

Irene Dixon Bamford 1889-1897, Diary Transcription

5034_4-1-6

Metadata

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[File folder with hand printed labels]

Irene Dixon Bamford

Diary

Miscellaneous pages from
diaries of 1889 through 1897

1889-1897

[Stamp - Queen's University Archives; Locator 5034-4; Box 1; File 6]

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[Front Cover]

Miscellaneous pages from
diaries of 1889 through 1897

3

[Inside cover of diary]

Re-read

'76-'84

4

Wednesday

Feb 26th/1890 A cloudy day. Wind South in morning changing west at noon. Ground nearly bare snow scattered around in dirty patches & in fence corners. Ady & Rachel here. Wells trying the ice found it very poor could drop an axe through any where in the channel. Wills & Welly setting a sturgeon net. Ada wants to get home very much but will have to stay until tomorrow. Grace at Bells. John at school. Eva cleaned floors and helped wash dishes and hung out the clothes Rachel & Addie went over to Wills to make a visit started at 1/2 past two P.M.

[sticker] Date 1890

Feb 2nd: Tuesday A cloudy day Wind North. Charley drove over from his place with Ady. Grace went home with him. Wells and Will went to Kingston in cutter on ice and came home before dark. Sewing machine agent here said his name is Hall. Rain pouring all day. Will came from Kingston with wet feet. Will and Welly went to the sturgeon and took one sturgeon from the net. Will had supper here - buisness [sic] in town is with Frasier for going and WillJohn at school.

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Feb 24th 1890 Monday

Wind South. A fine day like Spring very warm. Willy and John brought water & Evaline and Grace washed the clothes—hung the colored cloths on the veranda. Wells thought he would go to K with hay but so soft can't go. Welly and John drew a load of hay to feed the stock from old barn. A party at Horn's this evening secllect. Fred Joly called here been across the river to A Percys. Wells & Johny went over to Rattray's PM for ice tongs—had no place to sleep so set up till 4 A.M.

Feb Sunday 23rd 1890. A fine mild day, Wind south. Wells drove with Addie and Grace over to Bell's. A very quiet time. R reading novel. I got dinner and slept 3 hours. John went to prayer meeting quarterly meeting day. Wells and Grace came early. Addie stayed at Bells.

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1890

Feb 22nd Saturday. A cloudy day.
Eva cleaned chairs and floors. Welly
made axe handle. Addie and R here.
Wells went to Kingston
with oats drove up on the ice.

Friday 21st Feb 1890. Wind North.

A cold day. Wells went to
Kingston on the ice with cutter
carried 6 lbs butter. Addie came
over today, Sid brought her
across the ice in cutter. Sylvia
had a select party this evening.

None of our family were
invited. Paterson was there
for he is moving back again.

Thursday 27th 1890 Wind West
somewhat colder froze last night.

Will came over & Welly helped him set
fish net for sturgeon. Adda came
over from Wills & Welly and Will
pushed her over the ice in our cutter.

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this same day then Rachel came over is get Welly or his father to draw wood. R rode back with team. Wells brought back the wheel. Wells set up the leach barrel. Grace at Belles. John at school. Ground bare ice very poor cloudy and looks like snow. Adda gone. Eddy Bates here Afternoon and Evening. John Morgan here fiddling away till bedtime. A select party by Sylvia Jane at George Gillespies. No one invited from here.

28th Feb Sunday 1890

A Nasty rainy day. Wind South. Ground all mud and water wind blows hard, boys run their net but no fish.

J Morgan stoped at Wills all night. Will, Welly and J Morgan sailing up and down on ice boat. Morgan run in a hole in the river down below the foot of the island. he had stacked for cook's John at school. A very bad day indeed. John came home wet through. Wells making soap in the kitchen, dont know what I'll get for supper, get something a party at Almond Joslin's this evening by Sylvia Jane's select party. Carrie Joy visiting over ice river at Alsom Abbey's.

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me a half pint of corn syrup.
Charley & Flora came along too—had a
fine time playing. After awhile I get up.
Volty and Johnyæ take a Sunday nap.
Maud and I cook beans and greens
bring [illegible] and get wood. John goes to Evening
prayer meeting. I read Talmage's sermon
to Volty, great fire on Howe Island. Angus McDonel
house and farm gone.
[Sticker added: few pages of 1891]
Monday May 1891
Light wind N.
I dont feel very well yet.
I patched all fore noon, rained some
in AM but not much. Wells came and
drove his cow home. Will here and gave me two
nice fish. Grace took up the carpet from my
bedroom floor. Hay pressers set up at woodmans
pressed two hours & went away. Sam went
to Delmarshs and brought Buchanan
up to see Mrs Woodman for she is sick.
our boys are working in the garden planted
potatoes. We had dandelion greens for supper.
Sams hay was "no good". Welly's cow returned home
again. Bill Smith here to borrow a drag some
[illegible] d-I shot Leo most [illegible] him only

9

Welly came up and milk for his cow
and again drove her hom ~~again~~.
Rachel visiting at Welly's stayed all night.
Grace visiting to Ws
Tuesday 12th
A fine morn
day wind S. I am not well yet
but work around. Grace washed
and hung the clothes on the line.
Rena washed some socks and two
skirts, cooked & washed dishes.
Johny pulverized the front yard.
Volty and Johny plowed in the
orchard and planted potatoes,
had baked pike for dinner that
Will gave us. Volty helped Will set
a net. Went to bed early after
Grace & Maud returned from Wills.
Will came after we were all abed
hungry, tired and wet been to
run his fish nets. John drove
to factory. Hiram J went away
sailing

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Wednesday May 13 1891

Another fine
warm day light wind South.
John drove to factory. Will came
over and engaged Volty to
drive to Joys for fish and fish
pound while Will went up this shore
to run his net. R went to Ebb's
borrowed his boat rowed it to
J. Nile's to meet Will & W. Jr
Volty came back with the fish pound
and a bag of potatoes from W Burnish
R went home dressed came back and
went to the cape with Will. Grace and
I got Greens for dinner. Will brought
me one pound tea and 5 sugar
which is 46 cts. R rowed the boat
down to Ebbs. Welly came in the
evening for his things Will brought
from cape. J. & V. plowed in orchard.
V borrowed \$1.25 of Will. Will paid
John a dollar which he owed him.
John let V have the dollar. Grace
finished cleaning my bedroom

[illegible] called a moment
and went home with Welly
Will came after dark for some of the
boys to go up the river to help him
set nets, could get no one so went
alone, moon shone brightly, he gone so
long R came over looking for him.
So Voltie went off up the river at eleven
to find Will, found him all right
came home and went to bed
Thursday A beautiful day
wind N cool. Johny drove with
Volty & Grace to the dock took a
bag of wheat to mill, came back
milked all the cows and drove to
the factory. Grace gone to Bells.
John finished plowing the orchard
and is now pulverizing. Maud
lives out doors most of the time
she enjoys the warm sunshine and
her cheeks are red as twin roses.
Welly here gone up to his nets. Will
here. I dont feel well.

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Friday 22nd May 1891

not written in this diary since
week ago yesterday been sick
and had doctor—feet badly swollen
yet, no rain till this morning
but the weather the past week
has been very fine and warm. Wind
S & W & N. Boys finished
print. Rachel came over and stayed
untill last night. Princess came to
dock for her last night. John
drove back again with Rachel.
Welly and Will fishing. Welly got 3
and Will has 9 nets. John sold
a pig to James Gloyd carried it to
him. One night since I sick
it thundred [sic] & lightened [sic] and
rained some and the weather
was cool but last night it
rained hard all night which
is very improperly writen.
Welly is helping the boys dig post
holes for enlarging the garden
to plant potatoes. Johny run

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fine take of fish. I worked
around cooked & wash dishes
Grace washed some clothes,
sent Maud and Marjorie
to Jen's for soda.
Saturday 23rd Very fine day

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1890
Miscellaneous Pages
from 1890's

15

1890 Tuesday

Jan 28th A fine winter day
sun shining brightly, cold wind
N, the river frozen over, a light
fall of snow on the ground that
fell last night. Welly not very well
yet but he hung out the clothes Eveline
washed yesterday. I am lying on
my book in bed writing this. Grace is
cooking beans and beef. John stops
home from school to help his father draw
hay from the old barn. Poor dear little
Muriel is sick with worms. I am
not well yet, but much better. Wells
sleeps on the lounge every night by
the stove to keep fires going. Two men
crossed here on the ice today by Ebb's.
Welly went to the corners for worm
medicine for the baby and got blue calico
for Bell & Eveline came back after dark.
John & Grace go to Rattrays for evening visit.

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1890 Monday

Jan 27th A very good day, afternoon cloudy. John brought some water and went to school. Eveline brought more water and washed all the clothes and put them to soak. Grace brought 4 pails full too. Welly is sick with one of his old billious attack, sick all day vomiting and headache. Will came over to see us and he is sick too. Wells has got a bad cold and a sore eye. John Niles and Spaff Joy here this morning to see Wells about the school house pump. Wells was gone to draw hay from old barn so J. N. came again in the evening. Will Rattray sick.

Sunday 26 A beautiful day warm like spring light wind south. I sick abed. Charley and Bell drove down here with his baby Irene

R came over too and I talked too much, all tired out. I sat up an hour this morning. Charley went over to Will's. Will gave him some sourkrout [sic: sauerkraut]. John and Grace went to church and to prayer meeting in evening. Lill Niles here all afternoon. Jen and the children sick. Miss J Holliday very sick. Tom Hall and Milly sick and destitute. Welly sick all day.

Saturday 25th A cold day, wind blows strong from West, cloudy. Wells got his own breakfast and started for Kingston long before daylight. I very sick all day. Doctor called to see me at night, he had been down to doctor old Mrs. Coxall, she got sciatica. George Gillespie here this morning. Wells got home at 1/2 past eight over

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and brought me medicine, lemons
and brandy and a lot of stuff.

Card goes over with ice boat
crossing to Kingston very poor.

Jane Niles came to see me.

29 Jan Wednesday

A very good day. Wind North.

Scarcely any snow but freezing.

