

Irene Dixon Bamford 1897-1898, Diary Transcription

5034_4-1-7

Metadata

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[File folder containing originals]

IRENE DIXON BAMFORD

DIARY 1897-1898

[stamp]

Queen's University Archives

Locator 5034-4

2

B-read

1897 - 1898

4

Mrs wells Bamford

with L.Watson

Kingston

Public School Scribbler

[stamp]

1987 &

1898

[imprint of unidentified school possibly Grant Hall Queens U]

Manufactured by

McAuley, Cit Book Store

136 Princess Street, Kingston

5

Grace H Bamford
St Lawrence
PO Wolfe
Island
Ontario
[random scribblings]

7

My dear Papa

I received your

letter some time ago and was grieved and shocked to hear of poor dear Gordons death.

I'm sorry for dear Aunt Mamie and Grandma too and aunt Helen but he is in Heaven now with his father. I can never forget the last time

I was there and what a pleasant time we had playing games. Marjorie went with me once.

We will see him again some time in that beautiful summer land where there will be no snow or pneumonia. what will poor aunt Mamie ever do but grandma says the Lord can heal her broken heart. Uncle Wells came home on Christmas day like a big Christmas

present to us all. Martin came home a week earlier. Martin brought me as a present a

beautiful celluloid work box with thimble cissor [sic] &c complete and presents for Grace, Volty and Grandma. Edna Quinn at Christmas time

gave me a moroco case for holding letter paper, envelopes, pen holder, blotting pad &c all fill Nelly Guy sent me a flower pot holder.

Grace gave me books and other things and we had a Christmas dinner and

Wells came. Miss Gordon is our new teacher.

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I have not been to school since she began teaching, but am going Monday. The weather has been so rough and the walking muddy [sic] beside. I helped Grace, for Grandma fell and sprained her ankle two weeks ago. and she cannot step on it. The river is free from ice on our shore but Volty and Wallace Niles walked across down by Mr Horns, day before yesterday on form ice but the ice is gone now. My health is good. I never was so fat as now. How is your health and what made you sick when you last wrote and are you teaching and how are Benny & Willie dear little brothers and Ma. Give my love to them all and Dear Grandma and grandma Craig and family.
From your loving daughter
Maude L. Watson

Friday 21st Jan 1898

A soft drizzly day. Grace done big washing and hung it all on the line. V carried Rattrays coal home. [letters from Mrs Watson saying his mother on going to bed I slipped and hurt my ankle some ached after going to bed.

Saturday 22nd Jan 1898

A cloudy soft day quiet. I'm sitting by the stove yet. Grace finished washing clothes and moped kitchen floor. Mrs Morgan and Mrs Souve came with Geo Morgan to get a sleigh tongue fixed stayed till dark. Voltie ate a hasty little supper and walked to Morgans to go with Jimmis to Marysville to band practice. Wells Sr brought in the clothes from the line. Wallace here and after supper they went (Mart & Wall) to W Burnhams to see Miss Scott & Fanny McLocklin.

Mart came in very carefully at 11 a.m. Shell here for Mart & Maud to go skating with herself & Wallace and Jack Jr. Maud came in with her dress wet behind where she had fallen on the ice several times.

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Thursday 27 Jan 1898

A clear cold day clouds toward night for a storm. Leonard Staley stayed over night. Grace went to Kingston with Leonard after dinner to get more cloth for her dress & coming back to villiage and going from there with the load to Mores to a band concert and dance. grows colder towards night but V & Will D hitch up and drive to Morgans. Mrs Niles, Shelly & Wallace come here and Mart, Maud & Edna go skating while Mrs N and me visit.

Friday 28th Jan 1898

An extremely cold morning. Volty came [illegible] 4 oclock pm. Mart

Sunday 23rd Jan 1898

Rained and snowed nearly all last night. Volty didn't come home till to day at 1/2 past one pm. V and Jim stoped at Charlies and stayed all night. A soft warm day a quiet peaceful day. V and Mart gone up stairs to bed. Grace lying on lounge asleep cloudy half snow half rain. Maud reading. The dogs are sleeping too. Wells Sr sits by coal stove reading and looking out the window at the weather.

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Friday 21st Jan 1898

A soft drizzly day. Grace done
big washing and hung it all on the line.
V carried Rattrays coal home. letters
from Mrs Watson saying his mother
on going to bed I slipped and hurt my
ankle some ached after going to bed.

Saturday 22nd Jan 1898

A cloudy soft day quiet. I'm sitting by
stove yet. Grace finished [illegible]

Monday 24 January 1898

Colder this morning

& freezing. V butchered a beef cow very fat &
killed 12 roosters. Grace & Mart dressed them for
Market. Will and Wells Jr helped Volty. I finished
the rug. Grace made fried cakes, and baked bread.
Volty went to Wellies for team and stayed to
supper, came back and went down to Franks
to blow horn.

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Saturday 29th Jan 1898

A very cold day. Bucks baby is dead.
Frank Woodman is sick sent for doctor B.
Mrs & Mr Woodman there got measles or
scurvy all broke out. Grace cooking and
doing Saturdays work. Edna dressing Muriels
doll. Volty cut holes in ice and bushed
out a road to Lindas Island. Will Dixon
and Volty drove to Marysville to band practice,
drove up and back on ice. Lizzie did not
come courting on Monday. V carried Frank
apple jelly, pickles and catsup.

Sunday 30 Jan 1898

Wm & V came at 2 am. Will very cold
warmed himself before going home.
A clear bright day and cold. Wells Sr goes
to Wells Jr to make a visit and carried the
doll to Muriel came back and called to
see Frank and visited awhile with Samy &
Ruth. The Mores party had no fiddler but
the turkey and hams didn't spoil.
Henry down to Niles courting

Monday Lizzie came this morning
through the storm covered with snow.
Grace cooking. Edna & Lizzie cutting and
sewing. Wells Sr shoveling coal in the stove
till it is hot as an oven. Mart whistling and
Grace te heing. Frank better no measles
only scurvy eating musty pork.

1st February Tuesday 1898

An old fashioned snow storm. The dress
is finished and Mart has taken Lizzie home.
Henry is down don't think he went home since
Sunday, if storms like this tomorrow the ball
will be minus a few dancers from here.

Wednesday 2nd Feb 1898

A very cold day. V & M & Jr
go to [Lindas Island|Linday Island]] [sic] for wood drive double team on ice
& at two leave for the villiage in sleigh driving Dan
and Dick. Edna mops and then she and Grace get
supper. I can step on my foot by using a cane.
Old Mrs Gillespie no better. A quiet peace full evening.
Wells Sr telling stories of burried money being found by dreams.
Edna reading Queenie Hetherton. Maud reading Swiss
family Robinson.

Thursday 3rd Feb 1898

A very cold bright morning morning [sic].
Our dancers came at 7 am cold tired &
hungry and had had both horses through the
ice just up by Elly Woodmans. Grace
dress around bottom frozen they were not
in long. Volty and Mart fished them out. Then
got Elly out to put a bush to the hole. They
come just in time for breakfast. V and M with
pant legs frozen stiff to their knees. Grace gone to
bed. Mart gone to bed. Volty in blacksmith shop
shoeing horses.

Friday 4 Feb 1898

A cold day but warmer than
yesterday. The weather divided between sunshine
and snow storm. Nothing particular occurs
to day. Ethel D here came over with Will &
Charley. We persuaded Will to let her stay
awhile. Will has a very good horse and an
old cutter and he can now get all his wood
and drive the children to school.
Rev Diggs gone down to see old Mrs Gillespie.

