at the Kit Kit Island Ross a pleasure {Illegible} the St Francis and a Rowing on the Boat John Summers and Family here

5 our Johns Birth Day 74 years old to Day

6th

7th

8th Started to go to the Buoy at the squaw Island and the wind Raised and we had to Run for Charlies Island Stormy went to Ross's Island made a Tent at Last we started and came home Mr and Mrs and Maste{r} Herbert Fulton along with them Mr and Mrs Willard here I Forgot a Great many Things and Weather this month

9th

10th

11th

12th Firing some heavy volleys Hackitt shot

13th Went to Dundee Tub of Butter Bought of Viponds –

14th went to Aults Raft I hawl Pilot oil at

15th Thomas Summers wife Departed

15th at the Raft

16th at the Raft Got 12 Boards

17th

18,,

19th Fernandez Birth Day 3 years old to Day

20th

21st Went to Dundee Tub of Butter to Viponds Bought (I Forget) Mr Fulton came to camp and Susan and Herbert

22 sunday

23 at the working at the Tent

24th Gordon crossed with Susan Worked at the Hay

25th St James Day at the Hay

27th at hay

28th Frank and Tanner here {Illegible crossed out} Mr F{Illegible} and Gordon went off to Genies to night

29th Mr Fulton Raised his Flag to Day Mr Skeith with him Allen and cattanach Mr Bain here Genie came up in the Big canoe and Gordon took Fanny up to Murdoch McDonalds

30th Took Fanny across in 2 canoes Found a Big Canoe cut in to

Mr {James} Cameron Island August 1st 1877

1st La{mmas} Day Putting in hay {Illegible}dy

2 Miles came Mrs Fulton and Susan went off Left 2 Dollars Minnies Birth Day

{Several lines of text missing; they appear to be rubbed out or lost in the copying process} Weather
3 + 4 {Illegible} Day {Illegible} this {Illegible} Day Born in 1846

4th {Illegible}

5th J Angus's {Illegible} Mr Genie Mr Allen and his son stopt all night

6th Went off up to Renshaws to fish I am very unwell this morning and all Day

7th Windy time

8 Wind

9th Sunday Angus Cameron here captain Frasher and McDougall here Thomas Munroe and G Renshaw went Down for Captain Rankin

10th

11x

12th Mr Fulton here

13th Finished the Last of the 3 marsh hay stacks 83 cocks

14th Went to carding mill with wool for Rolls paid 50 cents for carding Bought 1 pair of Boots 3..50 paid it with wool Bought them from Burdo Got a Ride Down from the carding mill with Jim hopkins Jim and Baker a Row

15 Went with ashes Tea soap Matches Canister of Powder Cotton paid for ½ lb of Tea I Got on credit sold my onions to Bill Spinks Got Lead Jo oaks for canoe got a Basket

{Top two lines, including the date, are illegible. It is most likely January 1878 as that is when St. Andrews Day is.}

{Illegible} took Dinner there Bill Will{illegible}

12th the Captain McKay here {Illegible} my Indian curiosities such {Illegible} stone gouge stone Dagger or Knife {F}ixes and peices of Broken crock of the Indian Make in old times {Illegible}s him that told me the Ball I have {is} a Bombshell Gave me 1..75 in {Illegible}da Bills Went to the PO got 3 pap{ers fro}m Charlie Bought of Aj Baker 1 lb {Illegible} 22 cents ½ lb candles 9 cents Globe for Lamp 12 ½ Plates 42 cents ¼ Tea 15 cents ¼ lb Tea 17 ½ cents {Illegible} 25 cents oil 12 ½ cents Got My Hollow adze {Illegible} Hamiltons Roses a Bee Ploughing

13th {Win}dy and Cold

14th chopping stove Wood tunnel Wind

15th chopping and piling Wood

16th {took?} the Parsnips cutting fire Wood Windy

17th {Illegible}ouse a Race the Huron and the {Illegible; Pro}ppeller the Indian taking her in

18th {Illegible} Drawing Wood commenced to Rain {Illegible; comm}enced in the Evening to snow

19th {Illegible}uring Frost hard Last night saw {Illegible}

21st Windy

22 {Illegible} way his horses got a Bottle and Tin {Illegible} from him Windy

24th high Wind

25 chopping Wood to {Day} Went to Summerstown Seen Mr Brown singing {Illegible} got a Ticket for the St Andrews Dinner {Illegible} for his horses and calves to across {Illegible} Dinner at Thomas Munroes

Sunday 27th

28th {Illegible}

29 cutting and salting the meat

{This page appears to be written on a different kind of paper than the previous two styles of paper; this page has no lines printed on it.}

Mr James Cameron Island {date illegible}

I Left off Writing any thing Down Since the Latter End of July 1877 very fine Fall and a Very fine Winter But the ice was not vry Good as it was open from here up to the Lower end of t{he} Island and Going from here to Lan{caster} we had to Go Down By the Kit Kit Island and Keep Down East to the Foot of Ross's Island South side till we {Illegible} the Road that crosses to McPhee's and a Great Deal of Travel on that Road this Winter so I have only very few things to write Down as I Kept no account of Time or any thing that Happened Just a few things here and there

Feby 4th 1878 I Went to Hopkins Jim Here

5th at Hopkins

7th AJ Baker for Hay

8th I went to Williamst{own} with John Hamilton came home same Day Got Pully Gougue Potatoes from Hopkins

9th at home

10 Sunday

11th

12,,

13th Charlie Hopkins here I went up with charlie went to Dundee Bought of Viponds a comb

14th Jim Charlie and Jim Summers came for the Steers took the Mare yoked the steers and Left them till he would take them home on the Sleigh

15th Settled with AJ Baker for the hay Bought of J Grant Tea Rice Raisins Starch Broom G{Illegible} matches Flour took Dinner at Hamiltons Got the 2 Collars I Lent them

Allen Buried on 6th Decemb{er 18}77

For more information on James Cameron, check out the “Meet the Diarists” section under “Discover” on our website: ruraldiaries.uoguelph.ca