

# David Allan (1808-1895)

## 1873

Transcribed by Rural Diary Archive volunteers

DIARY - 1873.

### Wednesday 1

This is a fine new year's day plenty of snow on the ground to make good sleighing, and many driving round paying visits, all the works are stopt as usual, the weather is very moderate 26° above zero at noon.

### January Thursday 2 1873

Quite moderate this morning and has some appearance of a thaw The beer pump burst again this forenoon and have put on a new lower branch which was ready at hand It began to rain about 11 O'clock and continued through the afternoon with more like sleet and was freezing as it fell, Had some trouble with the beer pump again and put all right Towards dark it was raining very heavy and at time showers of sleet and snow, Walter Idington was here and went home tonight

### Friday 3

Mild morning and the snow soft and full of water underneath, and up to the ankles in water at every step, had Took down the other branch of the pump from Ingles and gave it to Arms & Worswick to finish, as he will not start work at his Foundry untill Monday

Wm and I went out to Mr Alexanders and read over the will of my late step mother Jean Allan

### Saturday 4

It was different weather this morning, hard frost and the roads dried up and hard, the check valve of the feed pipe of the mill boiler got clogged up with lime and had to put in a spare one we had, and Arms & Worswick bored a hole and put in a cock in it Mr A.B. Stewart passed up to Stratford this afternoon about Clarke's estate

### January Monday 6 1873

This was a fair winter day very little snow fell, But frequent light showers of snow yesterday with a beating wind. Mr A.B. Stewart got down yesterday by freight train. William is confined to the House with Mumps but came out the middle of the day. Mr A.B. Stewart and Daughter left here for Montreal this afternoon at 5 O'clock. The beer pump rod broke this evening, and we got Hooper to put a new piece in & finished it by 11 p.m.

### Tuesday 7

This is a fine morning

### **Wednesday 8**

This is the monthly fair day, but there being no cattle brought in for sale, there was little difference from day The day was cold blustering with frequent showers of snow Working late to night fixing the coupling {arrowed in} of hoisting tackle of the Rectifying house

### **January Thursday 9 1873**

Very cold morning with a stiff westerly wind, glass at about zero at 7 a.m. Grand Trunk trains are much delayed for want of water many of the locomotives have to leave their loads or trains and run down to Acton for water Had to cool of the still this morning as the Montifuce pipe was choacked and found large lumps of solder and peices of brick stuck into it, and had to saw of the bend that went down inside the still, and it works well now

[at top of page] Thursday 9th Jany 2 locomotives went down at 12 minutes past 11 for water at Acton and returned at 1,46 p.m. = 2 hours 34 m

### **Friday 10**

Very cold, at 6 a.m. it was 6° below zero, and a dry cold westerly wind, and about noon down to zero. The Grand Trunk men came down with the new pump shaft, and although cautioned by me to work the pumps by hand first and then examine the discharge pipe below the floor, as I was sure that it was frozen, and not to start the wheel to pump untill they were positive that there was no ice, but my advice was departed from in the latter case, and when attached to the wheel and 2 or three stropes made a gaskin fly out of a joint, and the water flew in all directions, {illegible scribble} so that had not that relief been given, the shaft would have broken again The men went home to Stratford again this evening at night 9,30 p.m. 4° below zero) William is improving

### **Saturday 11**

Still cold at 7 a.m. 3° below zero and a keen wind and continued cold through the day The pump inspector Jamison and another man were here this afternoon, about thawing the discharge pipes and I offered to draw all the water off the race to allow them to work. William is a good deal better this afternoon

### **January Monday 13 1873**

There is quite a change of weather this morning, which gave appearance of it last night, the glass is up to about 40° at 1/2 past 10 a.m. William is considerably better this morning. {either blue ink or new pen is used for the remainder of this entry} It began to rain about noon & continued off and on all the afternoon so that the roads became quite sloppy & sweming with water . The men came down from Stratford to examine the Grand Trunk pipes

### **Tuesday 14**

This morning is mild so far but just below freezing, and the roads are dry and very slippery

### **Wednesday 15**

This morning is dry and moderate, but is turning into a thaw, which I hope may help us in getting the Grand Trunk pipes free from ice

### **January Thursday 16 1873**

Heavy rain through the night, and a very close rain this morning Have begun to fix the Grand Trunk pipes again this morning, and the plan of thawing the frozen pipes which came into my head when sitting thinking on various plans the other night, and that was to attach a steam pipe to the Boiler and turn that on to thaw the ice, and have got Todd to fix the cock to the Boiler

### **Friday 17**

This is quite another kind of morning, hard frost & clear weather, and the roads very icy & slippery Have got the steam pipe attached to the Boiler of the Engine which heats up the cast iron exceedingly well Having to stop the water mill the Dam is flowing very copiously This afternoon the wind has chopped round to North & is getting very cold, and likely to freeze hard to night William over in the Office to day

### **Saturday 18**

This is a cold morning, and the glass stood at zero at 8 a.m., it was very cold during the night and must have been down to 5° or 6° below It has been snowing all the forenoon, Geo Lind came down from Fergus this morning, & left for Hamilton at 1 a m There is a good deal of wheat coming in the price is firmer \$1.20 to [blank] for Fall, and \$1.21. to 1.22 for Spring John & 2 men have been all day at the Grand Trunk pipes keeping the steam on & the water running over the Dam is going to keep on all night & tomorrow - I shortened the iron connecting rod 1/2 an inch, and must charge \$1 for that job. William is much better to day, has been at the Office & the Bank

### **January Monday 20 1873**

Moderate weather 10° to 12° above zero, & snowing as the day advanced it was a little milder, with snow continuing, Got the Grand Trunk pipe clear of ice about 10 O'clock last night, and had the Pumps going this morning, and the water mill with 3 run of stones. {purple line above this section} I observe that my old friend Mr Thomas Dennie Harris who died on Saturday last was interred to day in Toronto. I have known him since 1831 he was born in Boston in 1803 and was entering his 70th year of his age {another purple line at the end of this section} Keg butter from Brill 66 lbs 4 taken {taken written above} of = 62 sent down stairs

### **Tuesday 21**

Mild morning with a considerable fall of snow and kept on snowing all forenoon At 1. oclock went out to G.W. station to attend the Funeral of {scribble} young Mrs Grange (Agnes oldest daughter of the late James Webster, aged 33 years, Rev A Palmer performed the service at the grave)

### **Wednesday 22**

This is a mild morning Have begun to grind coal.

### **January Thursday 23 1873**

This is a moderate morning 6° above zero, with a little snow, and light Easterly wind. William made ready and started for Hamilton by the one Oclock train. About this time the wind began to increase and the snow became much heavier, and became sharp and very cold and most pearcing against the wind

### **Friday 24**

This is also a moderate morning 8° above zero and deep snow in some places, trains late the night Express passed up at 1/4 to 7. am The whole night was very course and the wind whistling through every crack. The Snow Plough passed up at 1/2 past 11 propelled by 2 Engines then after her the morning Express also driven by 2 Engines. Mr W.J. Spicer was on board & spoke to him. Accounts from all quarters speak of the late storm as unprecedented, and all trains long behind time William came home about 11 Oclock p.m.

### **Saturday 25**

This has been a very moderate winter day that about noon where the Sun shone on the side walk it was wet. got the bevel wheel on the upright shaft of the steam mill raised a little as it was too deep in gear, and then got up steam to set the pumps in motion to keep them from freezing

### **January Monday 27 1873**

This was a fine clear morning 2° above zero As the day advanced it became very mild almost approaching a thaw, and very inviting for a sleigh ride, made a hurried call at Mr Alexanders Sheehan is filling the ice house now

### **Tuesday 28**

This morning much milder only 22° above zero But as the day advanced it became much colder blowing a stiff N. West wind and was very cold The County Council organized today and reelected Mr Thomas Mair as their Warden for the th time. Had to draw some copper wire that I ordered from New York being 22 instead of 26 as ordered and had to spin it into 3 ply.

### **Wednesday 29**

This is a very cold morning at 6 a.m. it was 20° below zero at 1/2 past 7 was 15° below, and at 10 a.m. 6° below fortunately there is almost no wind otherwise it would be dreadfully cold, it was difficult

to keep up any throughout the night, the glass went down to freezing in my Parlour. Attended the Funeral of Mrs Helen Neeve formerly (Leden) who died in Buffalo last week of cancer in the breast & side, aged 72 and one of the first settlers in Guelph Ingles & Hunter got a heavy band of refined iron 65 lbs a

#### **January Thursday 30 1873**

This morning is not quite so cold only 2° below zero at 1/2 past 7 a m, little or no wind Preparing to fill an addition to the Ice House

#### **Friday 31**

This is a mild morning 12° above zero at 1/2 past 7 the weather clear, and little or no wind but from N.West. Weighed our own middlings water mill. 43 lbs to the bushl Eby of Salem 40 lbs McLean, Aberfoyl 35 "

#### **February Saturday 1 1873**

This is rather colder morning than yesterday a little snow falling, and the little wind that is blowing is cold And as the day advanced it became colder, yet the water is holding out tolerably well 2 run all the forenoon but had to take of one run to allow them enough water to saw wood with the wind N.West and colder still

#### **February Monday 3 1873**

Yesterday morning it was very cold at a 1/4 past 7 am it was 7° below zero and quite calm the G,T, night train passed down at 8,45 a.m. This morning was much milder and as the day advanced it became close & thick and has an appearance of thaw or rain.

#### **Tuesday 4**

Quite a mild morning, with a little mist and as the day advanced it became a thaw William went up to Stratford at 10 a.m. and I went down to the Steam Saw Mill at Freulton to look out for a supply of saw dust for an addit-ional ice house, and also to enquire about staves for a new still It became colder in returning home and froze hard in the evening.