Saturday 5 Feb 1898

A stormy day of snow. Wellie
and V gone to Kingston in sleigh carried
beef and potatoes to market. Rachel and Will
drove to Kingston in V's cutter gone for groceries.

Mart doing Wellie's chores and ours. Mart does a great deal of whistling & Edna a great deal of humming which is somewhat distracting and annoying when so long continued. Wills' horse ran away but done no damage. Rachel and Will rode home with Welly. Welly brought our grist and two bags of coal. V stoped at the practice and came home in cutter at 2 a.m. [Welly|Wellie]] brought back V's bay. Charley W sorry to have it.

Sunday 6th February 1898

A brilliant cloudless day a heavy fall of snow on the earth, dazlingly white everywhere. The monotonous whistling still going on at short intervals. Will and Charley, Voltie, Grace, Edna & Maud are sitting around the kitchen stove te heing as usual. Mart stops just long enough to whistle.

7th Feb 1898 Monday.

Grace does big washing. I wash a few clothes. A good day for hanging out clothes. Father goes to Clayton to see about selling the Island but fails to make a bargain: gets 55 yds factory cloth, 34 print, 9 yds husk ticking and 5 lb batten, comes home early. A harness pedler stays all night. V and Jr and Mart bring wood from the Island in the evening. The whole company go to the oyster supper at William G's. V & GD & Edna & Mart and JohnNiles Jr and Em Morgan rides up home

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Tuesday 8th February 1898

Came home at 2 O'clock

Grace finished washing

Wells bought a new harness, traded an old one for it. Forgot to say Joe Baker was here yesterday peddling tea, bed springs and mattresses, and wall paper.

Volty got a severe cold but draws wood from Lindas Island. Frank came for V to go to the villiage to the band practice waited till dark ate supper here: V came but such a bad cold and need of rest stayed at home. Frank went up alone.

Wednesday 9 Feb 1898

A soft warm morning; rains

No wood to day from the island. Volty and Wallace Niles go up to Kingston start at 2 pm come back and stop at Garden island to the bad concert. At 4 pm another load leaves the door. Grace, Edna, Hattie Joslin, Will Dixon, Mart & Will Robertson, Frank gone up with Jim Morgan and the house is lonesome and quiet once more

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Thursday 10 February

A soft warm morning, fog so thick cant see the barn. Charley Woodman gone to Kingston started at 6 am. Wells Sr came in from barn says they are coming for I hear Mart whistling, they came at 7 am. Wallace drunk, came home with them, think the boys had all been drinking. They drove to Franks where they deposited Wallace till he sobers up. Hattie went to bed, slept till dinner time. Mart went to bed after sitting around with his head hanging down on his shirt front, pipe bottom side up in his mouth, eyes read as coals which speaks bad for Martin: Grace and Edna sitting up to make Graces' masquerade dress for tomorrow evening but after dinner tired nature asserts itself and they both tumble fast asleep and I drive them both to bed. Edna didnt sleep long but was out in short time and sewing again. Grace laid till nearly supper time, after supper the girls sewed till 10 pm. Poor dear little Edna the best child living. Volty went to Kingston for a masquerade suit did not get any going again early tomorrow morning.

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Friday 11 February 1898

A warm morning, a slight freeze last night. Grace and Volty start at 1/2 past nine am for the villiage. Volty going to Kingston again. Grace going to stop with Belle till time to go to the masquerade. Welly came up gave him eggs. Very quiet after they are gone. Mart works on the ice boat. Edna makes her dress waist. Evening mail Whig &c. Go to bed wind blowing a gale from South at bed time snow fast disapearing.

Saturday 12 Feb 1898

A rainy muddy nasty morning with fog: river ice looks dark and dangerous. Volty and Grace come at 1/2 past 7 well pleased with the masquerade. Old Mrs Hitchcock danced with short dress and red stockings. Perhaps she wants to marry. V and Grace sleep awhile. tried to churn cream no good butter wont gather. Send to Niles and buy 25 cents in butter. Tried a few cakes without sugar, work on rugs &c. Wallace & Geo call here on their way to Franks to make an evening visit. The ground

is as bare of snow as April.

Sunday 13th February 1898

A brilliantly beautiful day

like paradise. Earth nearly bare of snow

yet there is driving on ice. Edna, Maud & Martin go

to church. Charley & Henry drive down here

bringing Irene with them to stay awhile.

Henry & Charley here to dinner. Shelly & Miss Gordon

make us a long call. Charley goes at 3 pm

taking Grace & Martin with him. Grace

enroute for Nelly Guy's Valentine Party

tomorrow evening. Shelly & Miss Gordon go at the

same time for Miss Scott is at J Niles.

Edna, Irene, and Maud are gone out walking

perhaps gone to Wellies. Voltie gone upstairs to

bed. Sr out to the barn. IreneSr alone remains

in full possession of the house if we dont count

the dogs. 4 pm growing cloudy: looks like a

rainy time again. How very quiet still & lonesome

the house is with only Tiny lying under the table fast

asleep. Not so much as the buzzing of a fly to

disturb the stillness only the tick tick of the

clock as the hours creep along towards nightfall.

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Monday 14 February 1898

A breezy morning wind South. Froze a little last night sunlight over all the earth but not brilliant, ground bare with a patch or blotch of dirty snow here and there. Arose at 1/2 past six, got breakfast, very tiresome work. Maude and Irene noisy and but then Maud swept dining room and kitchen. Volty & his father working in the shop. I mixed biscuits and bread, scoured, churn, cooked beans. Evening Volty goes to Franks to practice; Jim Morgan followed on after calling for Volty. Will there also.

Tuesday 15 February 1898

A threatenng morning, looks like rain or snow. Wells Sr after waiting awhile for Wells Jr starts for Kingston with old Jim and cutter. Wind rising & about noon begins to snow fast & furiously & continues to storm all afternoon till bedtime followed by an all night storm of wind and snow. Will and Welly out with ice boat on river. Rachel came over for Grace to finish her dress skirt but Grace in Kingston. Will drove here for her at 5 pm. through a snow storm. Wells Sr came just after dark but not Grace

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Grace sent a postal threatning to come home
but the threat failed to keep. I am disapointed
but not surprised Perhaps it is all right. Only
for little Edna, work and house hold buisness [sic]
might suffer.

Wednesday 16 February 1898

A half stormy half sunshine morning
wind blowing snow flying. Edna moping
Volty working in shop.

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Friday 1898 February 18th

A soft warm cloudy morning raining a little. Welly came with a load of grain to get ground and after loading on V's potatoes for Cummings started for Kingston driving upon the ice. Charley & Will brought Rachel over here in cutter came again to get her dress made. Edna making it, gave her vinegar. Will drove for her taught her to crochet a block for a rug. Wellie came at dark bringing Grace with him, rode down on a load of coal and provender enveloped in her fathers mackintosh covered with ice from the falling rain. sent Maud & Irene to Niles for buttermilk but had none. Geo Darling here bought more tea.

Saturday 19 February 1898

A stormy morning of rain & snow. Sr made gain this morning about his horse blankets laying out doors all night wet. It is only his things that are destroyed he notices so he pitched into Volty for a row but Volty having a great command and control of his temper answered him coolly and rationally and reasonably as a good son ought to

but after all such foolish election of temper and authority on the part is very unwise in a man of his age towards his children or any one. Wind blowing nearly all day. Volty went to bay for kerosine. Edna and Maud out on ice boat with Will Dixon went as far as Morgans. In evening V went to Frank's to practice. Edna made Irene a night dress. Wellie and Volty partly filled the ice house, a party at Morgans this evening. Will and Jen there.