John went to school. Grace sick
with Gripp, had to give up and
go to bed. Rachel came over and
helped some. Eveline took care of

baby and made Grace a dress &
done house work. Welly not very

well. Talks of setting a fish net
for perch. I am up around most

all day but not well, knit on

sock. Wells working out doors

most all day. John came home from
school & helped clean up 50 bushels

of oats for market. Rachel went

home at dark. Welly wanted to go over
to Linda's to chop wood but his father said
over there was [illegible]

19

1890

Feb 7th Friday. A beautiful morning. Wells went to Kingston this morning. Started at 8. Went with buggy. Ground bare. No rain. No snow. River partly covered with thin ice. J Niles over the river yet but our boys skate along the shore down to Hornes and back, cloudy most all day, looks like snow. Eddy, Eben & Woodman's boys skating between here and J Niles ice like a mirror, freezing, Wind East. Grace made cookies and fried cakes. Will over here to get team to draw wood. Will not well, talks of going to Ganonoque [sic] tommorrow [sic: tomorrow] with Spaff with butter. Welly gone down to All's again with milk for Muriel. John didnot go to school. Volty came home on a visit from aunt Hannah's - shoved a punt across on the poor ice. Wells came home from K at 8 AM. Another new milk cow.

20

Feb 8th Saturday 1890

A dismal cloudy day ground
white with snow this morning. Wind
N. snow falling fast towards night
Will here But not very well, played
on V's violin. Welly came up from
Alf's stayed ~~and~~ till after dark, got
milk for babe and went back down to Alf's.
John and Wells drew hay from old
barn. Volty went to Smiths to see about
his umbrella but didnt have it. Grace
moped [sic: mopped] floors. rather cold ice
broke clear from either shore and
drifting down in one great sheet,
got lodged fast down below here and
froze in. Wallace Niles here to borrow
powder to shoot a squiril [sic: squirrel]

21

Sept 6th 1889 Friday Wind South.

A cloudy morning commenced
raining at sunrise & rained till
noon. Volty made Eveline a pair
of wood needles of sumach [sic: Sumac] to knit
lamberquins [sic: lambrequins] Wells did not do much
but went to the Grange P.M. Johny
churned & went to sams. Eva papered
the kitchen & cleaned the chamber floors
and stairs & finished lamberquin [sic: lambrequin]
Irene done house work, what did the
rest of the family do
Sept 7 Saturday

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[page with random scribbling]

Wells Bamford

Wells Bamford

Wells [illegible]

[struck text: Bamford]

2445

Walls Bamford

23

Sunday Feb 9th A beautiful clear day light Wind North. Volty & Grace went in cutter over to Charley's. Welly came up from Alf's stayed till towards night. got milk for the baby. John went to church came back [kindled?] and then made Wells folks a visit.

Volty & Grace came at dark.

Feb 10 1890

Monday. A beautiful day, bright and cold, wind North. Wells & Volty went to Kingston [struck text: on] with sleigh. V bought two butter prints and some socks for himself.

Welly drove down in cutter to Alf's for E & baby. The baby got a bad cold yet. Grace washed and hung out the colored clothes E made herself a rug, Will & Welly went for the box & to see Sid Percy. Mrs Gloyd better. Will didnt get the box but got V's valise instead. Sid not at home. Wells & V came home quite early. John chored around & he and Welly skated.

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Oct 19 Saturday

[cut off: Wind] North Volty came...

on Grange Johny helps...

citron preserves. E knitting for W & making

a shirt Welly came home at 3 O'clock

Lynn Watters sent Wells 2 Newspapers.

Grace cleaned floors & swept. I done house
work

20 Sunday A clear fine day light W [Wind]

North John Dixon brought mother

to the river today. Will went across for her

Welly rowed E & baby down to her grandmothers.

Welly came back towards eve and

Welly & Volty go up the river in G Glispies [sic: Gillespies] boat

to Mosier's. J Morgan, Anna Leonard and
staty here.

Monday

21 A fine day clear and bright

scarcely any wind North. Grace washed

and got all done early. Volty not home

yet. Wells and Johny cleaning and drawing

grain to the scow. I cooked, washed

dishes and churned. Grace sewing on

Maud Dress. Maud broke lamp chimney

[struck text: [Welly] Ground froze last night. A

beautiful day. Our apple trees came

25

Feb 11 Tuesday 1890

A beautiful

clear cold day, river frozen fast now since Feb 7th sleighing good. Wells [illegible] a grist for mill. feels rather cold since yesterday, goes to sleep again in his chair. I suppose he keeps the old

critter in the barn, poor Wells. Volty started this morning for Aunt Hannahs went with buggy, for he drove out with buggy but Welly & [illegible] went across with himself.

Will got the box today. E done her washing and worked on her rug. John went to corner's to get Wills mackinaws exchanged, bought Welly a pair of mittens \$1.25 and himself a [struck text: pair] neck scarf for near ,80 got them on tick Carey's. Grace went to school in cutter with her father. A beautiful sunset

[handwriting changed, likely Maud recording]
Oh thir [sic: their] going to pump out lakerie [Lake Erie]
thir [sic: their] going to comince [sic: commence] in June and
when they get it all pumped out thir [sic: their]
be whispers on the moon.

Oh did you ever go to a baseball
match and pay your fifty cents
while other good people get up on
the steaple [sic: steeple] and look clean over
the fence and when they begin to
play the kids they all will cry
get down on the grass and slide
on your ass and wate [sic: wait] till the
clods [sic: clouds] roll by

Oh I rember [sic: remember] the day I landed they
thold [sic: told] me to go back agan [sic: again] the kids
would cry get on to the gey but I got
thir [sic: their; there] just the same

O the heart in my bosom
has lately been stole by a
sweet looking cromo just
ninteen [sic: nineteen] years old shes a half
irish blond an she likes pork
and her feet is her featchers and
she wears seventeens.

O her frunt name was Hannah
her farther [sic: father] was a tanner oh how he
do hamer in an artistic manner
with a toothpick and farrier she
sluged doctor Tanner and offered
John L Sullivan an pasly Rhyme
She was a flyer an no one would
big her. She coud [sic: could] tuck higher [struck text: they]
than Jack Mc entyer she was a
dasy [sic: daisy] dam fat and lazy and near
such a fairy were my mary ann

28

Sept 14 Wednesday

A very warm day Wind South.

Wells and Volty gone to the fair. Volty went to see Mosier about pressing hay. Johny dug potatoes and went to Morys for ice for the butter and milked 12 cows alone. Alma here visiting in afternoon. Bill came with her across the ball pasture & Bill & Laura rowed here for her at evening I set up till most midnight making butter prints

Sept 5th Thursday

A clear bright morning

very warm, Wind S. Volty drove to the dock. I carried 41 lbs of soft butter to market. Mrs Niles & Mrs Woodman went to the fair. I wrote to Watson on the boat and left it with Robert to mail. Saw Norman Petrie & Mattie Smith. Volty and Johny dig potatoes E stayed at home and had my supper for me when I got home. Grace went to town and had a lame foot

29

229

221

161

611

16 June 1896

A beautiful day very calm

...urn. Voltie and C. Woodman go to Kingston

...river on yacht. Started at 6 a.m. Did not return

...r 12 midnight. Grace & Nell start to go to

[Mo]ntgomerie's to visit—turned the buggy over in the

...yard and the old mare fell down in the harness between

...ills, Grace after unbuckling the harness got old Nell

...nd into the pasture then went to Mont's in the

... Wellie came up to milk and strained the milk. Mrs

... , Inez, Wallace, John Jr here. Eveline and her Children here

and Grace come at dark and all the evening company

...al [struck text: once] together in the evening—get weary wating [sic: waiting] for V
go bed.

Monday 15 June 1896

grand day no wind or rain. Nelly visiting Eveline.

After lunch Grace drove to Wellie's for Nell and

[Mau]d they drive to WG Woodmans for tea and

...en they drive to Bells taking Miss Leonard

with them, came home at eleven. Finaly [sic: finally] all get

off to bed by twelve midnight—I go fast asleep

Oh dear

Selections from Starks History & Guide to Barb[ados and]
 the Caribbee Islands or Wes...
 Inhabitants, White, Colored & Neg[ro]
 The white population form the govern[ment]
 in Barbados, nearly the entire wealth and...
 of the island, being in their hands, although...
 form at the present time but a small and constant
 fraction of the whole population of the island, for
 a total population of about 200,000 there are only
 15000 white, 50,000 colored or mixed, and 135,000...
 When the English settlers colonized this place, they changed...
 climate, but not their characteristics: they brought with them the obs...
 tenacity of purpose, dogged perseverance and [nurturing?] energy of the...
 and turned this island into a garden. They brought with them, too,...
 love of freedom and sturdy independence that characterized the New
 England settlers, their friends and relatives. Henry Winthrop, the son of
 John Winthrop, the great Puritan Govenor [sic: Governor], came to Barbados with the first f
 settlers under Capt Powell, three years before his illustrious father fou[nded]
 Town of Boston and Massachusetts Colony. These were the men wh...
 -eyed Barbados; and for the ^{greater} part their sons remain, still. Englishmen...
 their fathers for several generations may have been born on the island,...
 this reason they are still, and must remain the governing class. N...
 families have altogether left the colony, probably retring [sic: retiring] to England, a...
 this of the old names a great number are now missing. Me...
 again of other old families have come to grief from one cause or ano[ther]
 their descendants are now living in humble positions or have emigr[at]ed to]
 other islands or to the United States. These early settlers were the...

[inserted upper margin: Friday...A [patron?].meeting at Wellingtons. V attended gone till 12 O'clock midnight]

free from weeds and bugs. We...

to day had strawberries and cream and are...

[We]lle and Reid are fishing and doing very well

sat line. Grace cutting and making garments. Evening

mail, a letter from Dad Bamford sending Grace

some money. Boys practicing baseball in the evening Hubert & Muriel here

Thursday 18 June 1896

A fine day No rain. This day ends Nells

Guy's visit for a long year. Grace went to market

with 30 lbs butter, which she sold for 15 per lbs

V cultivated potatoes. Maude and Irene

done general house work & Maude moped [sic: mopped] kitchen

for first time. Irene cleaned the pantry shelves

We got the afternoon work done early and Maude

picks goose berries for supper and glad to see V & G

driving to the door alone and we have a merry time

over [struck text: and] our tea. Voltie, Charlie Woodman go over the river

in Weaver's Yacht to distribute picknik tickets. Returned home at 2 o'clock am

Hubert & Muriel here in evening

Wednesday 17 June 1896

A fine day. Voltie hoes potatoes. Grace and I get butter

ready for market. Nellie done as she pleased. Reid

and Weaver go to the Cape with fish. A hot day

no rain. [struck text: no visiting] Mak out 30 lbs of butter for or

Grace & Nell go visiting at Mrs...