#### **Wednesday 5**

This is the Monthly Fair day ground hard and dry, and the sky bright & clear There was a great many cattle on the ground which the shortness of Feed compelled the owners to sell if possible although not far or in good condition, and prices were very low. William came home from Stratford this afternoon at 5 p.m.

#### **February Thursday 6 1873**

This is a fine clear morning, glass 36° above zero

#### **Friday 7**

This is a fine morning. During last night 2 trains collided in Trainers Cut, and the Engines and 8 or ten cars were very much injured, they worked all night to get the wreck out of the way. But when I went out to see it after breakfast there was no less than 11 pairs of wheels piled on the top of one of the tenders, and it took them till noon before the passenger trains passed The roads are slushey to day.

### **Saturday 8**

There is quite a change from yesterday hard frost this morning, and a slight shower of snow, during the day wind got up and it became quite cold Chambers went down to Freelton saw mill for sawdust with the new box I made on purpose, and got home with a load at night

### **February Monday 10 1873**

This is a very sharp morning it was 5° below zero at 1/2 past 6 a.m. Yesterday was also very cold with a keen N.West wind blowing pritty stiff John went up to Enotsville this morning

### **Tuesday 11**

It has the appearance of thaw this morning the walls of the Mill & all the stone Buildings are quite white with the frost comming out. Preparing to start for Detroit & Windsor

### **Wednesday 12**

[blank]

### **February Thursday 13 1873**

[blank]

### **Friday 14**

[blank]

### **Saturday 15**

This has been a moderate day, I left the City of Detroit this morning at 9' Oclock by the Great Western Railway and arrived home at 5 pm, the day was frosty yet clear.

### **February Monday 17 1873**

This is a fine morning, and as the day advances it becomes milder. About the middle of the day it was quite mild and thawing fast and the roads are becoming bare of snow, Peter Idington here today

### **Tuesday 18**

[blank]

### **Wednesday 19**

[blank]

### **February Thursday 20 1873**

[blank]

### **Friday 21**

[blank]

### **Saturday 22**

This was a cold morning

### **February Monday 24 1873**

This is another very cold morning more from the wind blowing than what the glass shows being only at zero at 7 am. whereas yesterday morning at same hour it was 8 below zero, with a sharp wind also. The gas in Chalmers Church was frozen and prevented service and the congregation dispersed.

### **Tuesday 25**

[blank]

### **Wednesday 26**

[blank]

### **February Thursday 27 1873**

There has been a heavy fall of snow through the night

### **Friday 28**

This is a very cold morning, 10° below zero - and at 1/2 past 10 the mercury rose to 12 above and the day turned out very fine This is our Fast day in the Church.

### **March Saturday 1**

This morning at 7 the glass stood at 5° above zero. I was in great anxiety about corn, having mashed the last we had, and though we have a good many cars of it laying at Stratford, where I had thoughts of going to try to push it on, when word came in that a car had come to hand by the Western and during the day another by the Grand Trunk.

### **March Monday 3 1873**

Yesterday, Sabbath morning 2d March, was mild at 7 a.m. 24° above zero, at 9 a.m. 30° with a light powdering snow falling, our Communion Sabbath, -- a light snow on ground. This morning was very different, at 7 am 6° above zero and a cold north wind blowing also a little snow, at 1/2 past 2 it was colder 4° above zero and wind getting stronger & colder. Presentation this evening to Mr White G T Freight agent of gold watch & chain, also broach & ear rings for Mrs W, being about to leave Guelph and become, General Freight Agent in Toronto.

### **Tuesday 4**

This is another cold morning glass about zero at 7 a.m. Wind still northerly, but the weather fine and clear John Young Esqr of Hamilton died this afternoon aged 65

### Wednesday 5

This morning at 1/2 past 6 am. the glass stood at 11° below zero, but as the day advanced it became mild and above freezing. I went down to Acton to McDonalds Mill to look after long lumber for still staves

### March Thursday 6 1873

{this page is covered by a receipt that is glued to the top margin} This morning it was not quite so cold the glass stood at zero at 7 am, and as the day advanced it became quite pleasant

### Friday 7

This is a fine mild morning at 1/2 past 9 am the glass stood at 45° and drops falling from the eaves of the houses. I had intended to have gone down to attend the Funeral of my old friend John Young Esqr of Hamilton where he died on Tuesday last at 4 O'clock p.m. He was born at Galston in Ayrshire in 1808 and was in his 65 year I have known him since 1833, but as I felt my legs very painful and stiff last night I concluded not to go [newspaper clipping] The tender of the Joseph Hall Manufacturing Company, Oshawa, to supply the pumping machinery for the Ottawa Waterworks, at the price of \$40,000 was accepted last evening. The other tenders were: Barclay, Montreal, \$46,500, and Goldie & McCulloch, Galt, \$49,000

### Saturday 8

This a fine winter morning, dry and a light wind. I went down to Lime House Station and got a horse & cutter from Thos Gowdy and went down to Douglas & Bannermans Saw Mill to see what they could do in cutting long stuff for staves of still. I then went down to Cox's Mill near Milton, who could saw long enough stuff but as he is not in the habit of cutting Bill stuff & as some might be rejected and thrown on his hand he declined so far unless I could not get it elsewhere but would charge \$27. per M. laid down at Georgetown so I ordered it at the first mill, and came home by the 6 O'clock train, It was very stormy in the afternoon and a heavy fall of snow.

GENERAL STATEMENT  
Town of Guelph 1872  
RECEIPTS

To balance from last year 262.10

Cash Tavern Licenses	\$1350.00	
" Shop "	745.00	
" Billiard "	260.00	
	-----	2355.00
Interest on Guelph & Preston D'bnts		1176.00
Market fees and rents	2949.86	



Town Hall rents	392.65	
Butcher's rents and sheds &c	702.94	
	-----	4045.45
Cash High School Treasurer	82.00	
" Legislative grant	657.00	
" Superannuation fund	14.00	
	-----	753.00
Assessment balance of 1871	1541.78	
" " 1872	26565.55	
	-----	28107.33
Cash non-resident taxes	597.24	
" Police fines	422.06	
" Rack rents	10.50	
" S.W. Agricultural Society	200.00	
" Rent Exhibition ground	61.00	
" Capt. Bruce returned	10.00	
" Pound keeper's fines	24.39	
" County grant	500.00	
	-----	1825.19
		-----
Total	38524.07	

#### EXPENDITURES

By Roads and Bridges 2740.00

4 Wards	798.66	
	-----	3538.66
Fire and water	2189.28	
Market house	826.73	
Relief	737.05	
Central Exhibition	616.76	
Insurance	326.60	
Printing and stationary	418.95	
	-----	5115.37
Tree planting	30.15	
Board of health	35.00	
Remittance of taxes	31.64	
" of Licenses	151.37	
	-----	248.16
County Rate	4312.50	
Watering streets	654.00	
	-----	4966.50
Redemption & Interest Debentures		4357.20
Public Schools	6640.18	
High School	446.22	
Separate do	620.00	
	-----	7706.40
Bills retired 1871		4979.86
Salaries		4287.00
Miscellaneous payments		2417.48
Collectors commission for 1871	529.21	
Balance	378.23	

----- 907.44  
38524.07

John Harvey, Town Treasurer

To the Mayor and Municipal Council of the Town of Guelph Gentlemen--- The undersigned beg to report that they have examined and audited the Treasurers Books, and compared the Vouchers with the payments made, and found them correct. The receipts from the various sources of revenue exhibited in the detailed statement herewith presented amount to \$38,524.07. and the expenditures to \$38,145.84, leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer on the 31st of December 1872 of \$378.23. They further report that the Books are clean and neatly kept.

All which is respectfully submitted.  
W.S.G. Knowles

March 3rd, 1873 William Hart Auditors

**March Monday 10 1873**

Moderate weather the snow laying still,

**Tuesday 11**

[Blank]

**Wednesday 12**

Putting up a new oak receiver of about 2000 galls for reducing in previous to pumping it into the upper receiver in the rectifying room.

**March Thursday 13. 1873**

Rather coldish this morning, but is better through the day I went up this afternoon to G. Mickles farm and bought 5 pigs from his man Rudd

**Friday 14**

It was mild this morning, and during the day it was quite slushey and the roads covered with water

**Saturday 15**

This is thick foggy morning & raining at 7 a.m. & must have been raining during the night for the water is running copiously all over, but has not as of yet made any increase in the river. Attended the funeral of Mr John Gow (father of Peter Gow Mr P.P.) aged 84, the weather was very disagreeable

raining all the afternoon, as well as the forenoon, part of the low ground of cemetery was covered with water, in the evening it began to blow hard and after dark it still increased.

### **March Monday 17 1873**

The storm was very severe on Sunday morning accompanied with snow, some damage was done in blowing of one barn roof and sheds, fences &c. To day has been a blustering day the snow still laying on the ground. We have been putting the new Oak receiver in its place to day which was no easy job. There is a considerable quantity of water in the river and was running about a foot deep over the Dam yesterday.

### **Tuesday 18**

This is another blustering day with frequent showers of sleety snow, plenty of water for the mill driving 3 run all day & yesterday also. G.Christopher Doering of Philipsburg Waterloo died yesterday 17th March aged 56 years & 4 months, was born in the Grand Dutchy of Hessen, & came to Canada 1835, & leaves a wife 10 sons and 3 daughters

### **Wednesday 19**

Quite moderate weather, snow has fallen through the night. I went out in the Cutter to the Western station for to go to Brantford I got there about 1/2 past 9. the snow was melting fast, the Grand River is breaking up above and gorging the river with very thick ice for many miles up. Now we're at work cutting away a jam at the iron Budge to give it relief. I went up to see Pleur's flour mill. it has 4 run of stones & a small pair for middlings.