Sunday 20 February 1898

An icy rainy day
very quiet very pleasant a dark dreamy cloudy day.
Wells Sr cooking potatoes on stove for his callers Mr Sullivan and Miss Andrews from Morgans came down on ice boat

Monday 21st February 1898

A stormy morning and a stormy day of rain, ice & snow, trees and earth and buildings fences and everything covered heavy with a coat of ice. Wind North. Edna made my night dress. Grace done general house work. Irene played. Maud cleaned the lamps. Grandpa done as he pleased. Volty worked in shop and I finished a rug.

Tuesday 22 February 1898

Another stormy day snow falling fast, all day, Grace washing. Volty working in shop. Edna went through the storm to the post office. Irene learning to use crochet needle. Maud helping around. Grandad choring around and doing as he has a mind to. Irene Sr very lame to day, but helped get dinner. We have about ninety hens and get only from 3 to 6 eggs per day.

Wednesday 23rd February 1898

A snowy morning but soon clears up and the sun comes out once more. Wells Sr hitches up Jess and drives to Gananoque, drives behind Charles Woodman and Frank Woodman. They both come home early. Volty and Frank drive to Marysville and return at 12 midnight. Mart came home with them.

Thursday 24 February 1898

A stormy morning increasing in volume towards night. V & Jr sawing ice. Wellie slips in the ice hole. Volty fished him out. Wellie went home wet to his waist. He lost the long handled shovel in the hole. After dinner V tried to get it by grappling but couldnt

Grace cut and partly made her new print dress with Edna's help. Sr worked on his sled. In evening Jim Morgan drove here with his bugle enroute for Frank's. Volty went with him to Wills, found Will and Jen had driven down to see old Mrs Gillespie, then the two buglers drove to Franks.

Two beautiful brilliant sundogs either side of the sun proclaims another storm day (the sun shining out through storm clouds at 3 pm) dark clouds in south like thunder cloud in summer tme. We hull corn. Expected Charley & Belle but think storm prevented.

Friday 25 February 1898

A snowy morning, snow fallings so heavily can scarcely see uncle Samy's barn. Volty butchered 10 roosters for tomorrow market. Sr fixed the stove pipe. Earth completely covered with snow. Charley & Belle drove down home bringing the two youngest children with them. Carley leaves Belle & the little ones to visit and returns homeward accompanied by Rachel and Irene. The house in a hubbub from chicken picking and cooking. A letter from McDowell concerning the piano threatens to make trouble. Wish we never had seen the thing. Will & Charley here in eve & Morgan sleep on lounge. Bernard Morgan reports the death of bishop Cleary

Saturday 26 February 1898

Cloudy morning with some snow but very mild. Sun comes out about 10 am and is a lovely day after all the stormy ones. Volty and Grace start for Kingston at 7 am. Charley and Frank & Will Robinson go to the city. Several teams go up to day driving up on the ice. Will and Charley drove over here in their cutter after going home. Wills horse ran away, ran up the ice. Charley & Wills followed on and caught the horse and came driving back again in great state. Belle swept and cleaned floors. Maud washed dishes. Irene Sr cleaned pantry shelves. Mart brought water.

Sunday 27th 1898

A very fine day, froze last night after Grace & Edna and little Gracie drove up to Morgan's for sweet milk for Belle's baby. Volty drove across the river with Belle & baby Kathleen. V drove back after dinner at Mrs Gloyds. Wellie went across with him. They found no difficulty in crossing. Mart and Edna and Maud went to church. Edna went to English church with Will Robinson. Mart with Perley Burnham and then drove home with Perley and stayed till 10 pm after returning from

the other side drove up to Mahoneys stayed to supper and returned home at 11 pm.

Bernard here in afternoon went home long enough to do the chores then came back accompanied by Mabel for an evenings visit. Ethel here for sugar. Will R here but didn't stay a long time. Al Percy and wife over visiting at uncle Samy's.

Monday 28 February 1898 last day of month
A beautiful bright day cloudless. Earth spottersly [sic] white, warm in sunlight, froze last night. Maud at school, Grace washing Edna cooking & washing dishes. Irene darning stockings. Sr mending bags. V working in shop. Mart choring around. Little Gracie singing, Maggie de tows are in de tovey. Greenfield here again about the Rogers affair. Im sorry for Sr and for all of us & only for trust and forth in the Feud that never forsakes. I dont fear what the hand of mortal man can do. After washing the dinner dishes Edna walked to Wellies to stay all pm. V and FW gone up on the ice to the practice. This evening Grace & Martin gone to Willies.

Tuesday 1st March 1898

A fine day Bright clear and warm,
the ground beginning again to look bare.
Sr gone to Marysville for coal drove up on
the ice. After dinner V hitched up to go
over for Belle but instead drove to election
with Welly, afterwards drove across to [[Gloyd]]s
for Belle. Wellie going with him. Maud
walked to school and back at even'.
Sr came at sundown. Edna comenced
Maud's dress.

Wednesday 2nd March 1898

A beautiful day warm and bright.
Wells Sr drove to school with Maud and from
there went to Al Joslins, came back to dinner.
Mart & Voltie and to Al Joslins chopping bee.
Voltie drove to Wellies with Belle and the two
little ones, the baby got a cold. Wellie brought
Belle home at dark. Edy Bates moving his furniture
across the river to the corners. Ed going to
be married the 16th to Dory Gillespie. Grace
& Edna walked to Evelines and rode to
Al Joslins with Willie Robertson, a dance at
Al's girls stayed till eleven came home
with Dick Halliday.

Thursday 3rd March 1898

A beautiful day, warm. Baby got bad cold applied a poultice of pork and onions to the little lungs, gave her honey and goose oil. Wells Sr and Voltie gone to Kingston sent for emulsion of cod liver oil for Kathleen. Took care of of [sic] her while Belle and little Grace went over to see their Grandmother. Wells Sr came home at dusk having had a tooth pulled which continued to ache all evening. Voltie stayed at Villiage to band practice came down with Will D in cutter at 12 midnight, not much housework or any other kind done these days, visit confusion and play and cook the meals. Sr drove to school with Maude.

Friday 4 March 1898

A beautiful day bright & warm like May. Charley drove down for Belle bringing Rachel back again. Belle began early to gather her belongings in order to be ready for a departure for home. A rooster and honey and a basket of books and a bag of papers &c &c. wellies, sourkrout [sic] and mince meat, from home eggs, vinegar &c &c. A letter from Jess Reid from Seattle. A dance at Will's, G & E & M & Martin go came here at midnight, a poor affair no supper, all the Horns there. V didnt go only drove over with the girls

Saturday 5th March 1898

A fine day sun shining clear.

Wind S.W. Wells Sr gone to Rosier to pay the taxes on Linda's island. Voltie goes with him. Edna cleans up the parlor. Wells Jr gone to Kingston, drove up on ice. Grace cooking—forget what Maud done.

Sunday 6 March 1898

A very fine day warm cloudless.

Grace & Edna drive to Morgan's for butter, find Florence & Sullivan there just arrived. House not in good order. Came back. Edna, Maud & Martin go to church. Grace gets dinner—After dinner Grace goes up the Island with Will Robinson to Belles, comes back at 9 pm. After dinner Jim Morgan puts in his appearance. Then come Dave Mahoney, they all stay to supper. After supper, Frank Woodman comes and stays till bed time: at last all go home and we get settled in our beds once more sleeping the sleep of peace and contentment such is life. A lovely moonlight night

Monday 7 March 1898

A beautiful bright cloudless day
snow fast disappearing. Grace washing.