...Saturday 1896

...day. The heat is intense

...very little air stirring the leaves—

...ndlers with a dim line of haze around

the [Ho...yor?]. The boys (Wolfe Island boys) gone on Weaver yacht to a baseball contest with Claytonions. We don...

our usual Saturday's work & churned. Maude went

strawberrying for dinner and in p.m. went to

see Inez Niles. Will and Jess Reid fishing today

Weaver went to Cape with fish for Miss Dixon. Reid & Niles

this am before going to Grindstone with the baseball player.

Bernard Morgan left at home, proceeded to get himself there the

best way he could. Our boys were beaten at the

base ball game by those Clayton fellows. Grace

this evening went up to Morgans with Bernard in our

boat. Voltie went early to bed

19 June

Friday 1896

A very hot day no rain for some long

time. Vegetation and Nature do not look very much dried up

considering the long drouth [sic: drought]. Well. Nellie has made her

annual visit and gone to Kingston again and we do very

much as we please ^{today}. Irene churns and does all the dairy work

& washes a few articles. Voltie plowing our potatoes on Grange.

The potatoes here in Orchard are most beautiful and

24 July 1896. A very warm day raining
 ...noon Voltie working in shop while rain
 ...rking in door yard fixing stops and lay...
 ...Woodman here. Churned twice. Grace washed
 ...church dishes. Beatrice and. Maud went fishing
 ...one fish. Will & Reid fishing. Very warm evening
 ...Morgan here with beef. bought 6 lbs for dinner
 [Tue]sday 28 July 1896.

Very warm d[ay]...

...washing. Voltie repairing reaper^{binder} and...

...toes bugs apn Reaping & binding drawing...

...noon had peas for dinner. Maud and
 washing dinner dishes. Beatrice's tongue going like a
 ...clapper. The merry heart of my dear little granddaughter
 ...never get angry, peevish or cross.

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and they all went home in the...

Grace and I put the butter up

Thursday 30 July 1896

A fine day...

...home this morning on Princess Louise...

...d all day work till noon getting ^{all} dishes washed
pails, churn, jars, breakfast dishes & butter plates,
dinner at Wellies. Wellie gone to Kingston...

home at 3 p.m. and drove to field to shock...

oats...drove to dock Coming home at 7...

...home with her. Edna Quinn Ha...

...naby I had nearly forgotten [sic: forgotten] to...

...down at 12 midday bringing...

...to make her vacation visit. Evening...

...Will Dixon, Wallace Niles. Wallace he...

Grace [illegible] milk the cows. Young people up...

midnight. Sent to market 29 lbs butter

Wallace Niles here this evening
 after supper Maud (as I supposed [sic: supposed]) went
 [struck text: I [illegible]] to the post office but instead
 went home with Wallace and played piano
 till 10 O'clock P.M. while I sat up and
 waited for him to come with the mail
 in rain.

Saturday 29th Dree 1894

A beautiful clear day but cold
 Maud went for the mail this morning
 Wells ^{Sr} and Wallace Niles dug the grave
 Mr Niles and George went to Ferry
 For coal. Mr Niles is going across to K
 on Pierpont but he will have to walk
 to Garden Island on the ice
 for the boat only [struck text: goes] ^{comes} as far as the
 island. Wind North, Clouding up
 again this P.M. Grace making
 apple pies and cleaned floors
 cheerless weather wind piping up
 from S.E. Wellington's little boy burried [sic: buried]
 at dusk 6 O'clock P.M. a twilight burial
 Geo Ranous' youngest boy died this
 morning (Geo Jr) of diptheria. Martin
 brought in the table linen and towels
 after dark. River frozen over from shore to shore last night

Sunday 30th Dec 1894 only one day to write 94— What a terrible stormy morning, snowing and blowing from S.E. Cannot see from house to barn arose at 425 O'clock P.M. and the wind and snow storm a blinding gale which lasted till noon and sudenly [sic: suddenly] cleared away leaving a strong breeze behind. The ice all broken up ^{this morning} and rolling up in great waves on this shore. Tis three O'clock we've had our noon day meal and while I'm writing, the others are sitting around the room each reading, warm glowing fire in the stove, sun brightly shining, wind driving the snow in great drifts, while the water and ice is crashing against the shore as it comes tumbling in. Wallace came down, said his father saw Voltie yesterday in Kingston and V is doing well at his business. V sent home his trouserloons and Marts forgotten underwear Will here in evening. Mart had to go visiting to Mr Niles in eve

Monday 31 Dec 1894 Snowing
this morning fast but no wind & soft
wind East, broken ice on this shore
At nine the sun come up
brightly. Wells^{Sr} and Mart drawing
hay. Wellie not come up yet
Been cutting fir wood in Wellingtons
wood. I darned mittens and fixed
some for Mart, made scrap book
Grace wrote Nellie a letter
Wells Sr and Mart sawed off
the end of one of the maple
logs, snowed most all day
Mart & Wallace went a hunting
for ducks got nothing. Wellie
came to bring the team home after
drawing a load of wood for himself
and Will Dixon. Snows in Eve
Tuesday 1st January 1895
Another New Year ushered in
by a grand snow storm
Wind South. I see Bamford
looking at a hickory stick, guess
he's going to make an axe handle

Our cows are doing very well just
now strained the milk into 6 pails
this morning and the family [sic: family] are
well. I would like much to hear
from John. Will here in the
evening. A letter from Voltie.
Storm cleared up a fine afternoon
Grace had a queer letter from
Minnie O'Brien for postage stamps
Jan 2nd Wednesday 1895
A fine day. South East wind clear
Wells Sr coping all day. Mart
choring around. Maud at the
music, Grace writing postage
stamp letters, and cleaned floors
I took care of the milk. Mart &
I churned the butter, Nellie here for
milk and butter and team to draw
rails. Mrs Ranous sick with diptheria.
Geo Gillespie hurt on head while
working at a bee in woods at
[struck text: Will Gillespies] Geo Ranous'. Charley Easton
going down to stay all night. Geo Gillespie
out of mind, wild headed
continued on 159

Sunday 21st May 1893

A fine morning but cool Wind W

Martin went down to help Willie [sic: Wellie milk
and both stayed to breakfast with Eveline.

Wellie came up with Martin and watered
horses, fed calves & hogs and then chopped [sic: chopped]
off the heads of two roosters—going
to cook roosters for dinner. About 10

O'clock Charlie, Belle, Marjorie, Beatrice,
Irene & Charles Victor, came. Sent the young ones
over to Wills for Dalias toes for Belle

Then came Will D & Jen D & Wickham
with the accordion. So they all made

a great noise for a while. Charley [illegible]

beans evening. Evening caller Percy Burnham [illegible]
the way to church accompani [illegible]

Grace and Martin afte [illegible]

and catch with base ba [illegible]

...Well they are gone a [illegible]

Sabath is ended Goes w [illegible]

40

Monday 22 May 1893

A fine day. Wind S.W.

Wellie plowed Wills garden. Martin cultivated ground for oats.

Grace & I carry dirt to fill the old sink for a flower garden. Grace white washed dining room. I painted table legs and a chair and churned about a pound of butter. Maude gone to school. Mrs Niles made me an evenings visit. Maud & Grace went to Mrs Niles in evening says [illegible] had no sugar for a [illegible] but eat 10 dozen eggs instead.

41

A post from
river [?] stopped and wait
hope Wells Sr will return soon.
Make & bake bread & make pickles.
Grace cleaned pantry floor Grace
practicing a difficult lesson on
the piano. The Phonograph march
hope she will persevere and conquer
6/8 time. Percy Burham and his ma
gone across the ice.
[sticker Date 1896 R]
Saturday 29th February 1896
The last day of Feb with 29 days
called leap year. Some somewhat
raining. Sylvia gone home to
day to Rochester. Wells Sr gone to
Clayton about Linda's Island
guess he's is in more trouble.
Charley brings Belle and children
down going to stay all night.
C drives home again Bamford Sr
arrives home after dark pretty well
"Shot" which is extremely [?]
The old man's drunk again.
He is lying in the lane.

clears up sun comes out warm and bright.

Chown here to see Will Dixon. Will gone to River View. Ferris here about apple trees to contract. Didn't take any.

Maud & Charlie D came home after five O'clock from school. C.D. & Jno. Niles had a row. W Jr & E drove home first.

V drove 20 minutes later & had sold his oak timber.

Thursday 19 March 1896.

A snow storm from the North. Maud gone to school. Grace washing white clothes.

Wells Sr repairing harness. V in the shop making screen door frames.

Grace at her patch work yet. V drove to school for maude. 19 of March and snow banks higher than ever drifting all day from the North.

Went to J Niles to play pedro came home at 9.10 p.m.

43

Friday 20th March 1896

snow storming all night from the North and snowing & blowing this morning and freezing. Never saw so much snow on the ground in March. 'Tis winter far and wide. It looks as little like spring as would January with snow snow piled up and and drifted every where great bank as high as the caves of the hen house. If the spring rapidly advances what a flood of water will be. V and his father working in the shop. George Niles here for V to attend a sick cow. V ate dinner at Mr. Niles. Grandmother at the patch work. Grace made aprons. Afternoon sun shining brightly on this wilderness of cold purity. V went for the mail. W Sr received a letter from M.H. appointing him chief in command of the Iron Queen and "Horatio is himself again".

44

Sunday morning 1st March

A very good day. John and Flora here & Grandmother too. After dinner John, Flora & Grace go down to Wellies on ice boat, came back and J & F started for Limerick at 4 p.m. Wellie came and Flora plays beautifully on piano.

I sleep up stairs with Maud and sleep not at all comfortable.

~~"The old man's drunk again~~

~~He is lying in the lane"~~

Monday 16 March 1896

Not a very pleasant day. V gone to Gananoque to mill and get a cross cut saw repaired. Grandmother at the patchwork. Grace making sheets (made 6) Wellie gone to Kingston. Ice boating in evening, as far as Jr John Niles & got there. Irene washes some things.

Tuesday 17 March 1896 St. P's day
A brilliant day warm Wind S.W.
and light. Wellie came up with sled
accompanied by Hubert & Muriel.
Grandmother peicing patch work quilt & had
lots of trouble about Will and Charlie
smokes a lot, face taned with
tobaco smoke, poor dear old woman.
letters from Stella Healy, F.W. Watson & N. Grey
Watson's got another son, old Mrs Craig very ill.
Wednesday 18th March 1896.
A soft snowy day. Voltie gone to
Kingston for ~~logs~~ lumber which was
sawed from logs. Wellie & Eveline
gone to Kingston with potatoes. Stove
man called here to sell a steel range
but sold none. Will called here on
his way to River view gone for tobaco
and groceries. A world of snow everywhere
no bare ground. Gran at the pacing
voice old cracked and garulous over 80 years
old and bent like a drooping sunflower old
age is very unlovely [*hope it is now fate above*]

46

Saturday 21 March 1896

Sun light brightly falling on
the white snow covered Earth.