### **March Thursday 20 1873**

Thick and misty morning and light rain but it became heavier about noon it began to snow heavy but it was soft and will not lay. The street all over are covered with slush

### **Friday 21**

This is a stormy looking morning a considerable quantity of snow has fallen through the night, and as the day advances it keeps on snowing with a Westely wind Insurance meeting to day.

### **Saturday 22**

Dissagreeable in walking it was thawing on the sunney sides of the streets and hard at the North, not much wind

### **March Monday 24 1873**

Last night was very cold, like yesterday, windy and disagreeable This morning at 1/4 to 7am the glass stood at 8° above zero, but the sun has great power on the south exposure where it rises fast but there is not likely to be any thaw to day,

### **Tuesday 25**

This is a cold blustering morning, with showers of snow between the gusts of wind, there is a considerable quantity of snow on the ground, but the sleighing is not generally good now as it is worn of in many places

### **Wednesday 26**

This is a wintry looking morning and snowing heavy, and must have been through the night All this forenoon has been snowing This afternoon as heavy as ever

### **March Thursday 27 1873**

There was a great deal of snow on the ground and cold North West wind still prevailing William Phin, farmer, died to of only 1 weeks illness aged 69 years and 8 months.

### **Friday 28**

Mild this morning, and as the day advanced began to thaw rapidly, William went down to Hamilton this morning, and continued so all day We cut or sawed a great deal of firewood to day, William returned about 1/2 past 9.

### **Saturday 29**

This is a very wet morning raining steady and must have rained a good deal during the night I intend going down to lime house by the early train but the wet and Mrs A not being so well did not go then. But as Mrs A, was getting better I went by the train at 1/2 past 11 to Lime House and started for Grove Mill and found a good many of the long staves sawn and will answer with a few exceptions, the road was still well covered with snow, and sleighing fair and plenty of snow in the woods yet {g}ood hauling out saw logs & it rained through the afternoon The return train was late, but got home by 7 o'clock,

### **March Monday 31 1873**

This is a mild morning and 3 1/2 inches more snow on the ground and still snowing. It was fine and dry yesterday, we are begun to make some Oak Rectifiers.

#### **April Tuesday 1**

This is a raw morning with slight covering of snow on the ground, which soon melted away, but in the afternoon there were frequent showers of sleet and fine rain.

#### **Wednesday 2**

This is a wet kind of sleety day Yet there is a large Fair. The show ground was quite full of cattle I just now hear of the Death of John Taylor, Paisley Block aged 68 years, used to work for us many years ago as a machinist (along with Roht Dunbar now of Buffalo from works) Also of the death of Richard Evans aged 64 years, he used to attend the Steam Engine of the Mill, about 2 years ago, He was at one time Engineer of a Gentlemans steam Yaught in England.

#### **April Thursday 3 1873**

This is a fine clear morning glass above freezing and most of the snow is washed of the streets in Town The reports of the loss of the Steam Ship Atlantic of the White Star Line proves to be too true, of the cost of Halifax on the morning of the 1st about 3 oclock a.m 600 or more said to be drowned

#### **Friday 4**

Misty and thick weather thawing fast, the gates all up and the water flowing copiously

#### **Saturday 5**

This is a thick dull morning and has been showrey all forenoon

#### **April Monday 7 1873**

This is a wet morning and thick fogg with light rain say during the most of the forenoon The river is rising still but not so high as I have seen is. A Mackenzie my clerk went to Buffalo about some Malt on his own age that has been detained by the customs department there.

#### **Tuesday 8**

It has rained during most of the night and this morning occasional light showers All the Snow about the Town is now about gone, The ice on the Dam has not broke up yet.

#### **Wednesday 9**

This is another wet morning, and it rained and blew all night, the water was very high and kept on hissing, and it rained steady all the forenoon and the afternoon as well, but the ice is not broken up on the Dam enough to let it come over I went down to the Dundas Bridge this afternoon and found the road covered with water, and then down to Gows Bridge where all the meadow is covered with water, and the road also so that I could not go home that way, but had had to return by the upper road

#### **April Thursday 10 1873**

This is a cool frosty morning, clear and dry with a little ice on the roads. The river has fallen about 6 inches William went of to Walkerton at noon. John Stewart (Foundry) of Hamilton here this afternoon.

#### **Friday 11**

This morning opens out fine, and has the appearance of going to be a fine day. In the afternoon it began to be a little colder and the wind Easterly The water in the dam is much about the the same as yesterday or a little higher

#### **Saturday 12**

This was a fine morning, with the water in the river pretty high, but the sun had its effect and the soft wind yesterday in shifting the ice that is began to move and some thick peices got stuck on the dam for an hour & more untill they damed back the water to a height which floated their over, for these flakes were no less thaw from 30 to 36 inches thick, and when once they went over other peices gave way and followed them, but the first of their broke & carried away the most present dam, in the afternoon, part Goldies apron was carried away and blank and timber came down. And during the whole afternoon emense peices came one after another in quick successin, & took away the cutt waters of both mill & Distillers bridges

#### **April Monday14 1873**

The taking {Above the line - breaking} away of part of Goldie's Apron began to show itself on Sabbath morning, for the loosening of the top beams had made sufficient opening to let the water underneath to that it washed away the stones and then the earth and gravel, that we observed the water comming down quite dark and muddy before we went to Church, but had not been long there when John was called out, As Goldies Dam had gone and the water had risen & carried more ice against the Bridges breaking the port posts of the bents or peirs that the cap of the bent nearest the Distillery did settle down a few inches,

Have to carry the mash for the Distillery round with the waggon, as the Bridge is not safe

### **Tuesday 15**

Making preparations to get the leg of the bent in to support the Distillery Bridge I understand the two Brothers of Goldies were up to day and have decided to make a temporary Dam so as to get water for the Mill before they can have the steam engine ready, they are getting in lots of Brush and long poles &e But I am very doubtful if they can succeed as the height is over 17 feet before they can get enough water to drive the Machinery

### **Wednesday 16**

It blew a complete gale last night accompanied with a good deal of rain and sleet Busey getting the leg of the bent lowered and fixed in its place,

### **April Thursday 17 1873**

This has been a cold morning with a little rain and it blew a cold wind all day Got the remainder of the scaffolding of the Bridge and tackle cleared away this morning and all clear for the car to run as usual I intend going down to Toronto in the morning

### **Friday 18**

This was a fine morning, I started to Toronto by the early Train, and found business but very moderate, the bricklayers were very crowded on one large building on Front Street a good many more that I though were working to advantage

### **Saturday 19**

This is another moderate spring day

### **April Monday 21 1873**

This has been a coldish morning with ice on the water yesterday and this morning This afternoon it was cold and a thick shower of snow fell

### **Tuesday 22**

I went down to Hamilton this morning and got the Balance due on Alex Allens mortgage \$228.50 {written as 50 cents expressed as a fraction 50 over 100} from T, C, Kerr & Co,

### **Wednesday 23**

Strong frost last night, and the water falling fast

**April Thursday 24 1873**

This is a dull morning and has the appearance of rain, I took a look and the Goldies Brush Dam this morning, which has now reached across the gap, and is constructed of trees and the tops with its bush on, placed up stream and the butt down stream, I have great doubts of its being able to do any more than direct and turn the water down to the waste gates, if even that.

**Friday 25**

{blank}

**Saturday 26**

{blank}

**April Monday 28 1873**

This was a fine morning. I went down to attend the Presbytery in Hamilton and returned the same evening The business was principally to sustain the call of the 2 charge in Hamilton to the Rev Smith of Bellville also to receive a call from Mellborne for Rev Mr Edmison of Waterdown Gibson began to work again this morning

**Tuesday 29**

Fine spring weather

**Wednesday 30**

Fine morning warm and pleasant, went up to Goldie's Dam, and found them quite busey carting gravel on it, but the weight of it will settle down the Brush and poles laid across and will to all appearance take them about 2 weeks if it does not break out, before they can turn the water into the Mill nice

**May Thursday 1 1873**

This was a dull morning and wet and had ranied through the night There has been some showers through the day and the water rising considerably

**Friday 2**



This is also a heavy kind of morning Had tidings to day of the death Mr Adam Johnston my wife's Uncle at

### **Saturday 3**

Fine morning, and the water in the River is falling a good deal I went up to Goldie's Mills to see how they are getting on with their Dam, and find that they have begun to close rather early as a great quantity of gravel and earth is being washed through below the brush & e and advised him to use bags of earth to stop the holes

### **May Monday 5 1873**

This is a fine summer morning

### **Tuesday 6**

This is another fine morning Our mare had a colt this morning I sold my calf this morning 3 weeks old for \$3 William went up to Stratford this morning Walter Idington here to night, Wm returned to night

### **Wednesday 7**

This is a fine morning, and a great many cattle in the market ground, but they complain of low prices. The wind is rising and it is getting very dusty.

### **May Thursday 8 1873**

This is a dark rainy morning, and appears to have been raining all night John Allan went down in the cars to Galt this morning, thence to Ayr to see the smutt machine there. William Allan went down by the early train to Toronto to attend meeting of Thos Griffiths & Co creditors, John McPherson & Gibson are laying the joists in the lower floor of the new house We have exhausted all our Indian corn to day - and I bought 322 Bushels from Davis at 50 c Wm is in Hamilton to night

### **Friday 9**

Dark and dull this morning has been raining through the night, and a little still falling, I went up to see how Goldie is getting on with his Dam they have got a raft out in front an six wheelbarrows at work wheeling gravel have some 18 men employed independant of Tramsters

### **Saturday 10**

This is another dull morning with a very light rain, corn about done to day again but 3 cars have arrived at the Station above & will be bought down at noon

### **May Monday 12 1873**

This is a very cool morning, from the rain that fell yesterday afternoon and through the night. The river is keeping high. Have been unloading corn today Have begun to fence in the vacant lot below the old school house.