A tinker came and repaired the organ
worked at it all day till bed time.

Maud at school. Mart walked across
the river to Dodge' and from there went
to Cape and home before dark. Volty went
to villiage drove up on ice came back at 12
midnight, we put the tinker in the boys bed.

Mart slept on lounge. Volty had to stretch himself
as well as he could on the couch in parlor.

We have all got a cold in head or some kind
of distemper "Epigootic" Wells calls it. I
know my head and eyes ache badly.

Tuesday 8 March 1898

Grace & Edna put quilt on frames. A beautiful day which
is the 12th day of warm brilliant suny weather.

Edna drove to school with Maude. W Sr &
W Jr drove to Gananoque—went with cutter &
1 horse, started at 30 m past 7, arrived in Gananoque
at 9 am bought a horse and back here for
the mid day meal. I'm ever
to Belles—why is it always so

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Wednesday 9 March 1898

Another soft warm sun light
but rather hazy. Maud at school.
V preparing to go to the villiage to
the Presbyterian concert we are quilting.
Voltie and Edna tapped trees to day.
R came over for Ink, rode on sled
home. Wellie driving. V came home
at two am.

Thursday 10. A fair warm day, snow
nearly gone, no crossing, ice rotten with
the sun shining on it so long day after day.

We took the quilt off the frames.
Mart took 16 pans to Wellies they going
to tap Frank's maples, ground so soft
didnt tap. Will tapped Dignams maples.
Maud at School

Friday 11 March 1898

A fair warm day wind
East, ice full of holes, open up by Morgans.
Dev here for broad axe. Dev milking 7 now

cows we bound the quilt. Maud at home, roads all mud. V & M sawing wood. Grace, Maud and Edna sitting on the wood pile. Our cats all sick, have fits. beginning to rain towards night. Wind South, rained all night, ground bare. Volty & Mart husking corn. Put another quilt on frames and quilted in evening.

Saturday 12th March 1898

A dismal foggy day raining nearly all time, wind South. After breakfast Grace & Edna quilted, Maud and Irene washed dishes. no more maple syrup making this spring, frost nearly out the ground. After dinner Irene washed dishes. Maud cleaned floors, Grace and Edna quilted. Evening—Volty takes the horns & lanterns and goes to Franks through the fog. About two hours after Jim Morgan follows. J.M. stays all night at Franks. Wells reading in evening. Mart, Edna, Maud, Grace are reading in kitchen. So passes away another day never more to return.

Sunday 13 March 1898

A rainy morning ground bare, ice in river breaking up. Gulls flying down the river from the lake which foretells a gale of wind, warm South wind and rising. Channel open

Frank & Jim Morgan made us a call, didn't stay long. Will Robertson called in eve didn't stay long but Will R and Mart went to Will Dixon's where they had warm maple sugar. We went early to bed. The wind blowing half a gale dark and cloudy.

Monday 14 Marach 1898.

A clear bright morning wind S.W. hauling to S. river clear of ice from shore to shore, warm, Wellie here cleaning grain, Wells Sr fixes churn, Voltie cuts brush in the door yard. Grace & Edna quilt. Irene darning socks, Maude washed dishes and pares potatoes and makes a excusion to the cedars. I think if it is a good day tomorrow, Maude will attend school in evening. Grace, Maude & Edna go to Mrs Niles' to visit. Bamford Sr sends to N's to buy butter. They return at 1/2 past nine pm and bring some sweet apples and a borrowed spool of white thread, No 36-300 yd. Wm Robertson makes us an evening visit. Frank Woodman started the plow today.

Tuesday 15th March 1898

Wind N froze last night

clear and bright, ground bare, river rolling broad

and blue. Ed Bates came over to day, going to

be married tomorrow. The girls took the quilt off.

Sr, Mart & V trying to move the machine house

up to [this section quite redacted, indicated by #]

There is no # # #, # # #. There is no

#. poor # he is to

#. I suppose the # goes # with

them when they are in # #. such a # of

would bring a smile to the face of a stoic

Grace & Edna going to Evelines this p.m.

sap running well. Ebin Bates sick with

pneumonia. Will R, J Morgan, W Niles here this evening

Wednesday 16 March 1898

Wind blowing all night from

East raining this morning, it looks like a bad

morning the weding. clears up by 10 am

sun come out bright. Rev Dibbs drives

down through the mud and marries Eddy Bates

and Dora Gillespie: towards night

drives back again. Volty captured 8 ducks

(wild) cooked two for dinner had

maple syrup and biscuits. Finished moving

the machine house. Wallace here started out

~~Monday Sept 97~~

with Gun, going to serenade Edy but
 Mart with more sense wouldnt go so
 W stayed the eve and they all played some game
 at cards at which they all exploded with
 laughter similtainously [sic]. It began
 to lighten [sic] and thunder and Wallace went
 home. The other youngsters sat up and
 sugared off. It continued to thunder
 and lighten heavily nearly all night.
 We caught a tub of rain water.

Spring birds are merrily singing early this
 morning. Wells Jr came up for corn husks
 and brought us a nice piece of fresh pork.

Thursday 17 March 1898

A beautiful morning after
 last nights showers. The birds are singing
 this morning robins and wrens. Jim Morgan has
 a bee shingling the school house V gone
 to the bee. Martin carried E a few eggs.
 Edna making Graces wrapper we cooked
 the third last wild duck for dinner sowed
 tomatoe seeds to day. Volty came at sun
 set. V the only man at Jims bee. V ate dinner

at Morgans. Jim Morgan called here for V to go to Franks to practice their music. Jim stoped all night with Frank. V came home about eleven p.m.

Friday 18 March 1898

A clear rosy morning, warm, birds singing. The ground froze last night which makes the sap run again. Muriel came up with her dress and apron to stitch. Wellie & Voltie went to Geo Rattrays to get provender ground and V carried some corn to grind for Johny cake & came back to late for his dinner till we got him a dinner.

Wellie dined with Geo R. Hubert came for Muriel.

Grace gave them bread & butter & maple syrup. Edna, Maud, Harriet & Hubert went to the cemetary and found a pansy in bloom, (yellow) & left it there in peaceful solitude.

Beatrice is eleven years old to day. P.M. 4 Oclock cloudy & looks like rain again. Volty & Martin set a 2 fish nets. V & E & M gathered brush, carried it to shore & had a big fire after dark. G & M went to N for butter and to the post office.

Mrs Scott returned with them, sayed [sic] awhile, M went home with her. Frank W & J Morgan here also.

Easter day is always the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens upon or next after, March 21st & if the full moon happens on Sunday, Easter day is the Sunday after; so that by this arrangement Easter may come as early as March 22nd or as late as April 25

Saturday March 19th 1898

A cloudy morning and raining most of the day. V & Mart went to the nets, but got no fish. Mr N went to Kingston.

V repairing bellows. Wellie here. Flora here for yeast cake.

Frank Woodman here in evening. In the kitchen horn blowing expected Jimme but he came not.

Edna moped kitchen floor. Irene washed dishes and made scrap books. Edna & Maud picked a pansy from Charles Woodmans grave. A thunder & Lightning shower after dark. E & M went to Ns for the balance of butter 2 pounds.