Frost on all Windows like a veil.

Five teams passed up on their way
to Kingston. Wells Sr. gone to
the City. V goes over the river to

Garlands mills with oak logs
to be sawed for making and
repairing farm implements.

Grace washing colored clothes.

Grandmother patching log cabin quilts.

Irene churned. Maud doing
some work and garrulous as an
old woman. Welly called here

Jack McDonel sent to jail to
day. Sam's folks have a new hired
girl.

"The old mans drunk again
He's lying in the lane."

47

Sunday 22 March 1896

A moderately fine day. V gone across the river with cutter and horse to mills (Solars) came back before dark. V & G make Wellie's family an evening visit. I no visitors for Sr's family.

Monday 23rd March 1896

A cold day Wind N. V & Will D gone to Garlands mill with two loads of logs to get sawed for lumber: bass, maple, oak & ash. Will comes home early. Wellie here; had jamed his thumb in the morning loading logs. V came after dark; The work of the day, dress, 6 roosters for market, make & churn 11 lbs butter, only 2-1/2 doz eggs.

48

Tuesday 24 Arose early got breakfast put up the butter and chicken & eggs for market. Jen came over & Jen, Voltie & Grace went to Kingston. A most beautiful day clear bright and warm. Maud stays home from school.

A pleasant day at home, supper all ready when they return. V drives over home with Jen, but Charley here to meet his ma with sled and basket. V exchanged sleighs with Frank Woodman again bringing ours home. Wellie borrowed the sewing machine

Wednesday 25 March 1896

A very unpleasant day

Wind S. blowing like (something).

Maud gone to school. Gran pricing. snow settling away; looks like a storm, horizon dark blue & grey. G & I sew carpet rags. Wind blows harder towards night. But Maud faces the wind home Voltie showing Charley Woodmans horses. C Woodman & F Woodman & A Weaver gone to Howe Island to a horse trot.

49

Thursday 26 March 1896

Awoke this morning
to find rain pouring down.
Rained nearly all last night.
Grace finishing lounge cover.
V working in shop. W.B Sr.
choring around. Grandmother at
her quilt. Irene tidies the pantry
shelves. Maud at home couldn't walk
to school. Maud washing dishes and
cleaning potatoes. Had fresh herring
for dinner. Charlie came over for
butter milk: had none, gave him
sour milk and cream instead &
send Jen butter. V went to Jen's
for yeast. Jen sent me some krout
& yeast. Frank W & Al Weaver
gone across the ice to Garlands mills
with saw log. W Sr fixed step ladder
and Grace is cleaning the pantry
1/2 past two p.m. our rain turned to
a snow storm. an old timer of

a storm blowing and drifting
 all night. Evening Grace set quilt lining together.
 Maude wrote letter to her father. Sr went early
 to bed. last night dreamed of JohnnyFlora baby & Mrs [Lindly]
 Friday 27 March 1896

A clear cold morning, wind N.W.
 frost ~~heav~~ thick on windows. Wind blowing
 snow drifting all day. The whole
 landscape far and wide has all the
 appearance of mid winter. Grace
 finishes the pantry. Irene washes dishes, churning,
 cooks the dinner and does general house
 work. Grany at the patch work. Voltie in
 shop making oars. Sr choring & mending
 milk pails with solder. Maud help at
 the dishes, sows carpet rags. I'm sleepy.
 Went to bed, slept two hours.

Saturday 28

A fine clear day, wind
 N.E. cold. Wellie & Will gone to
 Kingston. V went to
 Millens Bay for oil. Irene wash
 all pm. G swept, dusted, made
 beds and got the noon day meal

Millens Bay for kerosine oil. Irene wash
all pm. G swept, dusted, made
beds and got the noon day meal.
Maud washed dishes. Sr made
axe handle. Gran made patch
work. Afternoon V and I
drove in cutter down to Wellie's.
Those blessed little children
how they are sunburnt and
freckled. Eveline has a fine lot
of carpet rags. Two peddlers called
at W Jr. One ate supper with
us. A great hulking swarthy
fellow & wants to stay all night.
Says he is a Syrian. The smaller
one out looking up a lodging
place for night but found none
wouldn't eat any supper. Said
they would have to lie in the
snow to night. Wellie sent
them on to Al Joslins. V came
for me after dark. V & Grace

52

go to J.N. to visit this evening
found George over the river & Wallace
and Shelly at Morgan's. A clear
moon light eve. Moon at full.

Sunday 29 March 1896

Awoke this morning
to find the rain falling in torrents,
tub running over. Clears up at
10 a.m. & Voltie, Grace & Maude
drive in cutter over to Charlies'.
Tis now half past eleven. Suppose
I must now get dinner.

Grace & V came home at 4 p.m.
bringing papers.

Monday 30 March 1896

A fine day thawing
snow rapidly disappearing. V &
W Jr gone to Kingston carried
up a load of pottatoes for Ed Baker.
Grace washing and hanging them out
lines all full. Patch work going on
as usual. V brought home the
Tuesdays mail, letters for Boss
from his employess.

53

Tuesday 31 and last day of March 1896

Another fine warm day G &

V cleaning kitchen. P.M.

Grace goes to bed sick looks badly

& I prescribe for her all p.m.

Wells Jr here in the evening

for mail but got none. some work going on.

"The old man's drunk again

He's lying in the lane.

Wednesday 1 April 1896 all photo

day raw and cold looks like

a storm. Wellie & V drew hay

from Wellie's stock this a.m.

to this barn. After dinner V

goes to J. Niles to sort wood

with cross cut saw. Gran at

the patchwork. G. D. Carpet rags.

54

Maud help wash dishes and iron clothes. Grace not very well yet. Maud having lots of fun playing at April fool.

Thursday 2 April 1896

A chilly nasty day. Wind West.

Removed poor dear Milly to day from the vault to her last long resting place in our little cemetery. V helped dig the grave.

The work as usual goes on, cutting & sewing rags. The patch work yet going on. Grace got pain in right side.

Evening callers George, Wallace & Irene Niles here this evening toward eve freezing hard, gave Wellie 12 eggs for Easter.

55

Friday 3rd April 1896 cold Wind W.
Wells concludes to start Saturday
for Detroit. A cold unpleasant
day. W Jr & V drawing hay from
Wellies to our barn. Grace and Irene
got her fathers wardrobe all is growing
style. Every thing darned, mended,
washed & starched. Trunk all packed
going away to stay all summer.
and leave us alone once more.
R and Wellie & R came up on
ice boat this evening. Stay awhile
and go home again.

Saturday 4 April 1896

A cold frozen morning
wind W. Arose at 5 p.m. Wells Sr built
fire. Irene got up the breakfast & put
up the butter and they start at
1/2 past 6 a.m. (i.e. V & his dady) gone
to take his father to Kingston & gone by Belles

Drove by Belle's on the ice but didn't stop there. V came back by Bells stoped and ate dinner. Bought the carpet warp 1-1/2 bunch or 7-1/2 lbs. Will and Charley here to soup. Gave Charley a dozen eggs for Easter. Gave Wells Jr 13 eggs for Easter. Satu up quite late to read 30 min past 10 p.m. Easter Sunday 5th of April 1896
A soft Spring like day scarcely a breath of wind. Boys ice boating but not very swiftly. Sleighing very good yet. C. H. making sugar, plenty of snow in woods and fields with bare uplands. A chicken for dinner. Charles Dixon & Flora Dixon dined with us. After dinner Cha's, Maud & Flora play hide & seek. C brought us dried pumpkin (v.s. cookies &

pickles). Wm & Charles return in evening. A season of hymn singing. C & Wm plays hide
Monday 6 April 1896

A soft Spring day. Snow and fare growing about parretey ie. eaqually divided. V taped three maples, Maud accompanying him to learn the process & had a drink of sap for the first time. Grace & June finish the log cabin for Grandmother. Grace carried the carpet warp to Mrs Niles. Muriel & Hubert came up with Wellie on sled drawn on ice by Dan & Dig.

Tuesday 7th of April 1896

A fine soft Spring day.

Grace sewing and reeling carpet rags to color. Gran reading most all day. Irene washed Bells breadth of carpet, and V a pair of pants. Maud at school & V brought his net & reel from off the ice. Withdrew his sturgeon net out from under the ice. After lunch V went to J.N's to saw wood. June churned & C & C, Wallace N came home with V, helped him saw wood, ate supper with us. In the evening the whole Niles family went to Spafford's to partake at warm maple sugar. V taped 4 or 5 more trees. V brought in at evening time 2 full pails of sap. Will made us a cake.

59

Wednesday 8 April 1896

A white frost this morning
on every thing. And a
beautiful sunrise followed
by a clear warm day. Snow
disapearing slowly. Spring birds
singing, robins & wrens &c.

V brings in 2 pails of sap,
shoes Frank W's horses. Grace
papering kitchen. Frank
came this evening & helped
Grace & Voltie finish papering the
kitchen and border 2 yds wanting
Irene colored all the
carpet rags orange gold
cardinal red and green.

60

Thursday 9th April

This morning

like yesterday morning the day the
same, warm bright and beautiful.

Grace cleaned kitchen floors.

V brings three pails of sap.

Irene wound all the newly
colored rags. Granny reads.

Charley & Will here for cornstalk.

Will here this evening.

Grace cleaned and papered
the small bed room up

stairs. Maud at school

ice in River very soft.

61

Friday 10 April 1896

Looks very much like rain
but holds off. V in shop making
a tongue for cultivator for Frank W.
Frank here most all day, ate dinner here.
Grace painted summer kitchen then papered
and cleaned one of the small bedrooms
up stairs. In evening Grace &
Voltie go to Al Joslin's to a sugar
party & don't return till morning. 6 am.
Charlie Holliday here, ate dinner at Wills

Saturday 11 April 1896

Maud goes visiting to Wellies.
A soft morning looks
like rain and that is all
didn't call Grace this morning
let her lie till she came down
of her own mind. Grace cleaned
kitchen pantry, painted summer
kitchen another coat of paint,
then cleaned and [?]
the East bedroom up stairs.
Frank Woodman here helping V saw wood.
Frank about half asleep. Sent the carpet rags
to Mrs N by V & F.

Sunday 12 April 1896

A soft spring day & hazy. Patches of snow here & there: spring birds singing in the leafless oaks and apple trees. Our family are employed in reading. Irene does the breakfast work, & takes a thorough bath, changes her apparel and gets dinner. The sugar off in a small quantity: cant afford more. Now going to get or make soup for dinner. Rachel came over at sundown and stayed all night.