### **Tuesday 13**

[blank]

### **Wednesday 14**

This was a fine morning leave for Toronto at 7,30 to attend meeting of Mack & Creditors in Toronto

### **May Thursday 15 1873**

I was in Toronto to day, having waited over from yesterday, and attended meeting of Creditors of Thomas Griffith and Go Wholesale Grocers. A great deal of Building is going on in Toronto a number of large warehouses are being built in sum of them the foundation walls are very thick and in others not so, good stone pillars are built in the cellars and cast iron pillars resting on them to support the floors above got home to night at 9 oclock

### **Friday 16**

This is a fine morning, and find that James Goldie has got the Dam high enough to turn the water into the Mill now and 2 run of stones are going,

### **Saturday 17**

This is a fine morning but yet not sufficient heat to pull on vegetation. We have melancholy news of the death of Mr John Shedder who was killed last night, he had been at Cobaconk {?} and in returning to Toronto went out at Cannington Station, and in stepping on after the Train was in motion tripped and rolled between the platform and the wheels and died in a few minutes. I knew him well.

### **May Monday 19 1873**

This is a very fine morning, with a gentle refreshing breeze.

### **Tuesday 20**

No rain after all Have begun to unload the Car of large staves, bucked Boards &e

### **Wednesday 21**

This morning is somewhat dull and looks like rain Busey to day piling up the stave stuff to day, & laying it very open to let the wind through At noon to day the Thermometer stood at 72°.

### **May Thursday 22 1873**

This is a very fine morning, quite warm and no rain yet The water in the river is getting low, and only runs over the Dam during the forenoon Looked at Goldies Dam this afternoon who is only able to drive the smutting machinery and one pair of stones, as there is as much water passing through the dam as comes out from the 2 wheels, I Went down to Galt this afternoon to see Wm Higenbotham at Dr Tassie's school and found him quite well, The rules of the school would not permit of me bringing him home with me

### **Friday 23**

Fine warm morning, and set about examining the spring water pipes from the Priory which are still stopt by either ice or something else, they are all clear till where it crosses the main road at the Bridge, But hope that the great heat to day 84° at noon, will thaw if it is ice A large flour will burnt in Montreal yesterday loss from \$80,000 to \$100,000,

### **Saturday 24**

{blank}

### **May Monday 26 1873**

This is a delightful morning, but we want rain very much A boy of the name of {blank space} was near drowned in my Mill race this afternoon

### **Tuesday 27**

This is a fine fresh morning, We have had a shower of rain during the night but it had only gone down about 2 inches into the ground The water was low this morning in the River and had to wait until they had started above us Attended the Funeral of Mrs John A Wood to day. One of the Grand Trunk men from Stratford was here packing the Pump, but for all that it does not discharge the quantity of water it ought to do and am convinced that there is a defect in the pipe where it enters the ground from the flame, and is what I have suspected is the case all winter,

**Wednesday 28**

This is a dull morning and looks very like rain I intend starting to day from Seneca Falls in N York State

**May Thursday 29 1873**

{blank}

**Friday 30**

{blank}

**Saturday 31**

{blank}

**June Monday 2 1873**

Fine weather but keeping very dry and much need of more rain

**Tuesday 3**

This is another very fine morning There is some appearance of rain

**Wednesday 4**

This is of any thing a duller morning and more like as if there will be rain, This is the monthly fair day, there was a good many people in Town, but not such a number of cattle as last fair day, The rain began a little in the forenoon, but the clouds very soon disapeared, but in the afternoon it came on a smart shower and continued for about a couple of hours

**June Thursday 5 1873**

This is a fine morning At 4 Oclock this afternoon we took the child intended to be called Mary and burried her in the East corner of my Cemetry lot.

**Friday 6**

This is of any thing a cloudy morning There was a very slight shower in the forenoon but it soon passed off

### **Saturday 7**

This has the appearance of going to be a warm day, Saw George McCullouch We unloaded a car load containing some long Staves and some 1 1/2 inch Oak boards

### **June Monday 9 1873**

Of any thing a dull morning and some looks of rain There was a few drops only. I went down to Toronto by the 11 O'clock train to attend meeting of Griffiths creditors, but owing to the lawyers not being able to obtain evidence from a witness, without a regular summons to attend. the inspecting committee could not report, and was adjourned till Saturday the 14th at 11 O'clock

### **Tuesday 10**

This morning was dry, but in the forenoon it turned like rain Ground coal to day Went up to the Church

### **Wednesday 11**

{blank}

### **June Thursday 12 1873**

{blank}

### **Friday 13**

This morning, William went down to Toronto at 11 O'clock William returned at 8:30 p.m

### **Saturday 14**

Warm morning Got the Vestry at the Church in its place this afternoon

### **June Monday 16 1873**

This is a very fine morning, but very warm and dry Have found out the cause of the falling off in the yealds in the Distillery for the last half month, it appears that there has been a leak in both of the Steam columns at the upper end, and I have now to go down to Toronto to get a new one, and the last one that was put in is to be changed and used instead of one of them. I got the job done but not in time to catch the 1/2 past 5 train and had to wait, til the midnight train

### **Tuesday 17**

This a fine morning, I got home from Toronto by the midnight train at 1/2 past 2 One omission was made in not getting the pipe of the inner column to project down ~~through~~ below the flange and through the head of the still to prevent the wood from burning, and which has to be done by Feek, in soldering a piece to it I found a notice from the health officer ~~about~~ (complaints) as to removing the filth from the pigery and the cattle sheds, and that none shall be allowed to go into the river,

### **Wednesday 18**

This is another dry morning and no signs of rain. John is going up to Enotsville about the wood & coal.

### **June Thursday 19 1873**

This is a dry warm morning Mrs John McCrea died at one this morning, being worn out from long illness from a hole in her cheek, aged 58 years About noon to day the glass stood about 90° in the shade, and every thing is drying up

### **Friday 20**

This is another dry morning, Have begun to draw plans of the Mill for the Excise Department in Triplicate,

### **Saturday 21**

A good deal like rain this morning

### **June Monday 23 1873**

This is a dark and dull morning, the same as it was all day yesterday, and no rain to speak of not enough fell to lay the dust, There is to be a meeting of the Directors of the Wellington Mutual at Hespeler to day at 1/2 past 12, I have been down at Hespeler and returned by the afternoon train and got home at 6 O'clock A fine steady rain began to fall about 1/2 past 7, and likely to continue

### **Tuesday 24**

Fine morning, from fear of not getting an answer in time from the cheif Inspector whether he will waive the taking of stock in the Mill at this time, I have to leave for Toronto by the 7.30 train, I started accordingly and found the Mr Godson had not been at his Office, so I drove to his house and presented my letter from the Department refering the matter to him, which he acquessed in as not being necessary at this time, and he telegraphed Mr Gow to that effect.

### **Wednesday 25**

{blank}

### **June Thursday 26 1873**

{blank}

### **Friday 27**

I have got the Plans of the Mill completed and have had hard work on account of lumbago or Rhumatism in my hip bone and all down my left leg

### **Saturday 28**

This is a dry morning, and has the appearance of going to be a warm day

### **Juue {there is a printing error} Monday 30 1873**

This is a dark wet morning, there was thunder during the night and rain, But during the early part of the forenoon it rained very heavy for several hours, and in the afternoon it rained also and continued cloudy and thick that we never saw the sun all day, William Nichols of the Court House Inn died yesterday at noon of Heart disease aged 77 he came to Guelph in June 1832 Mr G Ridous Esqr of Toronto died yesterday aged 66. he represented Toronto in Parliament

### **July Tuesday 1**

This is close morning and warm from the rain yesterday. The Mills went all night but shut down this morning, and all the other works being Dominion Day, I had Mr Alexander in as one of my Bondsmen as formerly, him in \$6,000, James D Allan \$3,000, Willian Allan \$3,000 Mr James Blain and wife of Galt here this afternoon on their way to Milton Higinbotham away at the opening of the Southern Extention of the W.G.S Bruce Railway to Wingham

### **Wednesday 2**

This morning was cloudy, and wet but faired off as the day advanced it was sultry and close throughout the day Which is our Horticultural Show Day but I am too lame with Rhumatism to attend I wrote to my sisters in Illinois, to day Great complaints of the low price obtained for still fed Cattle and Hogs, importations from the States are competing hard against our feeders here In the evening it rained very heavy

### **July Thursday 3 1873**

This morning was wet and rained up to 7 O'clock, and then continued fair, but very cloudy Jackson from Berlin here offering to sell wheat In the afterpart of the day it cleared up and likely to be dry weather

#### **Friday 4**

This is a fine morning, warm and of any thing close, a considerable quantity of wheat has come in this morning, the price has fallen \$1,16 a \$1,17

#### **Saturday 5**

This is a fine morning, A great many teams in with wheat, some 350 Bushels spring about \$1,16 My leg is rather better to day The lining of the Mash tun broke out in holes in a thin plate, & I telegraphed for a peice to Toronto, in the mean time got Feek to solder up the holes, first & last it took all day, so there was no mashing,

#### **July Monday 7 1873**

Fine morning Dry and warm

#### **Tuesday 8**

This is also a fine morning Preparing to go to Stratford by the 2 O'clock train and to stay over at Baden for the 6 O'clock train

#### **Wednesday 9**

I returned this evening from Stratford by the Dutch mail

#### **July Thursday 10 1873**

Very wet this morning, a good deal of rain fell through the night, and the morning feels cold & started a fire in our bedroom

#### **Friday 11**

This was a fine dry morning but not warm William started for Hamilton at One O'clock and returned about 1/2 past 9

#### **Saturday 12**

Dry weather

#### **July Monday 14 1873**



[blank]

### **Tuesday 15**

I went up to the Hay field this afternoon & find the 2 men will have it all cut this evening

### **Wednesday 16**

This is a dry warm morning Went up to the hay=field at the Gleke and the hay will be ready to take in after dinner, the crop is light. but there is over 3 tons of it. William left town about one o'clock for Orangeville Gordon here paying part of rent for piggery Meeting to night at Massie's, about inviting the Merchant Bank to open a Branch here. John Harold of Hamilton here this evening,

### **July Thursday 17 1873**

This has been a wet night it rained on till after 6 O'clock this morning very heavy this afternoon got the large water tank set up and 3 hours on before night William got home to night about 12 O'clock

### **Friday 18**

I rained in the early part of the morning the large tub in all hooped and, they are now pushing on with the spouts The Election this day for a councillor for the East Ward in place of Bell who resigned, term mated in the declaration of Charles Davidson, mayorth over David McCrea, of 25

### **Saturday 19**

This is quite a cool morning, and rather dull and dark, with a light breeze

### **July Monday 21 1873**

This is a somewhat cool morning, and very dry weather

### **Tuesday 22**

This is a warm dry morning We are working away at the pipes for the bottom of the large tun to draw of the water to wash away the filth of the pig styes.