Sunday March 20 1898

A half cloudy day, Wind S and blowing half a gale. Quiet, all are reading minds at peace with all created universe to quiet, to still which causes droziness.

Evening V, M. G & E. preparing to go calling on Mrs Dignam, when V comes in and reports a sick cow at the barn & after doctoring her awhile again prepare for the evenings visit, when who should walk in but FW, WR, and WN and when one youngsters are ready to depart, they invite our callers to accompany them, and two accepts but [Frank Woodman|F]] prefers staying away from Dignams, so remains and Sr entertains him with various tales & anecdotes

untill he goes home at 9 pm. Our night travelers return at 1/2 past eleven, hungry I think by the clattering I hear in the pantry and so ends the day.

Monday 21 March 1898

A very fine day

rather cloudy. V plowing down next Franks line fence. Irene counted the eggs 12 doz and after dinner Sr started in buggy with eggs driving up as far as Charleys going to stay all night and go across to Kingston tomorrow morning on steamboat. Martin has just returned from across the river where he had been to corners for letters for himself, he carried a letter from the Post to Windmill & ate dinner there. William Winmill sending Sr a letter. Flora here brought home yeast.

Mart and G go to Evelines for soap came back and after that they all dance in kitchen & N goes up in skiff to Marysville.

Tuesday 22 March 1898

A cloudy windy day South. Grace washing.

Volty plowing. Grace got sore throat. Mart choring around bringing water. Maud at home, E been here 8 weeks this day scuffling again in kitchen. M kicked E & hurt her didnt mean too of course but had to apply a mustard poutice at 12 midnight. Grace got a sore throat too. Sr came home after dark 7 pm

43

Found the roads very rough. Mrs Morgan requested to come down in buggy, but could not accomodate her brought milk pails for Welly & sugar, brought 10 yds toweling, 8 spools white thread and groceries, sold the eggs for 11 cts per doz at Bakers.

Wednesday 23 March 1898

A cloudy day after wind & rain all night, a quiet morning. Mart & Volty went the fish nets found no fish, wind sprung up and had to come home without bringing the net. V plowing with the new mare. She rather friskey before the plow with old Jim for pard. The te he ing going on in the kitchen again this afternoon. Mart making good bye calls at Will, Wellies & Franks. Maud, Volty and Edna gathering roots and barks for beer. E scraped the bark off and threw the bark in the stove thinking the wood was the part to make beer. The day cold bleak cloudy & cheerless. Wind North. Evening Mart goes home with Wallace to make a good bye visit.

Thursday 24th March 1898

Arose at 4 am got breakfast and V drives over to the dock with Mart & his father. Mart going to Chicago. W Sr

44

hires 25 dollars for Mart payable in three months.
V plows all day. Rachel comes over & stays
all day, froze last night. 3 pails of sap is
the result. Wells Sr bought a two wheeled Vehicle
& a tank for the shop store.

Friday 25 March 1898

A very fine Morning.

Froze last night more sap to day. V plowed
all day. Wells Sr drove out in his new dog cart
drawn by old Jim gone till 4 O'clock at the
foot of island. Misses Mable Morgan & Laura Sauve
honored with a visit, stayed till nine pm.

George came for them. Frank here too, sang
and played on piano. no letters only Whig.

Saturday 26 March 1898

looks like rain. V plows till 3 pm

then V & Frank start for Marysville dont
return till 2 am. cook and do Saturday's work.

Will didn't go. Jim wanted to go but no way to go.

Anne Horn, Hattie Joslin here. more sap, one perch
22 eggs.

Sunday 27th 1898

A cloudy day begins to rain toward
night. V and Edna go to the net but no fish, 28 eggs
Sr goes to Wellies. E and M go to church. Wellie here for
tack pullers.

1898 Continued from this page
in April - October 1898 book

Monday 28 March 1898

A rainy day and rained in the night.
Expected Lizzy but she didnt come.

Tuesday 29 March 1898

A chilly day after the rain to wet to plow. A
sugar party at A Joslins this evening. Maud and
Edna visiting at Evelines this afternoon. Volty set
out bushes. Grace washed. Wells Sr brought in the
clothes after dark, wind blowing hard.

Wednesday 30 March 1898

A very good day, dressed 3 roosters for
market. Lizzie Horn here sewing for Grace, walked
home at sunset. Volty and to Marysville.
Will goes up with Frank come home at 1/2 past 2 am.
Edna visits Shell. Maud visits at Wills. V plowed till starting
for Marysville.

Thursday 31 March 1898

A very good day
rather chilly. Wells Sr, Grace and Edna go to Kingston.
Maud and I worked all day. V plowed
they came home all right. Volty drove to the
dock for them in the evening. Jimmie came
and Volty went with him to Franks to practice where
they met. Will D, Mr and Mrs Woodman are keeper

46

Friday 8 Oct 1898

A windy day from South. R here washing all day. Flora and Maud went in garden and picked nearly all the tomatoes for Wills folks and the rest are nearly destroyed by the hens.

Saturday 9th October 1897

A very cool day in am. pm warmer.

Voltie & Grace finished digging potatoes in the berry field. R come over for her clothes which hung on the clothes line all night. Maude & I moped the floors and cooked the meals. After dinner Maude & Grace went for nuts while Irene prepared the supper. Ed W & JDB went to Marysville to the band practice. Wm D & Snub W. went to Marysville to band practice. Cold and dry Wind north. Irene made tomato ketchup and apple jelly.

47

Sunday 10 Octobe 1897

A clear bright day, chilly, wind North.

The water in tub froze to thickness of window glass. The season is extremly dry, no rain for a long time. The pastures are dry and brown.

The trees are many colors, nuts are ready to fall from the shucks, flowers are dead and frozen, a blue haze or smoke pervades the air and forest fires are raging and destroying property and lives in many places. We kept our beds till 1/2 6 this morning. V built coal fire then Wallace came and stayed awhile & W & V went up island in boat to ask the boys to a husking. Will here a while. Maud gone over to Wills. Ed Weaver here. Grace went to church. Flora came this morning for their bread which V had brought from the villiage. two loaves. Then came Lottie for the other two loaves. Wind West & cold

49

Saturday 6 November 1897

A traveling damsel
calls here just at night and stays
over night. a loquacious vivacious
piece of humanity. She wouldn't be
up to her business if she were otherwise.
A traveling agent.

Sunday 7 Nov awoke this morning to find a
stranger, a young lady tramp to stay over
Sunday. She hails from Sydenham and her
name is Miss Aleda Woodruff
peddling patent right to make imitation of
Russian lamb fur or cloth. She knows
Mrs Naylor. She keeps house for Brown
a half breed Widower with a lot of children.

50

Monday 8 Nov 1897

A chilly raw day. Wind N cloudy rain now and then. V husking corn. Girl went down Island contracted buisness [sic] with Nesbits came back at sunset tired out with long walk. Will and Jen here and Wallace & Miss Woodruff. Cornet playing this Eve.

Tuesday 9 Nov 1897

A rainy duty day cold.

The girl did not go out on the rampage to day saved for Grace.

Wednesday 10 Nov

Churned and made

butter for market 14 lbs. Girl sewed for Grace.