63

Monday 13 April 1890

A very fine day. R went home about 6 o'clock a.m. Grace washed. Maud went to school.

Looks like rain.

Tuesday 14 April @1896

Cloudy morning rained all fore noon quite hard.

Cleared up p.m. A beautiful sunset. Gran reading all day. Maud at school, river full of lodged ice from shore to shore.

Maud at school. In eve W Jr came up and Voltie, Wellie, Wall Niles moved the cook stove into the kitchen from dining room and then played Pedro all evening.

64

Wednesday 15 April 1896

A fine day warm and bright. Pierpont passed up cutting through the ice, close in shore. Maud at school. Gran reading all day. Grace cleaned chamber and put up curtains and down carpets. V plowing all day. June done general house work.

Thursday 16 April 1896

A fine spring day Wind South, a warm sun & a cloudless sky. V plowing. Gran reading all day. Grace finishing chamber—cleaning. Irene doing general house work. Maud at school. Charlie D came to go with her to school. Grace boiled Charleys

Thursday 21 February 1896

The assessor here today, Mr. Moore. Awoke this morning to find a very stormy scene out door, snowing and blowing a gale from south, the snow drifts and the banks have increased in bulk and size. Expected Grace & Voltie home today, but a disappointment.

Dr. Buchanan came across to Samy's towards evening when saw them coming thought was V & G. I made punkin pies and fried cakes and Mrs Naylor helped me all day.

A clear bright day.

rather cold. Wind North esp to present [illegible], V & G have not returned. The cause may be on account of bad roads.

Wells Jr here for to draw hay and stayed to dinner. Toronto cloth peddlers here but we bought nothing. Mrs Naylor done housework I cut carpet rags and patched clothes phonograph show to night at our school.

66

June 28 Wednesday

June 29 Thursday

January 1895

A beautiful day West wind

Wells Sr & Jr went to Kingston this morning.

Jr carried potatoes to market. Sr went for lumber. Voltie & Grace came home at 2 p.m.

Mrs. Naylor helped me all day. The snow is every where very deep. There has been no winter for years when the snow has been piled up as tis now in 1895.

Sunday 24th February 1895

A very good day West wind.

Charley and Marjorie drove for me to go home with them. Don't want to go. I would like to stay home a whole week before going there but it may be a duty and I must go I hope Grace will take good care of the little rose bush and give it a little water every night and set it on the table under the big looking glass and eery morning set it in the high chair by the front window where it can get all the sunlight. I shall not see it blossom for I will be gone and I hope Grace and Voltie will write in this diary every day or evening before going to bed and don't let Mart see this book for

he will claim it. I have taken it
for my own for I have none and he
does not use it any more since
he commenced going to school
but keep it out of his sight and
get rid of as many superfluous
boarders as you can, for we do not
need them and what is not eaten
at table is devoured behind the door for
of course life has to be sustained at
all hazzards and odds. Do not expect
or look for me till I return. I
have 25 cts in the little round basket on
the table. Don't use it but add a little
to it if you can. I hope Maud will
be a good girl. Mrs N does not like her
very well but Maude belongs here and
she "vise versa". Now dont forget the rose
bush and tell Wellie to be sure and
get something for his head if anyone
goes up on Wednesday and give him the
25 cts in the little box if he has not enough
money, that is in the little round basket.
I wanted to have Eveline and the children
come up this week but I will see them
when I come home make every
[illegible]

69

Friday 15 March. Rather a cold day
growing cloudy towards eve. I
mended stockings and Grace
went for the mail, received the
"New York Recorder", Yankee, Blade,
Whig, News, churned.
Uncle Smith drove across the
river with Wellington Smith
taking him to Rosier.

70

Saturday 16 March 1895

A beautiful morning light

South wind. Voltie drove to the City

for for his sawed oak & while gone

traded horses got a white mare now

for Fred horse. A trot at

Millen's Bay this afternoon. Mart went to

trot. We are expecting visitors from

Carlton this evening but the wind has

arisen west and is cold guess they

not come. but Charley and Bill come.

instead been to Gloyds all day & C

been to horse trot as much surprised

to see them & the baby. So they stay all

night. Grace, Maud I work hard all

day, am very tired. Eveline came up

Wellie hurt his foot getting out ice for

Burnham.

Thursday 21 March 1895

St Patrick's birth day

cold and freezing. Wind West.

Slept on the lounge last night.

Belle and Charley went home this morning after breakfast. Those books

Mrs Gloyd gave Belle were beautiful specimens of Litterary magazines.

Eliza Jane & husband came down home to day from the cape, but in attempting to return were forced back by the wind.

So couldn't cross the river so drove back to Michea's. Mart gone skating and not back yet 20 minutes past 7.

Notwithstanding the wind we had visitors Charley, Doctuer Charley Walsh & Minnie OBrien and now Frank Woodman is here in the evening.

72

Monday 18 March 1895

The cold March

winds are fiercely blowing from
the west and freezing hard.

Wellie came up and brought

Hubert with him. Eveline & Muriel

came up at 9 a.m., stayed till

evening. Wellie went to R Gillespies

Howe Island. Will D went too.

Voltie went to Cape Vincent

for seed house beans and bought

wall paper and bordering also tobacco

and letter paper. Wells Sr cut his

foot. Wellie, Voltie & Will went over on the

ice boat looking for Mart and found

Mart had stayed at Beedles last night

and had struck out looking for work.

Irene churned. W. H. Woodmans wife

very sick. Dr Spankie down to see her

to day.

Thursday, 21 March 1895

A very fine day wind hushed and gone to rest very light wind West. Wells Jr & Voltie fixing the ice house. Lizzie Woodman very sick yet with inflammation of bowels. Dr Buchanan came to see her to day. Will Dixon and Geo Williams gone to Cape Vincent. Will gone seed house peas & Williams going Chaumont. Will gave a Mrs Horn a ride on his ice boat. Mart came home to day having hired to S. Plum for \$16,50 per month to do house work. Charley Easton called in evening going to the post office. Mart went with him. Johny McGinnis came for Voltie to drive our bull home says he's afraid of the bull. Hiram Joslin drove in here to borrow an axe and borrowed one of Voltie. Wells Sr wrote a letter to Capt Fitzsimmonds last evening. Maude mailed them this am. Grace sent for seeds from Park's sent one to Washington. Maude Koen went into the convent to day.

74

Wednesday 20th March 1895

A beautiful day snow settling in the hot rays of the sun. Boys moved the ice house this morning and then Wells Sr & Jr drove up on the ice to Kingston. Voltie went too Millens Bay for kerosine. Mart and Voltie with him. Grace washed the clothes. V & Mart drove up to the net but got only two fish, perch. A Patrons meeting at Elly Woodmans this evening, and ice boat race in K to day. Lost a calf this morning. Geo Rattray drove in here to din. Voltie for balance for Threshing. Well, Grace and I have just finished washing the tea dishes and I ought to finish patching Marts overalls but guess I'll put to off till tomorrow morning. I darned and mended clothes for Mart to day. A bright starnight Will had his d with us

Thursday 21 March 1895

The weather this morning froze up again but thaws out again before noon and grows soft. The snow slowly dissolving in the hot rays of old sol as the Earth day by day wheels her Northern temperate zone towards the sun's genial warming pan. Wellie helping Will set a net after driving over to Will's with E and the children. Ev making Jen a dress. Wellie ate dinner here and then Wellie, Voltie and Mart filled the ice house Mart went to OBriens and from there to Morgans for the ice saw and tongs. Shelly Niles came down to see us to day. This is the first time Shelly been here since Lill & Hank were married. A lecture in the Church this evening. Sr coping the North side of the house. Irene churned and mended clothes for Mart. I'm tired of patching. I've patched all winter and made over old stockings and darned socks. We have no wool or yarn to knit socks and I'm glad of it. I've knit for 60 years and that's enough! W. G. Woodman and family drove into ice crack & Mary got wet.

76

Friday 22nd March

Froze again last night

but soon thawed out as the sun
arose high above the tree tops. Mart
straped his trunk to Maud's little
sled and went away over the ice, going
away to work all summer. Poor Mart.

God knows all about him. Voltie and Wells
Sr went to Lindas Island and drew wood
after dinner, they went again for a log
and then Jr and V drew a load of hay
from the old barn. Voltie & Grace going this
evening to Carlton to make that long
defferred visit, hope they will come back all
right. Eveline and the children visiting
at her fathers. Wellie drove down for them.

Charley Woodman gone to Kingston.

No one to go for the mail this evening.

Wells lame yet but been coping the house,
good sugar weather. Am very

glad to hear Lizzie Woodman is better.

Thank the Lord! Voltie and Grace

came back at half past 12 am.

Our coal fire gone out and no coating
could keep it alive.

Saturday 23rd March 1895

A beautiful day, snow

in long muddy patches. Ice traveling with heavy loads good yet; our highway in front of the house on the ice is constantly traveled by sleighs cutters and heavy loads of hay, wood logs and other commodities. There was to have been a trotting match at River View over to "see what they could see", which proved no race at all for some reason. This morning Edith Montgomery and Miss Leanard (school teacher) came down from home and walked cross the river from here. Mr D. Breakey gallantly helping them across the crack. Wells Sr finished coping. Our boys drew hay, from the old barn. They went by the way of Wills. But I think the main incident of the day of was the coming of the family on a hand sled, moving, they knew not where the family consisting of a man, woman, two children, two dogs and their household goods such as a few old chairs, an old bed and nothing to eat, the man not ashamed to send the little girl to beg for tobacco with little bare heels on the snow. Well Charley Woodman moved them over to the old snow house going to work for Charley for one month on trial. Patched V old pants.

Sunday 24 March 1895

Not a very pleasant morning. Wind S. snowing and raining, regular March weather. Such a day as no one comes to see us and we sit around the stove and read & nod over our books and papers while the weather grows worse and the wind rises and howls dismaly around the house. Voltie gone to bed. Wells Sr reading the Whig. Grace and Maud reading. Would like to know how the family over in the Snow house are this morning and if they have any thing for breakfast, poor things. Had a nap while Grace got dinner. Sun shining clearly all pm. Dick Halliday drove down to make a visit for the first time in two years & staid to supper, went down cellar with Voltie and looked at the potatoes, think he wants to buy. Heard those people that yesterday moved into the old snow house ar ar [sic] gypsie vagrants belonging to a gang of thirty or more prowling around the country.

