

orchard as Dad. wanted to pay George for the rails but he didn't see anything of him around outside he didn't go in as he was afraid he might see old Bill and not be able to get away from him for the rest of the day. This afternoon we didn't do anything much for an hour or so after dinner Dad. had a snooze and I read chunks of Charles O'Malley then we went out and started to clean up the calf pen but didn't finish the job before it was time to do chores. Colin Rysie was up here about six o'clock on his black mare to go to Simcoe with me. I wasn't quite ready so we didn't get started till nearly half past six and although we didn't ride at all hard we got there about half past seven and we were home much earlier we decided that riding was the ideal way to go. We had rifle practice again and I made five more points than I did last time I hit the bull once. The first shot I had I blazed away at a hole in the wall in stead of the target but I got another shot Dad. Smythe was there to night. It has been a pretty cold wind all day and looked very much like rain this afternoon and to night but didn't. Lovely night and Frank went down to church to night.

Thursday March 25th

It rained most of the day to day so we couldn't do much outside

Dad and I spent a large part of the morning trying to take a nut off a bolt in the oven damper of the old stove we got from Cousin Bessie. but all our efforts were in vain for although we soaked it in coal oil and heated it and had all manner of instruments from a flat rasp to Dad's equine dental forceps we could not budge it so we left it. we put the sleighs away however over in the big barn. This afternoon I sat around and read for quite awhile and about four o'clock drove down town to get some household supplies. There was a great trial going on this afternoon between Sam Jacques and Nicolas the new hotel keeper over a bottle of whiskey which Sam got hold of a couple of weeks ago. I went up for a few minutes but the place was packed and it was rather late so I didn't stay long. Frank was up there and when I left said he hoped he wouldn't come home just yet but we were rather surprised and Dad. very much annoyed when he didn't turn up till about eight o'clock. He had stayed till the thing was over but he said they couldn't come to any decision. It was much colder to night.

Friday March 26th

Frank didn't go to school this morning and he and Dad. went over in the wagon to help John Wess load his engine & saw and bring it over. They got back about eleven with the saw but