Evening visitors, Wallace, Niles, Shelly Niles, Frank W & Will Robertson

51

Thursday 11 Nov 1879

V drove to the dock with Miss Woodruff and Grace. Maud & I had a time cleaning & picking up after last nights company. A rainy stormy day. V done chores and working in shop. Wallace here & Ed Weaver & Frank Woodman. V drove to dock for Groceries. Grace stayed in the city. Jim Morgan here to supper and stayed all night. Volty drew a load of Wood from the Ross place. The minister & wife called here intending to stop for a visit but as I & Maud were alone, they went away

Friday 12 Nov 18 1879

V butchered our pork. Wells Jr & Jim Morgan helped him and then went to Wellies to help Wellie butcher his pork. Wallace & Ed Weaver helped V carry the pork down cellar in the evening.

52

Saturday 13 Nov

We cleaned all the floors and
moved the dining room table to the kitchen.

Sunday 14 Nov 1897

A very fine day for a Nov day.

Wallace came and Geo Farr. After dinner V and Wall
went over river to Sand Bay with Geo Far. Came home at
sundown. One duck which they use for a model to paint
after. Evening visitors Wallace, Shell, Edith Pike,
Will Robinson, Frank Woodman. Day visitors, Muriel,
Hubert. Will's children here for their cows.

53

Monday 15 Nov 1897

A dark cloudy dismal day looks like rain. V gets the corn stalks stacked at last. Wellie here cleaning a grist, drew it to the dock then went home, came back and helped V with the corn stalks. V went to JN's to help Wallace run grain through the mill so Wall would help V with the stalks. Ed Weaver here in evening for V to mend his drum (snare drum). Churned.

16 November 1897 Tuesday

A rainy day. Wind S and warm.

V cut and salted the pork. I wrote a letter to Sr. A tribe of boys here as usual at the shop. Will Dixon here for Sug & brought home a bread loaf, sent Granny a piece of pork. V making a platform for the stove.

Grace not home yet. Will Robinson shot & killed V's pet black bird. Jim Morgan ate dinner here. Frank Woodman here and borrowed a piece of pork. Baked bread. Grace came home with Wallace from the dock. A letter from Katy

Wednesday 17 Nov 1897

A very good day. Maude went to school. V worked for Jim Morgan on Frank W's hog pen. Churned and done general house work. Charley Dixon came & Hubert & Muriel. Evening visitors Will Dixon, Will Robinson, Frank Woodman, Jim Morgan, Ed Weaver, Wallace Niles, Johny Niles Jr, Shelly Niles, Edith Pike, Geo OBrien, Minnie OBrien, Hannah OBrien. band practising with cornetts and drum

Jim Morgan ate supper with us.

Thursday 18th Nov 1897

A clear cold day; frozen ground.

Volty & Frank W drove home Rattray's bull after V returned from the dock where he had carried the oats to grind for the cows, he is going to fat, and then he plowed nearly all day. Grace helped husk corn for the hogs and cooked the dinner. Maud at school. Grace finished setting a quilt together.

Moved the stove out from the corner.

The helpers were Will Dixon, Will Robertson, Frank Woodman, Wallace Niles, Jim Morgan, Geo Farr, Ed Weaver, Jack Niles, Charley Dixon, Volty, Shell Niles & Edith Pike. Those young heathens managed to break the piano stool and a lamp chimney.

55

Friday 19 Nov 1897

A snowy day and wind blowing from the East. Welly came up for Grace to go down and help Eveline Tie a quilt comfortable. Eveline sick. Wellie crossed the river after dark for Dr Buchanan. V went for Mrs Morgan. ground white with snow.

Saturday 20th Nov 1897

A mild day after the storm of yesterday & last night. Eveline's baby born this morning 1/2 past 1 on Volties birth day. Voltie rowed up with Mrs Morgan and shingled the hen coop. V & Will Dixon go to Marysville to the band practice. Churned. Cutters out on road this morning, snow disapearing towards night.

56

Sunday 21st Nov 1897

Sunday. Wind S and warm been blowing all night. snow all gone this morning. V came home at half past one a.m. Ed Weaver here. V cutting Ed hair. Send Maud to Wills with head cheese & sausage. Jim Morgan stoped long enough to peep in the window. Wellie here for me but couldnt go. Hatties bean brought her down from Charlies. she is going to work for Eveline.

Monday 22nd Nov 1897

Monday 22nd Nov 1897

Not a very bad day, cleaned all the out side windows and washed towels and aprons. Grace at Wellies yet. Hattie came up to Wellies this morning. My birthday.

Tuesday 23rd Nov 1897

A half fair day cold. Wellie came for me to dress and wash baby. Then rowed across for Dr B then brought me home and went home and then drove B down island on a collecting tour. Dr got nothing then Jr rowed Dr across the river. V gone to Morgans to chop a load of wood started at two didn't return till 8 pm. sent Charlie Woodman for him, met him coming home.

Wednesday 24 Nov 1897

Wind S.W. and cold blowing a gale. River white with crested waves. Grace came home this morning. V gone to Morgans for Wood. Wellie drove up for me. Went down dressed and washed the baby, came home & had a good supper, a warm fire in stove: wind blowing a harycane [sic], went to bed early and slept all night several fires in distance.

Thursday 25 Nov 1897

A cloudy day. Wind South. Arose at 1/2 past 4. Plenty wood for stove this morning. Had breakfast early ready before remembered Grace is at home. Then called her. looks like snow or rain.

58

26 Nov 1897 Friday

Wellie drove up for me again went down washed and dressed the baby. The wind blowing a gale and increasing. Stayed at Evelines all night.

Wind lulled towards night. Wellie plowed & V plowed.

Eveline has a head ache. Do all can for her. Relieved towards night. Sat up and W. Jr made her bed. Alvira came towards eve brought apples, Talman sweets, baked, some taste like kerosine

27 Saturday Nov 1897

At Wellie's this morning, stay all day & all night. Made 1 apple pie, 1 berry pie, 1 custard pie. Hiram's Joslin's wife, Isabella, came and stayed nearly all afternoon. Wellie made Evelines bed, then he came up home and he & Volty worked in shop till 11 O'clock pm. The baby is a week old.

59

Sunday 28 Nov 1897

A very good day for the season. Edy Bates & Eben Bates & Frank Vanalstine came across this morning. After breakfast Hattie went home and to church. Irene got the dinner, washed and dressed the baby &c after church. Hattie came home accompanied by Miss Maitland a very odd young Lady who stayed awhile and then went to Wellington Burhams (her boarding place). Wellie brought me home in waggon. Hubert and Muriel coming to Found Vanalstine

29 Monday Nov

Wind blowing a harricane [sic] this morning. Dont believe the boys got across last night after Edwards court ship so late at Gillespies. Vanalstine did not leave here till 10 pm.

30 Friday

60

Friday 1 Dec 1897

Worked hard all day churning & making out butter for market, butter hard frozen, had to cut it and thaw it by the stove, made 27 lbs.

Thursday 2nd December 1897

Arose early 1/2 4 and hurry around to get to the boat. Maud and I work all day.

Maud expected a new music book but got none. Grace carried 27 lbs butter to market. sold it at 16 per lb.

3rd Friday

61

Saturday 4

Sunday 5 Grace

Monday 6 Nov

62

Tuesday 7 Nov

Wednesday 8 Nov

Thursday 9 Nov

arose at 3 am. V going to Kingston

on Pierpont, walked to wharf and carried a basket of fowls and shats to be barn dried, 4 lengths of stove pipe & the baritone cornett. Irene fed hogs but Jr came up and done the chores.

Grace is better. V came home at nearly 8 pm. J Morgan here in eve and after supper they go down to Franks to blow horns. V come back at 11 pm at last the house is quiet and all is well. Geo Niles came home to day, came on Pierpont.