### **Wednesday 23**

This is a fine warm morning, and going to be a hot day, Have got the water running into the tun freely to day, and making arrangements in the inside, John went up to day to Enatsville mowing. Marcon got married this morning about 1/2 past 6 to Miss Goodeue,

### **July Thursday 24 1873**

This is a fine morning, and likely to be a very warm day The case against Wm Gordon was brought up in the Police Court this forenoon and a several Wittneses testified as to the intolerable smell arrising from the pigs, when judgement was reserved until Saturday Higginbotham and I are going

down to Toronto to see what Gooderham & Works have done to abate the smell of their yard, so much complains of there

**Friday 25**

quite a heavy shower of rain fell this evening from 6 to 8 o'clock

**Saturday 26**

Fine morning but no more rain, Gordon was fined \$1,00 and costs and to have the pigs removed in two weeks from to day Repairing the steam Mill Bridge these two days, with new cut water post &c Higginbotham and family went down in a hired carriage to spend the day at the lake in Pushlinch. Mrs A and I went away about 4 O'clock to meet them and after going all the way to the Lake could not find them out Though several of Ingles men had seen John Allan there, and got home before them about 1/2 past 8

**July Monday 28 1873**

Fine morning. The Engine is standing to day for cleaning out the Boiler &c and taking of the cover of the steam chest to see what is the cause, of the squeeling noise at times as if the slide valve or Piston were going dry, but could not discover anything

**Tuesday 29**

.[blank]

**Wednesday 30**

Allan of McDonal died {looks to be written in pencil}

**July Thursday 31 1873**

The crank pin of the steam Engine of the Mill Heated to such an extent that the Brasses were almost melted, and the pin so damaged as to require a new one. I started for Galt at one O'clock with it and the connecting Rod

**August Friday 1**

Shery McDonald Buried {looks to be written in pencil}

**Saturday 2**

This is a very fine morning I have made up my mind to accompany the deputation to go to Montreal to apply for a Branch of the Merchants Bank here, consisting of {unsure} John Hogg, Massie Wilkie & myself Martin for others

**August Monday 4 1873**

The Engineer got here I understand at noon this day with the new crank pin and connecting rod

**Tuesday 5**

[blank]

**Wednesday 6**

Wm Easter one of Days men built up the seats in the dining room from 1/2 past 9 till 1/2 past 4.

**August Thursday 7 1873**

Joseph Lynch died aged 81. resident in Park upwards of 40 years {looks like it's written in pencil}

**Friday 8**

[blank]

**Saturday 9**

[blank]

**August Monday 11 1873**

[blank]

**Tuesday 12**

[blank]

**Wednesday 13**

[blank]

**August Thursday 14 1873**

[blank]

**Friday 15**

[blank]

**Saturday 16**

[blank]

**August Monday 18 1873**

Fine morning Have got the Steam Mill started again this forenoon Mr A.B Stewart left by the 11 O'clock train for Toronto

**Tuesday 19**

This is another fine morning but very dry and the day is turning out to be warm

**Wednesday 20**

[blank]

### **August Thursday 21 1873**

Fine morning. Jas. Glover leaves the town for Manitoba his wife 3 children and Nephew, his eldest daughter 13 years old Intelligence came that the Duke of Manchester would pay us visit

### **Friday 22**

Of any thing a dull morning, but as the day advanced it became fine, And being a Holiday by Proclamation of the Mayor, many will attend the Pic nics and the great Boston, Bas Ball match The distillery is standing, but the the Mills were going.

### **Saturday 23**

This was very fine morning, and warm have been fixing the Boom irons {irons is arrowed in} on the N.East side of the Dam, which was injured by the ice last winter, for some days past, )

### **August Monday 25 1873**

This is a wet morning, a good deal of rain having fallen throughout the night, and still continues. at 8 am, about 10 it was quite fair. William, wife, and Annie, Mrs Higinbothain, & Annie Grant left for Illinois at 2 O'clock, It was quite an anxious day for me Observed {There is a small round brown stain.} Lenox the plasterer off work today from a hurt he got on Saturday night in stepping through a stove pipe hole in the upper floor of the new house

### **Tuesday 26**

This is a very fine morning, Gibson plastered top of stone work with water lime when washed away, Observed river very thick and muddy this forenoon and found that the new earth work at the Goldies dam had washed away, leaving them about where they were about a fortnight ago

### **Wednesday 27**

This is a cool dry morning, and an excursion day to the Falls where a {left blank} is to walk on a rope below the falls elevated about 140 feet above the water, several of my men are away at it, the 2 ingineers, the distillery not being at work to day, allows Taylor to attend the Mill Engine John Allan is up at Enotsville to day, The carpenters are erecting the seaffold for plastery under the easing of roof of new house

### **August Thursday 28 1873**

A man named Wilson came down to put in new leathers in valves of Grand Trunk Pumps

### **Friday 29**

This is a fine morning, John up the Mickles saw mill for lumber, I went down to Acton to see the Grand Trunk steam Pump The men are lathing & Plastering under the easing of new house {There is a brown stain on "lathing".}

### **Saturday 30**

This has been a very fine day, they are giving the fascia board of the rood a coat of Paint Mr Thomas Hefferman of Hefferman Bros returned from the old country at 6 this evening. Pumps going late to night

### **September Monday 1 1873**

This is a dull cool morning, Partly from the heavy rain that fell on Sunday morning which moistened the ground yet it did not fill the Dam any faster. The Engine is stopt for cleaning out the Boiler and after that was done we had to fill the boiler with pails as the hole in the connecting rod was worn out and broke and a man came down from Stratford and took it up to repair came down from Stratford and took it up to repair I Put in a new brass Oil cup on the steam chest on trial for 3 weeks and 2 bass oilers on the crank shaft Ground some coal to day

### **Tuesday 2**

Fine morning but very dry, The oilers are not giving satisfaction as yet Three, Teams up to Enotsville for hardwood timber, and came home very late

### **Wednesday 3**

This was a very cool morning, and has continued so nearly all day, This is the Fair Day and a good many loads of wheat came. Man been putting up gutters in new house, The steam Mill, Boiler began to leak badly this afternoon had to stop, out the fire and Telegraph to Galt for a man A very bad time to be stopt having flour to finish by Saturday

### **September Thursday 4 1873**

This is a dull morning, the fogg is thick & falling like fine rain The boiler maker did not arrive last night But he came by the noon train but did not bring the force pump with him as desired, I telegraphed for it & got it by 5 Oclock train filed the boiler and tested it at over 100 lbs to the inch but did not find any more leak than a good suet Got a hand hole from higles and put on above the crown sheet so as to loosen the seale there

### **Friday 5**

Fine morning, The men worked all night expanding ends of tubes and caulking some joints, then tested the Boiler again and found it quite tight, and got her started during the forenoon. The mans name was George Dakin, he charged full time for the day he came double time for night and a full day to go home in all 4 days which I think is too much

### **Saturday 6**

Fine morning, but last night was cold was up at Goldies Dam Also in the Mill the Engine driving 5 pair of stones and most of the Machinery, they say their Packer and a boy can pack from 180 to 200 {odd short form} from 7 to 6 pm have been drawing detail drawings for school house Having taken cover of End of cylinder and found it all corded from the borings of hole for oil cup

### **September Monday 8 1873**

This was a cool morning, Has a very busey forenoon taking out the piston expanding the springs to keep out the packing rings, took of the cover of the steam chest to see if the borings had injured the face of the slide valve and found none, and screwed the foundation frame down solid on its site, William & his wife was to leave Allan dale to day for Chicago The water in the Dam kept up pretty well to day we ground coal in the morning, and sawed wood in the afternoon

### **Tuesday 9**

{blank}

### **Wednesday 10**

{blank}

### **September Thursday 11 1873**

A very fine morning The Engine still continues and I intend starting for Galt to get up a man from there to examine the brasses and fill up with Babbit metal I went down to Galt and got a man to come up with me,

### **Friday 12**

This is a fine morning

### **Saturday 13**

This is a cold morning after the Storm last night of rain and lightning

### **September Monday 15 1873**

Cold morning there was frost last night also as well as on Sunday morning when the ground was quite white George Worsley died this morning at 1 Oclock The weather is changing to rain which will be much against the Central Exhibition Show, which begins tomorrow being the first day A great deal of wheat comming in to the Mill William & Party returned all safe from Detroit this afternoon

## **Tuesday 16**

The weather is chilly, yet it is likely to turn out a fine day, Cattle are pouring in very fast, and the various Entries exceed those of last year by {blank space} hundred, A good deal of wheat came in to the Mill to day