79

Monday 25 March 1895

We awoke this morning to find the rain pouring down. Set the wash tub and soon had a tub full of water. Voltie working around the barn nearly all day it cleared away at noon, sun shone brightly out. W Jr took his nets from out the ice. Snow rapidly disappearing fields are getting bare but great banks of snow are yet piled up against board fences. Mended V coat and darned socks and cut carpet rags. Helmer Woodman, Will Irvine & J Irvine called here this evening for Voltie & stoped on their way to Burnham for W Jr to join the Patrons of Industry. They left their horses here untill their return. Wells Sr writing a letter to John McCohn this eve. Grace & Maud returning early another calf at the barn

80

Tuesday 26 March 1895

The ground this morning covered with snow all the mud covered again but by 10 am ground mud spots naked again. A half cloudy day. An eclipse on the sun to day not visible in this country. Grace sewing on my dress. Bamford Sr whacking away at the house roof yet. Maud very good girl washing the dishes like a little woman while her tongue flies as fast as her finger. W Jr and E Bates working on Jr house building a veranda. Heard C Woodmans hired gipsy man yesterday, cut three cords of stove wood. Good days work so they say! Will Dixon hauled out his fish nets this pm. Voltie ditto. Through a mistake V pitched his fathers mittens with the hay to the cows.

Wednesday 27 March 1895

A sort of disagreeable unpleasanat day. Voltie thought he would drive to Kingston with a log but not considering the ice very good, V & his father drove up in cutter. Maud started out early to rap Will out so he could send to town if he wished, but did not succeed in awakening the household. From there she went to W Jr, found them at Breakfast and ate breakfast with them and came home accompanied by Jr who finnished doing the chores. Came again in p.m., says Rob Percy came over and wants Sr to come over to his house. [Rob Percy|R.P.]] has Sr in his clutches, some way. Poor old Sr he always as to buisness. He is one of the "Might have beens" Only a prodigal a life that has been traveled by thousands like him in sinful selfishness. I supose Sr went to the office to day. I expect we'll all be hoisted some day. Sr bought himself a new pair of mittens. 5 eggs to day.

28 March 1895 Thursday

This morning

Wind North, cold, ground cover white with snow three inches every bare spot covered looks like mid winter again. Voltie working in blacksmith shop. Sr chopping wood and choring around. Grace piecing a quilt. Irene darned and cut rags and washed socks and mittens gave Jr tea & butter. Voltie found the lost mittens this morning so Sr has 3 pairs of good mittens. Maud sewed a few rags. 3 eggs

Friday 29 March 1895

A soft cloudy day

froze last night but soon thaws last face of snow gone again only the old snow remaining. Wellie not here to day, churned and made prints 8 lbs. Will not here either. Charley came over for butter print and butter basket. Sr mending tugs in kitchen a hot fire nearly all day. Grace washed quite a washing. V drew hay. 3 eggs. Wellie & Voltie baged potatotes in the cellar for market. Easton here and went to the office with V for mail, no letters.

83

Saturday 30 March

Ground white with snow everywhere. Wellie and Will gone to ~~Kingston~~ Marysville with potatoes and butter to exchange for groceries. Drove up on North side across Michael OBriens.

Very rough traveling on the ice.

Wellington Burnham accompanied them. Didn't return till nearly sun down. For the 8 lbs of butter at 16 per lb received 10 lb sugar 3½ yds shirting one spool white thread and 40 cent cash. Sr mengin tugs in kitchen. V making cutter irons.

40 cents

42 shirting

5 thread

40 sugar

[subtotal] 127

5 yeast

[total] 132

Sunday 31st March

A clear bright quiet calm day, new snow disappearing but millions of old snow every where, great banks to melt away yet. Wellington Burham's horse ran away from the church shed where he was hitched with cutter and in rounding the point at concession struck cutter and smashed it up breaking runners, fells dash board seat and cleared from the cutter, ran down the ice and away over towards United States and wheeled about and came home again.

After dinner Grace went down the ice to Wellies. Jr at the barn nearly all day. Voltie up stairs. Maud & I here alone. My head always singing like August crickets. A cloud off in the south. Well I must go now and skim the milk for the calves for tis after 4 p.m.

85

Monday April 1st 1895

A stormy day for the first of April snowing and blowing from the North all day, ground white with snow every where, river still frozen over from shore to shore. Wells got a lame back. Not much done excepting chores, no one here. A rough day for the first of April after the most severe winter we have seen for years.

Tuesday 2nd

A fine warm day but Earth white with snow which is rapidly melting beneath the hot sun. Wells got a very lame shoulder. Will came over, been to post office to post letters. Wellie here. After dinner Voltie hitched horses onto pumper and Maud and I ride over to Wills and stay all pm. V coming for me in evening. Voltie this am drove in cutter over to John Wilkinson's to see about getting maple sugar for a sugar party to be held at S.D. Woodmans 10 of Apr by the Patrons. Wilkinson asks \$100 per gal.

Wednesday 3rd April

A very good day some what cloudy. Wells Sr and V coping the house all day. Voltie this evening gone to a Patron Meeting held at the School House. Yesterday Grace and I sent for seeds & [illegible] Last night we rec'd the Peoples Home Journal and a letter from Miss Guy. Sr rec'd one from Greenleaf. Snow & wind everywhere. W Jr drawing sand or stone for his kitchen which he is going to build. Eddy Bates is going to help him. Forgot to say Charley Easton was here last night and Charley Burnham & Eddy Bates. Percy Gillespie here this a.m. for Missionary money subscribed 25 cts which is to be repaid in two weeks.

87

Thursday 4 April 1895

Thawing all day in

sun No holes yet in the ice but
snow slowly disappearing from land.

Voltie drawing sand 3 loads from
foot of Island. V & the father coping
the kitchen. I cleaned the pantry
cupboard and arranged things therein
all the rest of the day, cut rags and
sewed hit and miss, Wellie drawing
stone for his kitchen. Wells Sr.
shoulder lame yet

88

Friday 5 April 1895

A fine day for sunshine
and taking off the snow. Wellie came
up for the team to draw sand. I
went with him and stayed all day,
had a fine visit Alvira Burnham
& Dora Gillespie came up and stayed
all pm. Geo Gillespie drove for them.
Voltie drew one load sand
Eddy Bates drove the team
home. Fran Woodman came down
for V's fiddle bow. not many
letter this eve. Grace read one from
Minnie McDonald Montana
Grace's & Eveline's flower seeds not come yet
begin think they not come at all.
Charley Easton went to Gananoque to day
walking on the ice.

Saturday 6 A cloudy day thawing away the snow, but lots left yet scattered around in patches and banks every where disfiguring the landscape with an unnatural appearance. River ice turning dark and watery and dropsical but Laura Smith drove up the ice from her place to our consession and then drove by the roads to the Villiage said the roads are terrible. Grace cleaned floors. I washed some clothes. Wellie drew stone for his new kithcen. Voltie & Sr coping the N.W. end of the kitchen. In evening Voltie went to W. H. Woodmans to see about syrup for the Patrons Sugar party and did not return till 2 Oclock a.m. He helping Snub boil down sugar. Maud brought in nine eggs.

Sunday 7 April 1895

Sitting by the front window looking out upon the fast receding and disappearing snow.

Yesterday a stick lay upon the snow bank in front of the window towards the oak tree, now the stick lies upon the ground the snow having melted away and left it there. An abundance maple of sugar made this year but none for us. I hope to get

some when next marketing is done. Maple sugar has this spring been sold for 4 cts per pound in Kingston. William Irvine

made us a short visit. Thought he was going to stay to dinner. So we stewed a pot full of fresh beef, best he gone now and tis 20 minutes past one O'clock p.m.

Sr at the barn. Voltie in the rocking chair reading the Yankee Blade. Grace making biscuits for dinner & Maude tearing around outdoors yelling like a wild cat.

Welly, Will & Rube made us a short visit towards evening. They came up from Jr's lots of wind to walk in. Old gobbler chased Maude. Guess she wont' run out in mud any more while the gobler is around.

91

Monday 8th April 1895

A very windy rainy day

Maude & I done cooking and house work. Worked hard all day. Grace papered the kitchen.

Voltie and Will moved the old side board in to the pantry which I think is a great improvement.

Voltie done some black smith work and Wells Sr worked on his cutter. V & G. & M rummaging among the old books and paper up stairs at bed time. Churned to day.

Tuesday 9 April 1895

Rained all night,
tub overflowing with soft water. Snow
nearly gone this morning excepting
high banks and they are settled
dwindled down and in a few days will
soon be gone. Wind and water
prevails. River fast closed with ice
and covered with a fog. Grace scoured
woodwork in kitchen this a.m.
Sent a letter to Mrs. MacDonell Montana.
V blacksmith shop.
Sr working in shop too at something.
my head pretty bad singing all
night merry as crickets and swimming
like a whirligig and ache ache ache
across the back of head.

93

Wednesday 10 April 1895

A clear frozen morning.

Grace got an ulserated tooth.

Voltie went to Snub's for the

maple sugar, got 4 gallons

for the sugar party to be held

at S.D. Woodman's an oposition [sic: opposition]

party down to Hornses. Will D

here, had singing. In evening

Perley called and went with G & [Devolson|D]]

to the Patron's Party.

Thursday 11 April 1895

A fine warm day
tomatoes coming up. V & G
came home last night at
1 o'clock a.m. Grace washed and
brought all the water to wash
with. V and Sr shingling
the horse barn. This day moved
into the kitchen. Frank Woodman
here in the evening. I mended
Sr old vest, tore up my best
black apron to mend it with
and I cut some carpet rag
& churned. 5 eggs to day.
Frank Woodman here this
evening. The Valentine business
is clear enough now. Never thought
G. N. would prove such an ungrateful
sap head though I never considered
him very heavily freighted with
sound sense or kindness of feeling
for any one but he does not want
to go sailing with Bamford any more.
He has no further use for this family
So he can heap all the abuse on Voltie
he likes, in his sneak thief way.

Friday 12 April 1895

A fine a.m. though frozen
this morning but soon thaws
out and the small remnant
of snow which is left here & there
is going going nearly gone. The
ice is aged in the river and we continue
to dip water from the water hole
that we cut last Dec or Jan. There
is a long channel open and I
expect the ice will be gone or broken
up in the morning for the wind
is S.E. and blowing this evening
and raining and the gulls have
been flying in from the lake.
W Sr and Voltie coping the South
West side of the house. Maude
brought in 12 eggs this a.m.
and done her lessons very well.
V gone for the mail and Sr
& Jr signed a petition for a telephone
to be continued from Hugh McLaren's
to Woodmans.