Friday 10 Nov 1897

A cloudy day, sun shining out now and then. V plowing but drove to dock for wheat from Rosedale wreck. A dance at Horn's. Moved the stove coal again. Callers WmD-W.N.-FW.-WmR -J Morgan Ed W. & P Burnham. No letters only from Hannah

Saturday 11 December 1897

A rainy day. Wind South and blowing.

The boy's cannot go to Marysville this afternoon which is a sad disappointment to them. V at the shop working at something or other. Grace taking carpet off stair steps and tidying up the rooms.

Maud at her music lessons. Irene churning and the rain falling, filling the tubs and pails, not cold but a sad dreary out look. Evening. The horn blowers are here again in full force viz Will Dixon, Jim Morgan, Frank Woodman, Wm Robertson, and V.B. blew till 1/2 past 10 then pedro'ed till 1/2 past 11 pm. F.W.s horn made my head yank, Ed Weaver walked to Marysville got done with Woodmans.

Sunday 12 December 1897

A quiet cloudy day. A gentle north wind with scarcely a ripple on the river. Wallace & George Niles came and stayed awhile then Geo proceeded to B Horn's and after doing the chores Volty & Wallace went across the river to H Dodge's returned at 8 pm. Evening guests Wallace Niles & Will Robertson. V went to Jr for stove pipe.

Monday 13 December 1897

A fine quiet morning
a very light wind & North, sunlight peeping
through the clouds at intervals. We are washing.
We were up fitness this morning, ate breakfast
by lamplight. Maude gone to Wills for soap.
V gone to A Joslins with pig crate came
home and plowed the remainder of the day.
Will D went to River view for shingles, nails &
bought 5 gallons for Welly. Evening visistors NONE.
Grace & I washed and brought water from river.
A lovely day more like June weather than December

Tuesday 14th Dec 1897

A rainy morning, wind N.E.,
mudy raw morning. We have a fire in coal stove
but scarcely any wood for kitchen stove.
Sr not home yet. Voltie plowing all fore noon.
~~Afternoon goes to Morgans for wood~~
Mid day. raining steadily, tub, boiler and
pools overflowing with water. Shell N came
down for sage. Dried a pumkin and
fried a pan full of cakes. Grace folded the clothes
to iron. V brought them in last night at
bed time. V working in shop all pm. Evening
all the horn blowers go to Will D.

65

Wednesday 15 December 1897

Get out early this morning. V does the chores at the barn & milks the cows. After breakfast V goes to Uncle Sams for big kettle and the mail [illegible] for wood toward the dock. Knockee out [illegible] old stumps, enough to heat water for butchering and also keep the kitchen stove going two days. Butchered 5 hogs—helpers were Will and Frank & Jimmie and Wellie. Evening visitors were Will and Jen. Jimmie came back stayed all night, and helped V do the chores. A very fine day for out door work.

Thursday 16 th

Out of bed at 4 am. Jim helped V do chores and load the hogs for waggon for market. V gone to K & Jim gone to K and Niles gone to K. Will & Charley here, gave Charley a pumpkin. Wellie came up & done chores. A cloudy day all mud. Wind S. The wreck of the Rosedale was towed down by here to day in charge of three tugs, was towed stern first constantly pumping. Volty came 1/2 past 7 pm. Expected the father but he did not come.

Friday 17th Dec 1897

Ground slightly frozen this morning. V plowing. Grace washing. Irene finished rendering the lard. Hubert & Muriel came for the hard soap V got for them in K and the curry comb. cloudy very little wind North. Wish & hope Wells Sr will come home to day. Maude taking her music lesson. A heavy fall of snow in pm. Good sleighing. V had to stop plowing for snowstorm. Will here to tea. Jimmie Morgan & Wallace came and Voltie went with them to Franks, Wells not home yet.

Saturday 18th December 1897

A cloudy morning. Ground white with snow. Wells may come to day—hope so. wind west and moderatley cold, Growing colder, clouds clearing away. Will walked to Marysville. Martin came home this pm. Card brought him down in the evening. V & M go up to J.N's

Sunday 19 December 1897

The coldest night and morning yet this season. Froze in kitchen. Left all the bulbs in kitchen on the shelf; the dirt frozen around them but the plants are all right.

This must not happen again.

Think the white Geranium is done for froze stiff as a stick.

Wallace came down and Martin and Grace & Wallace went to Wellies, after they all were gone Charley came down bringing Rachel and Will, left them at home and came back and stayed to dinner. Directly after dinner he went home. Mart came up from Jr with Wallace and went home with him. Stayed till evening. Evening visitors Frank Woodman & Wallace & Shell came home with Martin.

11 O'clock saw them outside the door enroute for home. Grace came home at sundown

Monday 20 December 1897

A stormy snowy day. Mart and Voltie went to Morgan's Ross place for wood. We churned. Afternoon Voltie went to help Will butcher pig. After doing the chores Voltie & Mart went down to visit Frank. Evening visitors Will & Charley came to blow horn but no one here to blow with.

68

Tuesday 21 December 1897

A clear cold day afternoon warmer.

V borrowed a bag of coal of Niles, went up in boat for it. Then V went to Charley Woodman wood bee. Sent a letter to Johnny as a Christmas greeting. After dinner Mart went to the bee and from there went with Geo Niles to Al Joslins to a party. Al not at home gone to John Songcist. Frank and Jimmie here blowing with V. Will not here. The boys went to the door and in concert tried to blow him over here.

Grace ironed clothes &c. Made pumpkin pies.

Wednesday 22nd December

Work hard all

fore noon making out 20 lbs butter for market.

Grace, V & Will D and Frank W all go to Marysville—boy's going to play for the concert. Grace going to K on the 1/2 past 4 boat going to dentist and stay all night with Nellie.

Thursday 23rd December 1897

A cloudy morning. Arose at 4 to get breakfast for Jesse Reid & Martin, both going to Kingston. V arose late nearly 8 o'clock. Maud and I work all day. Churn bring down the lounge cook &c. V drives to dock we expect the father to come home with them but he cometh not and I'm not aweary. Wellie went to Kingston. Jesse came first rode with Niles. Christmas presents from Edna, Lill, Nellie.

Friday 24th December 1897

A clear very cold day, windows thickly covered with frost. River steaming. Jesse Reid at noon crossed the river. V drove to Wellies for a plank. Grace fixing the room addressing Muriels doll. V and M working in shop. Bamford not home. Winter grand bright beautiful and severe, sometimes gloomy. The Earth has yielded up her offering of bountious abundance and and now snow covered, frost bound, V came home at 1/2 1 this morning & present from Maye to Grace.

70

Saturday 25 December 1897

A thick morning, snowing,
river steaming, cold, wind blowing, from South,
white caps rolling. Chicken roasted for dinner.
Wells Jr came home just after our Christmas
dinner. Glad to see him home once more.
He came as a Christmas present here but not for me.
Mrs Adams sent a present to your humble servant.
Mrs W.B. Sr a pair of shells, art decorated
most beautifully. In evening Grace and Mart
went to Mrs Niles, sttayed till 9 pm. V went to
Frank's, found no one home, waited awhile
then came home. Sr brought V a gold watch.
Mrs Adams is the fathers paramour

Sunday 26 December 1897

A cloudy still day not
cold. If the sun would out it would thaw.
Sr reading Utica Globe. Maud gone
to Wills visiting.

71

Monday 27 Dec 1897

Tuesday 28 Dec 1897

72

Wednesday 29 Dec 1897

Thursday 30 Dec 1897

A dirty, windy, rainy, snowy,
day, slush slush everywhere. Shell Niles
16 years old to day: going to have a birth day party.