## **Wednesday 17**

This is a fine morning Preparing to attend Worsleys funeral at One O'clock A part of the Governor of the Engine broke this afternoon, and I must start to Galt in the morning to get a new peice,

## **September Thursday 18 1873**

This morning I prepared to go down to Galt to get the peice of the Steam Engine Governor replaced, but missed the train by a couple of minutes, and had to drive down which took me 2 hours the roads were good and the weather fine after the light rain, got the peice made of wrought iron as they had no castings on hand and during the time I went up to Doon Mills I left Galt at 6 O'clock and got home about 1/2 past 8, and the darkness was helped by considerable lightning

## **Friday 19**

This morning looked wet from the great quantity of rain that had fallen through the night and early morning,

## **Saturday 20**

This morning looked cloudy, and had the appearance of rain Great money panic in N York yesterday, with a great number of failures

## **September Monday 22 1873**

Dull morning with appearance of rain Mrs Tawse left this morning at 1/2 past 7 This forenoon has been cold and raw After dinner it rained for a considerable time and quite close and heavy at times The news to day from N York are more of a moderate tone The banks here are using caution and decline to go beyond a certain limit

## **Tuesday 23**

This was a dry day, but chilly of any thing A good deal of Barley coming in, But the price fell from \$1.5 to 85 c partly owing to the Panic in N York and also partly from the Grand Trunk refusing to

carry any more freight East until the Change of Gauge is finished But we have not begun to buy any yet

### **Wednesday 24**

This is a very fine morning clear & warm The tidings from New York are more quiet but there is fear of more Houses not being able to hold out against the pressure I was out at Mr Alexanders this afternoon, in returning saw signs of a change to rain, which may come during the night

### **September Thursday 25 1873**

This is a very wet morning and every thing looks dreary, it will be a bad day for the Provincial Show at London

### **Friday 26**

This is a fine morning As the day advances it gets warmer I was up at Stratford to day at 3 o'clock the Thermometer stood at 82° The Plasterers are getting near a close Rained very heavy from 10 to 12 O'clock

### **Saturday 27**

Very warm this morning I telegraphed to Galt to learn if George McCullouch is at home that I might be sure to see him if I went down, got answer, from home will be back on Monday quite warm to day also, A strange case was tried to day before the Mayor from 2 men having been found in F. W. Stones new house on his farm

### **September Monday 29 1873**

Heavy rain this morning and during the night It faired up about 9 O'clock, It was very close and warm in Church yesterday Stone, Gurtherie, Stirton, & Gow went down to Toronto and got the matter in dispute about possession all put to rights regarding the Farm sold to the Government,

### **Tuesday 30**

This is a fine dry morning, and throughout the day it keeps fine, The Grand Trunk Co are taking west to Stratford a large number of cars, for to alter them into narrow gauge cars,

### **October Wednesday 1**

{blank}



### **October Thursday 2 1873**

{blank}

### **Friday 3**

Fine fair morning, but of any thing raw and chilly We are busy taking out the Machinery of the old Carding Mill to put it in repair for Sawing Wood and planing boards for other repairs & c This is out Fast day in our Church The Grand Trunk men began to shift the nails as soon as the last car past down at 1/2 past 4

### **Saturday 4**

This is a wet morning, and it rained heavy through the night, at 10 am raining very heavy and afraid it will hurt my sale of Plants at the Market at 11 O'clock It rained on to about 12 O'clock which prevented the Ladies from turning out to buy, so I postponed the sale till Thursday at same place and hour

### **October Monday 6 1873**

This is a cold raw morning, yesterday morning also looked very threatening to rain and deterred many from coming in to Church to attend the communion, To day the wind is cold from the N East and afternoon it turning to N West blowing fresh and cold Judge Galt passed through this afternoon on his way from Walkerton, I have a long chat with him while waiting on the train, about old times of about 35 years ago Col Thos Saunders the Clerk of the Peace met with a serious accident this morning in coming to his Office, was run into while driving in his Buggy, by a runaway team, his head was scalped and skull fractured

### **Tuesday 7**

Fine clear noon light in coming from Church

### **Wednesday 8**

Very fine morning Mrs A and I went down to Galt at noon, left home at 5 minutes to 1 and got in Galt at 1/4 past 3, left there at 6,30, and got to W Idingtons at 1/2 past 8 and got home at 11 pm, the roads were fine

### **October Thursday 9 1873**

{blank}

## **Friday 10**

{blank}

## **Saturday 11**

Rather a coldish day this, Col Saunders died this morning at 6 O'clock

## **October Monday 13 1873**

This is quite a cold raw morning and looks like either rain or snow, have only One of men working to day logging the plank of platform for the circular saw, Gibson & John M Person at the geering which is near finished I attended the funeral of Col Saunders at 2 O'clock it was large, the weather was quite cold & the wind against us going up to the Cemetary, a Guelphite named Simons at the Bank of Commerce fell down stairs & Broke his neck and died at once, on Saturday night last, Dobie got on the last stone on the top of the Gable of the school house this afternoon

## **Tuesday 14**

This is a very fine mild morning, and likely to be a warm day, Thomas Lennox, plasters was born in {unsure} Ayrshire, was from 60 to 65 years of age, after having finished my work on the {blank space}, He went to plaster a house for John Murphy Woolwich road, and fell down a stair & broke his spine on Friday evening the 3 and was brought to the Catholic hospital on Tuesday the 7th & after suffering a great deal, ihe died on {sentence never completed}

## **Wednesday 15**

This is another very fine morning, Miss McCrea, one of our Elders daughters, is to be married this forenoon in St Andrews Church by the Rev Dr Hogg to Mr {name not stated} I went out to the sale of Cattle at J, W, Stones Thos Lennox died about 9 O'clock this morning

## **October Thursday 16 1873**

{this page has a newspaper clipping set beneath the October 16 entry}

This is another fine morning, We are now getting the machinery of the Carding Mill very near ready, we are now fixing the long drum over head the coupling of which loose and of the truth, Alex Glass built up the areas of the Basement window of the new Barraks to day to keep the water from getting into them, I attended the funeral of our old Plasterer, Thomas Lennox this afternoon, and was buried in the Catholic Cemetery

## Friday 17

This is a coldish morning, and are trying to get all the outdoor work done in case that snow should fall The new Barracks are now finished and getting the rooms scrubbed out Find some difficulty in getting headroom for the stairs to the Infaut gallery in our new school house at the church

## Saturday 18

This is a wet morning and still continues to rain, intend to pay off as many of the labourers to night as I can I have been getting a new pump put into the kitchen for soft water and the pipes that were burst in the bathroom repaired,

{newspaper clipping}

Terrific Gas Explosion.

A House Blown to Pieces.

(From the Rond Eau News of Oct. 16) Last evening we had an opportunity of witnessing the most extraordinary phenomenon that has ever occurred in this section of the country. For the past few days Mr. H. Truax, proprietor of the old Vester House, on the Gravel Road between Blenheim and Chatham, had had some men engaged in boring for water, a few feet from the hotel. Yesterday, about four o'clock, when they had reached a depth of ninety feet, they suddenly came to water, and in such quantities that in five minutes a stream of mingled water and gas the size of the ten inch hole was rushing a hundred feet into the air, making a loud rumbling noise like a train of cars. Water was pouring over the building and into the ditches along the road. Stones, thrown high into the air, were falling all around, and every minute the stream seemed to gain volume and force. This had lasted about an hour when the gas by some means, caught fire, exploding with a report like the discharge of a cannon, filling all parts of the house with flames, tearing it to pieces, and setting fire to the fragments. Quite a number of people were in the building at the time, three of whom were badly burned- Mrs. Truax, James Drake, and a man named Lewis Roc. The flames and water were now rising about seventy feet, with a sound as of a hurricane. When we visited the scene, an hour later, the column of fire was unabated, and as cloud after cloud of flame rose high into the air, lightning up the darkness, and casting a sickly, ghostly glare on the faces of the hundreds of people who had gathered from all parts of the country, the spectacle was really grand, and one not likely to be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The hole from which the fire and water escaped was by this time worn to about two feet in diameter, and the tremendous subterraneous force seemed now to be irresistible. Streams of water and sand were running in all directions, flooding the ruins. The cause of the explosion is unknown, but it is supposed to have been caused by a fire in the kitchen about 40

feet distant. At a late hour in the night the flames remained unabated, though they are likely to cease soon. The loss falls heavily on Mr. Truax, who had just refitted the hotel at considerable expense. We learn that all those injured are likely to recover, although suffering severely.