Saturday 13 April

A medium

sort of day rather cloudy
but didn't rain. V & his father
worked at coping the S.W. side house
till nearly six O'clock. Maude
brought eleven eggs. Grace set a hen
In evening V went to Jr to make a
visit. Frank Woodman there & Will D.
They played checkers. We had
pumpkin pie for supper and sat up
reading till near eleven. Grace
ciphering all evening. Mr Watson
was to come to day but I suppose
weather prevented. Maud and I
sowed flower seeds in an old tin
pan and decorated it with broom splinters.

Sunday 14 April 1895

A cloudy day, water hole gone
and river clear of ice from
Canada to United States. Skiffle
are now passing from one government
to another. Niles been over and
returned. Grace over to her Grandmothers
since breakfast, dishes were washed.
Wellie came up awhile and I let him
take 6 Yankee Blades. W Sr
at the barn most of the time. This
is Easter Sunday. The day on which
arose our most blessed Savior.
A quiet calm peaceful day. Grace
came before dark. Said Frank Woodman
and Bill Horn ate dinner at Wells.
Evening visitors Frank Woodman &
Bernard Morgan. Night dark and rainy.

98

Monday 15 April 1895.

A nasty wet cold disagreeable day, a drizzling rain falling all day I have nearly forgotten what each individual member of the family done this day. Slept ate and drank as usual I'm sure. Would like to know how Belle and her family are and would like to hear from Johny and how he get along with his Spring work, but not much work done yet this spring any where. Would like to hear from Martin too but not a word from him yet. Ought to write to Dick Brown and ought to write to Lib Watson.

99

Tuesday 16 April 1895

A raw windy day snow not all
gone yet. Voltie started the plow over
on the range but finds it wet
plowing. Wind North.

Grace got the Park flower seeds
this evening and the music book
no letters no papers.

100

Wednesday 17 April 1895

A clear bright day Wind N.

Sr coping V drawing manure
from the house. Grace and I done as
we had a mind too cant wash for we
have no soap. A sugar party
at J Wilkinsons this evening. Will Dixon
there and played violin. Frank
went too.

101

Tuesday 12 Jan 1897

A clear cold morning. West wind.
Some more snow fell during the
night, river steaming think the
river will freeze over this time to keep.
Quarter to 10 a.m. Al Joslin here just
came says he has got heart disease but
he is smoking and V smoking and Sr
is smoking and a cloud of smoke fills
all the sunlight coming in at the window
in queer fantastic waves and circle.
We hear enough about women talking
but if any three women can talk more
than these three men, I don't want
to hear them. V tomorrow going to
have a bee getting out manure
Jan 12 through Jan 29th 1897
1 page for July 97

tiresome days are passed since I last wrote in this diary & little events have taken place that go to make up our every day life and passed by forever. Grace and Maud have been to Veron and made a two weeks visit, came home on 11 July bringing Harry W. and Fred Smith with them for a weeks visit which lasted till 18 July. Marjorie stayed with me three weeks. Mother here more than a week. Belle and her children and Dick Halliday here, Dordane Sid Percy, Alda and two young ones here. Rachel, Will and all of Jen's children here several times. Mrs Park here. Two patrons meetings here. Mr Niles and Wallace working here. Shelly Niles here. Frank Woodman here. Allen LaFleu here. Weather very dry. Smiths boarders here 5 of them

103

Wednesday 18 Jan 1897

A clear cold day. Wellie, Voltie, Frank, George & Wallace Niles and Will Dixon helping V draw manure. Drew 25 loads. Grace taken sick with tonsilitis and after dinner persuaded her to go to bed and she is very sick all pm and all night tonsils badly cankered. I try every remedy I have which is recommended by Dr Chase. Boys didn't stay to supper. River closed over last night. V started out skating but did not stay long.

104

Thursday 17 Jan 1897

River frozen over this morning quite firmly. Grace no better. V and Wall go across the ice bringing all the way with a stick. Gone for the Dr for Grace, return at 2 pm bringing Dr Watson who leaves powder and pills and gargles & throat washes. Ate dinner here then went over to Wills to see Rachel. Lanced her mouth then V & W fitted out the ice boat The Frost and gave Dr Watson a ride on the ice boat the first he ever experienced. Voltie skating after dark

105

~~24 July 1895~~

Friday 15 Jan 1897

Another cold day. Grace better
Voltie & Wellie draws wood from
Lindas island with old Nell, two
loads, found the crossing good
going to have a chopping
bee on Monday to cut up the
fallen timber on Lindas.

Evening mail. Letters for Grace.

One from Dr H Watson, one from
LaFleur, a postal from

Miss E Hammer. Evening visitors

Mary & Herbert & Tom Dignum stay awhile
and then accompany V on the ice skating
Will D and Frank Woodman & Jim Morgan
went to St Lawrence Corners for oil
started early and didn't return till dark.

V goes skating after dark.

106

Saturday 16 Jan 1897

A cold day. Grace much better but goes to bed after dinner. V goes to River View on ice boat for tobacco, soap & sugar and bought Maud a slate and led pencils. Came home early and after supper goes skating till 12 O'clock or less. A dark cloudy afternoon.

107

~~25 July~~

Sunday 17 Jan 1897

looks like rain or snow,
wind rising and blowing like
a harricane ripping up the
ice in the old St Lawrence tearing
it open from shore to shore, driving
it on shore and piling it up and
stacking it high and dry on Linda's Island.

Whew what a storm.

Well old winter we stole a march
on the ice bound river while it
did last and got the Dr and two
loads of wood and some groceries,
so roll and tumble and clash
your ice in pieces and churn and
powder it up. The girls and boys have
had lots of fun while the ice lasted.
Jim Morgan made us an evening
visit.

108

Monday 18 Jan 1897

The ice this morning
pretty well broken up.

Grace much better no snow
no sleighing

109

~~26 July~~

Tuesday 19 Jan 1897

A extremely cold day. Voltie and Wall went to Lindas for the purpose of chopping wood this a.m. Came home at 12 to dinner. After dinner returned again to the Island taking Charley Woodman, Frank Woodman, Will Dixon, Ed Weaver, Wells Bamford Jr and Wallace Niles, 7 of them, to saw and split fire stove wood. When coming home at 3 p.m. they ran the ice boat upon a thin piece of new ice formed the night before and as the ice boat was being driven with great speed before the wind the instant they boat struck the new ice it broke, precipitating the 7 of them beneath the ice cold water but as they arose to the top, with great presence of mind they managed to save each other which is a miracle indeed that some of there were not

drowned. They never want another such an experience, stiff and nearly benumbed with cold with their clothing encasing them like sheet iron, they made their way to the shore leaving their axes saws & skates at the bottom of the Old St. Lawrence and the ice boat to freeze into the ice hole. A sad experience that each devoutly hopes may never occur again. After putting on dry clothes, Voltie & Wall go to the corners to an amateur performance, came home at 3 O'clock next morning, slept till 1/2 past 7.

Wednesday 20 Jan 1897

A bitter cold day. after
breakfast Devolty goes to get his saw
which they left on the ice yesterday.
Their axes 3 of them were lost in the hole.
They cut the ice boat out to day
and brought her home none the worse
for being dipped excepting the sail
is somewhat cut tearing it from
the ice. Begin to look like a snow
storm growing, cloudy. V goes
early to bed. Commenced a quilt to
day. Wells Sr brought in a new laid
egg.

112

Thursday 21 Jan 1897

Awoke this morning to find the ground covered with 6 inches of snow. The sleighs and cutters are out but the weather turns soft and rains a little. Wells is making axe handles. Wells Jr drove in here with team and hitched on sleigh to carry Nina Watkins home. A new milks cow this morning. V skinned the calf. A black hen on nest laying egg. Hope the snow will not thaw away for we have had only one to two days sleighing this winter and that was a long time ago

113

Friday

22 Jan 1897

A cloudy snowy day; ice covered deeply with snow, no more skating, no more flying over the river on ice boat and plunging into holes. Voltie & Wells Jr bush a road to Linda's island and draw two jags of wood: pitched off a little for Will. Will came over and by him I sent the St Lawrence notes to the post office, fried cakes, pieced on quilt, no soap scarcely any thread. Wells Sr & Wells going to Kingston tomorrow if possible.

114

23rd January 1897

Saturday. Cloudy this morning. Wells Jr busts fire at five, and Irene got breakfast, early but waited till 8 O'clock for Jr to come along. Sr not pleased about waiting. Jr carried 4 bags of potatoes to the Bakers, and oats to be ground for provender. A cold day. Wells Sr and Jr came home late roads heavy brought no coal, no grist & didn't get his tooth filled, in fact nothing went exactly right but came at last and we had a good fire and hot supper waiting for them, brought home candy and two boxes of pink

115

29 July

Sunday 24th January 1897

A cloudy quiet day no one
here till towards evening when Will
and Charley came over and ate supper
with us and we have a fine time.

116

Monday 25 Jan 1897

Very cold snowing some and blowing. V drove for Wills children and took Maud and they to school. Will went too. Will drove for them at night. We churned and made 33 lbs butter and Grace picked two turkeys for market tomorrow. Dont believe they will go it is so very very cold. A dance at Dignums to night. V & G & Will invited, a fine night for a dance truly.

117

~~30 July~~ Tuesday 26 Jan 1897

Intended to go to Kingston to market this morning but intensely cold and blowing, whew! What a winter day. I washed a few things and done copying Grace piecing quilt. Voltie drove with Maud and Wills children to school.

118

Wednesday 27 Jan 1897

Warmer this morning but snow is deep on land and ice. V working in shop after driving over for Wills children and carrying them and Maud to school in sleigh. Will brought over the News about the accident in the ice. Grace cleaned floors and cut more work out for the quilt. I copied the last of the Caribs. Wellie here a few mintues. Cloudy all day and looks like more snow.

~~31 July 1897~~ Thursday 25 Jan 1897

Arose this morning at 4 O'clock.

Grace and Voltie going to Kingston on the ice if they can drive on the ice.

Not very cold but snow falling and has been snowing all night. At

day light they start, Frank W putting in a horse with old Nell before our sleigh.

Frank taking up a load of apples which fills the whole hind end of sleigh. Wells carries out the butter 33 lbs and, the turkeys (2 of them) and can scarcely find room

in sleigh for them, and away they go. V & G sitting in front, and Frank can hardly

find standing room. Wells gave V \$1 dollar to pay in office to day, and three more for

Grace's doctor bill. Wells hitches Jesse to the cutter and drives with Maud to school

snow lightly falling all day. Get dinner

early and Sr goes to Obriens to get cutter irons

fixed after painting 2 old chairs in [illegible] and stay till school is out for afternoon.

