

Thursday November 11th

I rained a little during the night so I thought it would be a little wet to husk corn so spent the morning working in front of the house. I am going to take the sod all off in front of the dining room window where the rhubarb bed was and put it down by the road where the grass doesn't grow then I want to dig the other up and put some flowers in and train a grape vine across in front of it from the corner of the house to the plow orchard fence. Neil Elliot came in about ten o'clock and I went back with him to look at the steers and see Dad about buying. Dread nought he said he would give \$40 for him and Dad said he'd take it. I asked him \$25 for Mully & the steer but he said the steer was only worth forty and Mully seventy five. But he came up five dollars on Mully & then two & a half so I thought I wouldn't stick for two & a half and let them go. And to night I wrote to two men who advertising dull purpose short horns in the Farmer's Advocate. This afternoon I went out to husk a little more corn but didn't get much done when it began to rain so I came in. Mr. Peterburg the historical man was here, he wanted to know the way to get to Tommy Jackson's and I told him

the shortest way was to go up the creek and he said as it was raining so he wouldn't go to day, he wanted to see if Tommy would donate an old axe that old stringer had of his to their museum. He brought over the book telling of the travels of the French exploring party and which was originally written by one of two French priests who were with the party. It was written in French & English both and there was an old map which they had drawn of their voyage, it was pretty crude but still wonderfully correct when they had only the whole line to go by. It gave a great description of this country where they wintered and called it the "earthly paradise of Canada." There were also a couple of pictures in the book of Black Creek and the spot where their camp stood, it was altogether a most interesting book but Frank had to take it back to Phelps's office in the morning. I didn't do much this afternoon but gave the names of my different plots of wheat on some stakes for labels. Enah started to read the history book to night but we all went to sleep in spite of it being so interesting.

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I spent all the morning working out in front and got nearly all the sod taken off and put down by the road. This afternoon I went out and put the label stakes in my wheat plots