### **October Monday 20 1873**

This is a cold raw morning, and looks as if it new going to turn into rain or snow the wind is N West as the day advances it becoms colder and a few flakes of snow are falling Wm Taylor our beer runner in the Distillery is loading his furniture and intends to leave with his family for Bellville by the night Express at 3 a.m. About 1/2 past 4 the wind became much stronger & turned to the N East with thick sleet & snow and was near blowing down the rafters of the New St Andrews School

### **Tuesday 21**

This is a wet slushey morning, and raining a good deal, in many parts the snow and hail are laying in the sheltered placs & showers of it comming on, still, very little outdoor work done to day. Have turned the main Drum in the Carding Mill this afternoon

### **Wednesday 22**

This is a dry morning but damp, and rainy like not at all settled looking, and it feels cold and dissagreable,

### **October Thursday 23 1873**

This is a not dissagreable morning and continues to all appearane all day as the day advances no outdoor work can be done

### **Friday 24**

Fine dry morning Meeting of Directors of Wetlington Mutual insurance Co to day ay 11 oclock

### **Saturday 25**

This is a dry morning but coldish {but is smudged}

### **October Monday 27 1873**

Of any thing a wet morning, and rather bad weather for Armstrong shingling the roof of St Andrews School house And also for Goldie finishing his dam they are laying the top bed of heavy stones for the timbers to be bolted to I examined the stove in the hot air chamber in the Church, and got the Brick work partly taken down to admit of an examination

### **Tuesday 28**

This is a very dissagreable morning drizzling snow falling, as the day advances the weather no better, they are still continuing at the shingling even in the slushey weather Had to put on our old dress to go into the hot air room and found the crack on the top of the stone much wider than before and the inner end plate 1 1/2 inch open at the top and order chase to make screws to draw it together, The

roads are getting very muddy again {There is a drawing that looks like a rectangular box with three circles in it. Potentially the screwing pattern for the plate.}

### **Wednesday 29**

This is the first really wintry looking morning of the season, the snow has fallen during the night about 1/2 an inch deep, the wind feels cold from the West, The men on the school roof had to quit as the mortar froze before the shingles was laid,

### **October Thursday 30 1873**

This is a cold blustering day, the ground had a frozen crust on it this morning It looks like more Snow It looks serious for those having large quantities of turnips to take up some has not begun yet, Signed mortgage to A.B Stewart to day. Interest begins 1 May 1874. Masons put in one solid stone under pillars of Arches for gallery for Organ,

### **Friday 31**

Was cold blustering, and occasionally sleet and drizzling. mixed rain & snow and very little outdoor work can be done We are about finishing stock taking in the Mill Chase finished the Iron Work of the store in the Church

### **November Saturday 1**

The ground is covered with snow this morning But as the day advanced it melted away. and the shingling went on Worked all afternoon fixing store in Church building up the Buckwork

### **November Thursday 6 1873**

Frosty morning This a Provincial Holiday for general Thanksgiving for bountiful Crops The day turned out very fine, There was Service in the forenoon in out Kirk Attended the funeral of Mr Robert Rae, Crockery Merchant aged 36. Sir John A Mcdonald Government resigned to day

### **Friday 7**

Fine morning, ice on the dam the day turned out mild, The appointment of the New Ministry at Ottawa was conformed by his Excellency

### **Saturday 8**

Of any thing a wet drizzling morning but mild The monetary affairs in the States are not at all mending, but on the contrary a great number of Cotton Mills, from Works, Locomotive Works &c are being stopt. and a great many thousand men are out of work,

### **November Monday 10 1873**

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### **Tuesday 11**

This was an ordinary winter morning very little snow on the Ground, but very unsettled. I went up to Goldie's Dam this forenoon & found them putting in the last of the struts to support the apron, which overhangs the wall, and is about to be covered with Plank Began to snow hard this evening and blew very cold

### **Wednesday 12**

There was a considerable lot of snow on the ground this morning I went down to Hespeler and thence to P. Idington to see Walter who is confined to bed & has been very ill but is of any thing mending now.

### **November Thursday 13 1873**

{Blank}

### **Friday 14**

This was a very cold morning for this time of the year at 1/2 past 6 the glass stood at zero and continued cold all day Peter Idington here & got Gutheries opinion in Worsleys Will which did not amount to much We also got the wit of all the mortgages with dates &c Boys are skating on the Dam which is of anything too soon

### **Saturday 15**

It was not quite so cold this morning, the snow still laying on the ground The day begins to look fine. which was only for a little while, & then got dull.

### **November Monday 17 1873**

This is a dull morning, the Glass 2 or 3 degrees above freezing, Church meeting to day at 2 pm.

### **Tuesday 18**

This is a fine moderate day The men are putting on the Galvanized iron on the Deck roof of St Andrews school houses Organ Gallery, Mrs Worsley & Maggie Logan left by the 1 o'clock train for Hamilton. Higinbotham left for Quebec at 1/2 past 5 this afternoon. Mr Massie goes also as far as Montreal Mr Mornis of the Ontario Bank as far as Brockville John Allan started for Enotsville about the wood &c

### **Wednesday 19**

This is a cold, dear morning Putting on a peice of sheet coppar on Mash tun to day where a hole had broken through, light frost just now and a light flurry of snow falling,

### **November Thursday 20 1873**

This is a fine winter morning, & think of going to Toronto I took the early train for Toronto to get the large Steam Pipe conducting the Steam into the lower still altered at Booths I got it begun to at once,

The city is somewhat dull, although the weather is unfavourable yet they were building at the New Custom House setting heavy corner stones & c and building brick work also, and in other places in Town also got home at 1/2 past 8, pm,

### **Friday 21**

This is a moderate morning and of any thing and likely to be a thaw Heavy loss likely to be sustained if no thaw come as the Erie Cannal in frozen up and hundreds of loaded boats froze up, they will extend over 8 miles in length. Began to Mash 80 Bushels to day after standing a considerable time

### **Saturday 22**

This is another fine winter morning Goldie is finishing the top of his dam with gravel, brought round from the bottom of the river behind the Dam,

### **November Monday 24 1873**

A fall of Snow of about 3 inches fell during the night, and may assist the sleighing to day Our teams and off to Enotsville to have out a quantity of square Elm timbers on to the road Have a discusion in the Bank of Comerce with W Keurp the Inspector about increase of line of discount - Higinbotham came home from Quebec about 7,p.m the train being 8 hours late The teams did not get home till late & had to leave a log on the road

### **Tuesday 25**

There has been another fall of snow during the night, and it froze hard also, We began to run beer in the distillery to day The sleighing is much improved The water wheel of the Mill is getting out of order, the inside lining getting loose

### **Wednesday 26**

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### **November Thursday 27 1873**

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### **Friday 28**

This was a very moderate morning, there had been a light fall of snow. I went down to Galt by the early train to arrange about getting up 2 men from Goldie McCallouch & Co to fit up a rolling screen

for cleaning the Brass in the Steam Mill, one man is likely to come on Monday I saw a good many new improvements, in stave cutters, shingle machines, Bolt screwing machines & c The saw making works, have begun to work and are cutting out plates,

### **Saturday 29**

There is more snow this morning again so that we have very fine sleighing now.

### **December Monday 1 1873**

Snowing this morning, and thick and foggy weather. We drew off the water of the race to day for the purpose of repairing the water wheel

### **Tuesday 2**

Thawing fast and began to rain very wet and slushey under feet to day, all in a pulp to day and the good sleighing going fast Rained fast in coming from the Prayer meeting at C Davidsons

### **Wednesday 3**

Ranney wet morning and thawing very fast This is out Fair Day, yet I went up to Berlin thence to Waterloo Villiage to see the Coppersmiths at Randalls Distillery as to the cause of the loss sustained in the column still. But found no experienced hands there, & their own still is in bad order. They are fitting up their new column still which is nine (9) feet in circumference, and 7 double chambers of 3 feet high each, and the goose tub & worm very high up in the roof {There is a small sketch in the middle of the page, likely of the column still being written about on the page. The words of the diary wrap around the sketch, implying he likely drew it on the page before writing his entry} It has rained heavy all day & to night also,

### **December Thursday 4 1873**

Blowing hard this morning, and the wind was very high all night, and cannot remember of ever, hearing the wind so loud and strong as it was during last night, a good many roofs were blown off, fences down, 20 feet of the roof of the gass works, The {iron; written above text as an addition} smoke stalk of John McCreas Tannery down & all in pieces. The water in Smiths Creek rose so rapidly and overflowed the banks and carried away the dam at Hamburg Had a meeting Insurance Director to day, Have got the water wheel nearly finished James Dowrie, out Distillers Barn roof was stripped off William went to Hamilton this morning

### **Friday 5**



The roads were quite dry this morning, and hard frozen, a very great change from what it was yesterday and the day before The papers teams with the destruction of Property for many miles from Kingston all the way to London and Chatham, There was not the least thing disturbed about my Property, We did not get the wheel finished yet, the flume along side the Steam Mill had to be close lined with inch boards on both sides & filleted at the bottom edge,

### **Saturday 6**

Hard frost this morning, began to raise the outer end of the water wheel, and got a 12 feet board 12 inches broad plained down to 1/4 of an inch and put 3 peices of it under the head block, which will keep the wheel free from rubbing on the Bottom The Steam Engine is going but we cannot pump any water to the Grand Trunk on account of all the water being out of the flume, and the Company would not go to the expense of putting in pipes to the well We shut down the {lower; written above text as an addition} gates and raised the head gates and filler the race & tried the Pumps but found the pipes were frozen & would not work to our satisfaction

### **December Monday 8 1873**

This is a mild morning, and misty and looks like rain & we are now fitting on the Steam pipes on the top of the Boiler to thaw the Grand Trunk pipe But previous to starting the Steam on, we tested the pumps again with the wheel and got the to work and throw a copious stream, Making a proof trial with the column still to day again, 2 men came up from Galt at noon to day but say they will not begin to work until tomorrow morning Wet and misty all day and fine rain The last train from Toronto was not in till after 10 Oclock owing to the think fogg that they could not see the signals

### **Tuesday 9**

This is a wet morning, the rain is fine and close, the men from Galt began to work this morning It was wet weather part of the fore and afternoon Mr Shearson was here from Chicago

### **Wednesday 10**

This is a frosty morning, the sky quite dull, the ground hard, this is Fat Cattle show day.