Friday 31 Dec 1897

A quiet cloudy day

looks like snow. I'm laid up with sprained
ankle [sic]: almost believe it is broken—hope not.

Wells made Wills folks a visit this forenoon.

Hubert & Muriel came up with Wellie.

ankle painfull. Did not sleep any

last night. Grace finishing the washing.

Mrs Morgan came to get a horse shod,

stayed to supper and till 8 pm.

Bob Robinson here till late.

Saturday 1 Jan 1898

A long lonesome tiresome day,

laid up in bed in latter part of the day.

Evening visitors two Morgans here to

supper, Bernard and Jim. Bernard

stays till late 10 or more, wish he'd go

home. Will came over. Well and Voltie

played on bugles and at the same time

Grace entertained B.M. with piano music

and as I am between the two kinds of

music each playing different airs at the

same time. We are charmed. Forget Shelly

here nearly all pm.

Sunday 2 January 1898

Sun rose clear, a fine

morning, but soon clouds and snow

74

falling thick and fast. Mart goes to church. Wallace comes home with him and stays to dinner and nearly all p.m.

Monday 3rd January 1897

Election day. Will gone to election, our boys stayed home. School open to day at lower school and here. Mrs Gordon boards at Niles. Volty working on Ratrays bobs. Welly came up.

Tuesday 4 Jan 1897

Cloudy snowing some.

A dance at Horns. Grace, Volty, & Martin go with the Niles load. Welly came and brought wormwood. Jimmie Morgan came in evening with his bugle & disapointed to find all gone to Horns'.

Wednesday 5 Jan 1897

This day like the preceding I sitting a cripple by the stove with foot on small chair. V think he ought to go to the

75

practice at Marysville but stays at home instead. Frank and Jim go to the practice. A moderate day looks like a storm. Voltie works on bobs.

Thursday 6 Jan 1898

A stormy day. Rachel came over going to stay till after E Weavers dance at the ferry. V worked on bobs.

This day same old thing. No ice in river. The river has frozen over and thawed broken up several times.

Friday 7 Jan 1898

A beautiful fair day in afternoon. Wall & Grace go to Belles to supper and from there To Ed Weavers dance in McLarens hall. Bernard came to invite to a raising tomorrow (Saturday). G Niles & L Horn & Hattie J & Jim Taylor & VoltieMartin & Will Dixon and Frank Woodman gone to

Ed's dance. A letter from John and
Flora.

Saturday 8th Jan 1898

A cloudy morning toward noon.

It rains a big body of ice floating down
and lodged from shore to shore.

Our youngsters came home at daylight
and went to bed. Grace has a slight cold,
finish the chair cover. Wind blowing
a gale from South. Grace arose at
two pm and worked till bed time.

Sunday 9th 1898 January

A clear bright day not

cold, ground nearly bare. Grace has a bad cold.

lies on lounge nearly all day. Rachel & Maude
get the meals. The boys shot a duck will pick
and cook it tomorrow. Wallace came and stayed
a short time. the ankle [sic] is a little better, river
clear. next day duck no good, threw it to the
cats and they had a cat fight & quarrel over the duck
and we had a stewed rooster instead of duck.

Monday 19 Jan 1898

A fair day, warm, river frozen across but no good: a quiet day Wells Sr banked the front of house. Bernard Morgan here and invited V to a raising a log horse barn. Volty went. My foot may be better but swelled yet. Rachel here. Grace much better. Martin doing chores. Maud cleaned lamps and helped wash dishes. Welly drove to our school with Muriel & Hubert this morning. Will's children made a start for school too, going to Section No 8. Mr Pedro at Will Dixon's playing Pede

Tuesday 11 January 1898

A fine day, bright, clear and cold. Wind North. Voltie and Wallace cross the river on ice down by Horns on jam ice. Wallace gone to St Lawrence for medicine for his father (Mr Treders) Wellington, Mr Horn and Lizzie came across too. They are the first foot passengers this season. In Evening Wallace came down on skates. Coming around the point, he broke through and wet one foot. after drying feet, Wall & Martin went to post office and then Martin went home with Wallace to play with Mr Pedro. Grace washed Rachel hung out the clothes

Mart went to Geo Rattrays to mill. Volty in evening shelled two bushels of corn for mill. A black cloud rising in South. sewed rugs and knit lace for Belles.
Wednesday 12 Jan 1898

A rainy morning ground all mud with dirty streaks of snow and ice scattered all around. V drove to Geo R's with corn and brought home the ground provender, wheat, peas, corn and oats a mixed mess. Welly here shoeing horse, raining hard, clothes all hanging out. P.M. Rachel went home, drove home with Welly. George and Wallace here this evening playing pede with V & Mart.
A bad time for Dany Hughy's dance.

Thursday 13th Jan 1898

A cloudy morning. Wind N ground covered with snow. Welly drove to school with children. River ice broken from shore to shore, bad crossing from Marysville to Kingston.
Two weeks to day since sprained ankle.
Frank came home today been gone since Weavers dance, said he never drank so much whiskey before.

Friday 14 January 1898

A cloudy day, not cold. Maude carried letters to post: sent one to her father. Mart and Grace went to Marysville to workmans ball. Maude & Wells Sr got supper. No letters only for Sr. V working on bobs.

Saturday 15 Jan 1898

Stormy day of snow which will make fine sleighing. Mart and Grace came at 1/2 past nine this am. Wills butchered another pig. Charley came for a butcher knife. Grace slept from 12 noon till five. Mart slept from 10 till three oclock pm V. working in shop on Geo Rattrays bob sleigh, snows fast and evenly: no wind a north [?]
All went to bed early. Welly came up for kerosine said Muriel & Hubert are sick with cold

Sunday 16 Jan 1898

A beautiful winter day, clear bright cloudless: the fields are spotless a dazzling white blanket of snow covers the earth & every roof and clings to the trees. Wind cold and north very little wind. Sleighs are cutters and out on the road, going up and down road. Mart went to church and from there went

80

Mart didnt come home with the others
this morning stayed to go to the Cape to dance.

May Wormwith

Grace E Bamford

185 University Avenue

Kingston

Ont

Mrs Geromind

Feb 15

30 lbs sugar

25 lb salt

1 pk onions

1 1/2 doz currants

lemons

2 lb cheese

baking powder

broom

diamond dye cardinal & green

[printed inside cover of diary including advertisements]

Boston Fur Store

George Mills & Co

170 Wellington St 170.

Furs and Mantles

Furs and Cloaks

Mantles, Latest Styles, Coaks, Lowest prices

The Boston Hat Store

Noted for low prices

The exact spot to get your

Boots

is at Abernethy's,

127 Princess Street, Offord's old stand.

The low price shoe

George Mills & Co'y

170 Wellington Street

Noted for Low Prices

Nobby Hats

Sole Agents in Kingston for Celebrated

Marsland Stiff

and Soft Felt hats.

Boys School Caps.

15c., 20c., and 25c.

Empire Typewriter

\$55

Visible Writing, Strong Manifold.

It will pay you to see it before buyig...

Columbia & Hartford Bicycles

Good Repair Shop.

J.R.C. Dobbs & Co., 44 Clarence Street

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[back cover of diary with manufacturers stamp]

Red Rope

Magazine Binder

Manufactured by

Gaylord Bros. Inc.

Syracuse, N.Y.

Stockton, Calif.

This document would not be possible without the editorial contributions of the following people:

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