### **December Thursday 11 1873**

Dark dull morning, and continued so most of the day with fine rain. Peter Idington came up to day. Quarter Sessions are sitting just now, Keying on a new mitre wheel on on the angular upright haft that drives the Elevators and conveyars Peter Idington here this afternoon, & leavs for Stratford at 6 oclock

## **Friday 12**

This is another changeable morning light coating of Snow falling on soft ground, at 10 O'clock began to rain. John went down to Galt this morning to look after Bolting cloth for New Reels & c and returned at 12 O'clock It began to snow pretty steady in the afternoon and continued on and at 9 O'clock came on heavy,

## **Saturday 13**

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## **December Monday 15 1873**

This was a fine morning, but a little fogg indicating a thaw, about the middle of the day it became soft. Had meeting of the Director of the Wellington Mutual with the view of a General meeting for the Election of new Ones But the late Act requires such Elections to take place within 2 months after the 1st of Jany in each year, therefor we had to pass a By=law postponing it till the 1st Tuesday in Feby next. Saully Glass started this afternoon

## **Tuesday 16**

Think fogg this morning also, it thawed a good deal during the middle of the day, but the sleighing is good yet. We got in the New Smutt machine from the station this forenoon, it only arrived last night there. Have got up all the framing conveyors & op into the Steam Mill

## **Wednesday 17**

This is a very fine clear morning, the frost by the glass is 14° above zero The men have got pretty well advanced with the new Reel

## **December Thursday 18 1873**

Fine clear morning, and no thaw Revd Mr Bain of Scarboro started home this morning at 8.10 a.m. (sharp.)

## **Friday 19**

[Blank]

## **Saturday 20**

[Blank]

### **December Monday 22 1873**

This is a fine clear morning, the frost about 18° above zero A considerable quantity of Wheat comming in, at \$1.12 to \$1.14 for Spring, to \$1.20 to \$1.22 for fall

### **Tuesday 23**

Fine morning, Thermometer at 7 am 10° above zero weather clear and bright a great many teams in with wheat, at \$1.13 u\$1.14 for Spring to \$1.20 for fall, Alexr Glass re{th?} this morning from Bellville I attended funeral of G.B Frazers, son 11 years & 2 mos old named Charles Edward Have got in the enlarged drum for the Smutt Machine this afternoon The Galt Millwright Thos McDougald & Olive Smith says that Eureka has an excellent separator but it is not such a good scourer as the Trimmer Machine Bazar for the Benifit of N.M.C Association Began today A great meany in teams in the market today

### **Wednesday 24**

This is a very fine morning The market is quite throng to day also and the display of Butcher meat in the Halls is very splendid The Smutt Machine was started this afternoon and so far seems to clean the wheat both fast and very well T.C.Chisholm is missing is N York Wm Hamilton & Sons of Toronto Engine Works has failed, and several hundred men thrown out of employment

### **December Thursday 25 1873**

This is a fine moderate morning, and the little snow that fell last night will help the sleighing a lilltle Bother, Mill & Distillery are working today,

### **Friday 26**

This was another moderate morning, glass at 7 a.m. about 30°, about 2 oclock it began to snow, it was soft and wet I went to attend the Funeral of old Mrs Hugh McDonald aged 88 years 9 months who came to Guelph in 1833. Mr Romain has returned from New York, and jave given up all hopes of finding the body of Mr T.C. Chisholm, his son in law.

### **Saturday 27**

Ordinary winter morning The Galt millwrights got through with their work and left at noon

### **December Monday 29 1873**

This was a blustering morning, snowing & blowing, and it blew very hard throughout the night  
Nomination day, John Harris & Robt Melvin proposed for Mayor, Fred Chadwick for Reeve also  
Howard, Snow falling most of the afternoon Got a Keg of butter tonight from Haddens, containing  
107 lbs of butter for the mens use at

### **Tuesday 30**

This morning is more calm, but somewhat harden frost A great many teams in with wheat also a  
good many sleighs in with Hogs for sale and the price is getting up, the highest to about \$5.30 Have  
been making bins in the Mill for the tailing and chicken feed to fall into Mackenzie and the Excise  
officer Campbell have benn busey these two days past in taking stock in the Mill

### **Wednesday 31**

This has been a very fine winter day and the market was pretty throng with wheat wool and pork The  
beer pump in the distillery broke out at the upper branch They have begun to take stock in the  
distillery, and they are sure to finish it to night

### **Thursday 1st January 1874** {the 1874 section of the diary is had written in the latter part of the diary}

This is a very fine mild morning And as the day advances it proves finer still it is quite a thaw and  
ground wet under foot, all the works are standing as usual on a New Years day and we have a great  
many callers or visiter

{this entry is in place of January 2 but is not noted} This is another mild morning and the roads  
slushey and wet And a good many teams in with wheat Vincent began to day to finish of some 800  
or 900 gallons of Ginger wine that he had prepared the ingredients for Proclamation is published of  
the Desolation of the Dominion Parliament

{Entry written in Place of January 3} Quite a thaw this morning and a thick fog As the day advances  
it becomes much milder and the water running swift in the gutters and all over the streets This has  
been a very mild winter I may say since the beginning of Doer and have had none like it for several  
years, Vincent still at the wine The writs for a new Election of members for the Dominion Parliament  
are out to day. Had a telegram from Fred K Adams that he will leave N York this evening at 8.

### **Monday 5th Jany 1874** {hand written dates continue}

Yesterday was a very mild day and quite a glow of heat was felt when we went to church and the  
water running in the gutter & the streets quite slopy, in the afternoon it began to blow and increased  
to a gale, and began to rain & continued till about 5 oclock about 6 than began to snow, then sleet, &  
the wind blowing hard from the N.West This morning the ground is hard and freezing, 25° The water

in the river is about a foot deep over the dam, Great excitement in Town at the Election of Mayor and Reeves & Councillors Mr Fredrick Adams arrived this afternoon more Cattle came in this evening,

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>** {hand written}

There is a great change this morning hard frost 20° at 7 o'clock a little snow had fallen between 8 & 9 o'clock a shower of snow came on & once more covered the ground with white Ordered from 25 to 30 pigs with next load of cattle to weight from 75 lbs to 150 a \$5 per 100lbs live weight

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>** {this page of the diary has entries written one after another forgoing the organized spacing typical of the rest of the diary}

The snow still laying but the softness of the day will back it as it was very loose before and it is now tawing, with light rain about 3 o'clock it began to rain heavier and continued on till late, This was a Fair day but not much done

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>**

The snow is being covered with a coat of frozen ice, and it is very slippery, the icy rain still falling and covering posts, trees Telegraph wires &c

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>**

A little past this morning but as the day advanced it became milder and appeared as if there was to be a general thaw. But in the afternoon it began to snow & increased as night came on, The Telegraph wires appear to be broken down for hundreds of miles round by the weight of ice can neither send a message to Montreal or N York today

**Date. CASH ACCOUNT-JANUARY Recd. Paid.**

**1874 Jan 10<sup>th</sup>** {these entries have now reached the Cash Accounts at the back of the diary}

This is a mild morning just 1 or degrees below freezing at 7 o'clock, the snow still laying that fell last night, wheat has begun to come early morning,

**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

This was a very fine day

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup>.**

This was quite a mild morning and a large market

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>**

This was a very cold morning at 7 o'clock The Thermometer stood below zero. and became mild as the day advanced in the afternoon it began to snow. and continued till 9 o'clock

### **Wednesday 14th**

This is a fine clear morning, and all the snow that fell last night is only about 2 inches deep.

### **Thursday**

[Blank]

### **Friday**

[Blank]

### **Saturday**

cold this morning at 7 o'clock it stood at zero

### **Date CASH ACCOUNT-FEBRUARY Recd. Paid.**

### **Monday 19th Jany**

Wet morning, heavy rain fell during the early morning, and this morning a fine rain is falling, & showers of sleet through the afternoon and the street quite slushy with the thaw but at evening it began to freeze, Henry left this morning for Hamilton with a sleigh load of whisky.

### **Tuesday 20th**

This is colder morning at 1/2 past 7, the glass stood at 5° above zero & quite different from the mild weather of yesterday & towards the afternoon it was blowing and freezing quite cold, we started the new store in the Rectifying room this afternoon

### **Wednesday 21st**

There had fallen a considerable coating of snow through the night, but this morning was quite mild, with a strong sign of a thaw\_ it came on {arrowed in} to be very mild as the day advanced, and very slushy in the afternoon. I have been engaged to day cutting up 6 pigs for the House Wm, wife Miss Grant & Mrs Higinbotham went down to Fishers Mills - got in to day all the staves for the new still into the shop to get them dressed

### **Thursday 22**

This in a dark wet morning so that I thought the clocks had got wrong at 7 it was raining heavy and very slippery, the snow is washing away very fast, and begin to have fears about getting in enough of firewood It rained in the afternoon also.

### **Friday 23**

It must have rained through the night as the water in the river is very high, at the Mill race head gates the water was half way up on the rich beam across the race inside of the rack or grating, and we had to hoist One or the Bottom flood gates as the water was coming in to the lower floor of the Mill

### **Saturday 24th.**

This has been a very cold stormy day with frequent shows of snow, and freezing all the time, which begins to show a falling in the river. Maggie & Mary went up to Alna this evening John returned from London, this afternoon Hou Samuel Mills died to day aged 67

<b>Date</b>	<b>CASH ACCOUNT-MARCH</b>	<b>Recd.</b>	<b>Paid</b>
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### **Monday 26th Jany, 1874.**

This is a cold morning & like yesterday about 10° above zero, the snow that fell on Saturday helps to make fair sleighing. Began on Saturday to dress the staves for the new chamber still, 24 feet long-. Have had all the old rectifiers in the distillery down on their place pattens on new button hoops & others where required Also agreed for a Brush Machine for the smutt Machine, went out to look at a drove of pigs this evening.

### **Tuesday morning 27th**

This is with a mild morning glass at 36° at 1/2 past 10 it began to rain & continued for some time & then sleet coupiously.

### **Wednesday 28th**

This was a mild morning and quite soft, but by 10 oclock the wind veered round to the North and there it began to freeze, and became very cold I cut up 2 more pigs this afternoon about 150 lbs each,

**For more information on David Allan, check out the “Meet the Diarists” page under “Discover” on our website: [ruraldiaries.lib.uoguelph.ca](http://ruraldiaries.lib.uoguelph.ca)**