120

Voltie and Grace say all night.

Friday 29th Jan 1897

A clear fine day. Wells Sr
drives to school with Maud.

Towards noon Grace, Frank & Voltie
came poking along home driving
all the way on the ice. Stayed all
night at the old folks ball at
McLaren's Hall, both looking weary
and disipated. Grace goes directly
to bed and sleeps till toward night.

Voltie milk the cow and goes off upstairs
to bed. Wells got a letter from
one of his cooks and writes to
her in the evening. Going to
Kingston in morning.

Wellie can bring his overshoes
for his father to exchange tomorrow.

121

1897

Sunday 11 July. Clouds gather
for a thunder storm from
the south. Rain pouring in
torrents with wind thunder &
lightning. Grace drove down
from Charley's through all
the rain bringing Lizzie with
them. The rain is a heaven
sent blessing. Callers; Frank Woodman,
Wallace N, Will &
Charley D. V tied down one
cow for getting in the grain
9 O'clock and rain yet falling
Monday 12 July -97 rained
all night, a cloudy morning &
cloudy day with a little rain. Frank Woodman
ate dinner with us. Maud
brought in a few ripe raspberries
the first from our bushes. Every thing
growing. Maud and Voltie
went fishing-promised to go
no farther than the reaches and

went to look for them, they were not there so followed down the shore calling Maudie as I went no answer. When I came to the wire fence had hard work to get through but propped the bottom wire with a forked stick and crept under, followed down the shore through the cedars through tangled and entwining boughs. V became entangled in a dense groth of wild peas and fell, managed somehow to get up and stagger on. Went as far as the red cedar that grows on the shore near the line fence. but no children fishing. Saw only the cows feeding in pasture. Came back by the wheat field and through the bars. Befor reaching the house heard Maudie singing and knew they were all right. Voltie fixing a milk waggon on which

123

Jan. 31st through Feb. 20th, 1895
on same sheets with
entries for June 1893

124

25

Thursday 31st January 1895

A beautiful winter day, sun clear and bright over all this

[illegible] wide expanse of snow. Lizzie Horne

[illegible] bright and early sewing on Grace's dress.

Wells Jr & Martin gone to Gananoque to mill.

Voltie hitched up horses before jumper and

I went down to see Eveline & children. Then Will took

team from Wellies and drove with Jen & baby to

the foot to Nesbit's. I stayed till after dark when V

came for me, staid to supper, ariving at home found

Robert and LouiseHorn here, all staid till 12 midnight

then went home taking Lizzie with them, got work done.

Friday 1st of February 1895

53 yrs ago.

A soft misty cloudy

day thickening towards night

very little wind Wells and Voltie

125

26

Friday 19 May 1893

A clear bright day, Wind
North, orchards and wood beginning
to look green. Wellie and Martin
plowing all that piece by the strawberries
and raspberries going to seed it.

I scoured milk pans. Grace washed breakfast
dishes. Shelly came and Maude went
to school wiht her. I wrote four 4
letters. Send Mart over to Gloyds
on buisness after dark. Grace
went to the P.O. to mail letters
and milked the cow on the
way back.

in consideration of Perceys wanting me
him all the extras honey, chocolate,
Shelly came at evening and Laura.
Shell washed dishes and after going for
mail Grace, Shell & Laura went to Franks
where they were met by Hattie, Bernard,
Wallace & Jack Niles and Percey. Grace and
Niles youngsters after a grand frolic
came home at half past ten. [?]
I drove all the cows out the yard and
orchard. Maud and June out to chase
them out in the dark. I carrying a lamp
and Maud a long pole. I was afreaid of falling
down but out they trampled through the front
which Percey had left open
and Helen Watson but she & from Wells Sr

127

Miss Laura Joslin came up from
uncle Al's to make a visit all dressed
blue muslin and embroidery with
black braided hair stuck full of
fanciful hair pins. a very fine good
bib put on my old apron and went to
work to help Grace set table and
wash dishes. Grace sent Arthur over to
Geo Rattray's to buy honey which we had
for our 5 O'clock tea. ie Laura, Grace
Maud and the men having their supper
by lamp light. All only Percey by going for
pail of water lost his place at table, had
to wait as our table can only seat 12
and that would have been the 13th and

Wednesday 24 May - 1893

A clear bright day Wind South

Saturday 2 February 1895

A cloudy morning but clears

away by nine a.m. and a most beautiful winter

day succeeds the morning bright and clear. Wells & Will

gone to Kingston. Jen came up from Nesbits this morning.

Wellie & Volie drew uncle Smith the hay—three tons

to pay for Smiths carpentry tools. Mart done chores.

Grace & Maud sings and plays the organ. Grace swept

and cleaned floors. Mrs B fried some

cakes. Mike O'Brien brought

the school teacher down to day. Uncle Smith

and Charley Easton dont speak to each other.

Will bought a new stove 36 dollars.

Sunday 3 Feb 1895

[left hand page missing, text will be indicated with *]

* cold winter morning. North wind

* but quiet and clear. Welly came

up for milk. Mart went to churn

* wrote a letter to Mr Watson

* the family reading Mail

* another new calf at the

29

[bottom right corner and some left bottom margin has been torn, missing text will be indicated with a *]

Friday 28 May 1898

A hot wind South like an African simoon
 blowing sharp. Boys working in field.
 Grace washed, hung clothes on line,
 cleaned dining room, wood work and
 floor, moved cupboard and table,
 painted cupboard. Maud at school.
 A black thunder cloud rolling up from
 the west, sharp chain lightning with
 the white deep fringed edge rolling over
 and over, and after which tells of wind.
 I bring in all the wood and chips
 quick as I can, close the doors and
 windows and stand by the window and
 watch the coming tornado so grand and
 awful so forget all about the clothes
 hanging on the line. I shout *
 Wellie Martins & Woodmans boys *
 turn out but no, they go back *
 forth across the field each trying *
 can stay out the longer. Will *
 * they all run for *
 *fast as the horses can go *
 * some like a streak Martin *
 * get wet if the wind dont f *
 well they are here and *
 pours the wind blows the *
 * heavy thunder *

130

44

[bottom left corner torn, missing text indicated with *]

June 20 A very warm day. Grace made a dress for her grandmother. Rain would be a blessing just now. I done the house work. Grace and set 25 tomato plants

June 21 1893. A very warm day no rain in ten days. Barometer falling hope it will rain.

G worked in garden, Wellie and

* done road work, Grace fixed her dress, cleaned floors and

* fishing. Welly's putty came

* can so I fixed it with beeswax

* are doing well. Grace and

* a hundred tomato plants

131

43

18 June A very warm day John
and Flora came and brought
Grace home with them from Limerick

19 June. Monday. A fine day.

Grace washing and ironing all
the clothes. Borrowed Jens flatirons

Rev. Mr. Road house called and
paid his rent \$25 and I gave him
dollar of the rent

132

[bottom left corner torn, missing text indicated with *]

Wednesday 6 February 1895 A bitter
cold morning but clear and bright.

Grace & Volty drive to Marysville to attend
the CMBA Ball leaving Grace at Healy's.

V drives to Kingston. Wells Sr choring.

Mart at school an awful cold day

continued on page 34

Monday 29 May

A very fine day Wind S

* Went to school but couldn't find

* Book. Grace washed

31

[bottom right corner torn, missing text indicated with *]

Monday 4 February 1895

A thick hazy atmosphere very light
wind South, snow falling lightly all day.
Voltie & Wellie drawing hay for Burnham.
Voltie drove Dan horse down to Horn's.
Grace went there to get Lizzie to trim
her pink waist. Wells bought a double
harness of an agent. Agent staying all night.
Maud went to make Muriel & Hubert a visit.
Voltie gone to Horns for Grace, broke the
cutter irons by driving Dan.

Tuesday 6 February 1895

A bright and
extremely cold day. Wind N.W.
coldest this winter. Webster (Harness *
left after breakfast. We got a ch*
knife and some 6 tea spoons. Voltie *
help Will set up his stove after dinner *
* off the new calf poor thing *
Wellie came for milk after dinner *
and has now gone to Morgans for *
* that uncle S lent Morgan *
* is Martins first day this *
school. In evening Mart went *
and didn't do his home *
* invitation for G & V to go to *

134

33

Tuesday 30 May 1893

Wind S.W. Grace cleaned her bed room
looks fine, clouds gathering in west,
rains part of A.M. I sow carrot and
beet seed with seeder. Mart planted
sweet corn and punkins. Wellie plows
up a piece of ground down toward Smith for
corn, beans & potatoes. Wellie planted
popcorn. Will Dixon went to cape with fish,
stoped at Raven view and got the seeds Flora sent.
I sowed some of them. I churned.

Wednesday May 31

This is the last day of the month.
A fine clear day. Wind S.W.
Grace is cleaning the small room
took up carpet and whiped it *
line.

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Thursday 7 February 1895

A very

cold day. V & G came home at 7 p.m.

Mart at school. Voltie worked all day.

Wellie came up for milk and

butter. Will & Charlie here. Will making

an ice boat. Grace cleaned floors and

after dinner went to bed. Slept till supper

time, very cold dark clouds, wind S.W. looks

a gathering storm. In evening Mart

goes to church to hear Rev. Barrel preach

found no preacher there. Went to D.D.W's

and studied their lessons.

Friday 8 Feb 1895

Intensely cold, snowing and

blowing from North. Morgans

* and the teacher at 1/2 past nine a.m.

* the blinding storm so

* overcoat & cap and away

* goes to school. So the carlton

dance will be a failure

* time Mart went for *

others only two letters in *

* this evening

* they say only 7 *

* school this day. When *

* storm howls without

* is cozy and warm by

* fire

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Monday 11 1895

Feb 1895

A pleasant morning but cool
Wind South some what cloudy.
Wells Sr & Wells Jr gone to Kingston
with potatoes for Wellie sold them
for 40 cts per bag. Morgan's
borrowed the cross cut saw brought it
home at 1/2 past 4 pm. Charley Easton
here complaining about Smiths. Lanes
locked the barn against Easton.

Tuesday 12 Feb 1895

Quite a

fine day. Teams flying past here
enroute for Kingston. Niles gone

- * Mrs Naihor came down with
- * she came after dark. While G
- * V are gone to make an evening
- & McFadens, Mrs Montgomery
- * brought her down to day
- * them some popcorn. Mart
- * Wellie got two great fish
- * went to River view for Kerosine.

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Saturday 9 Feb 1893

A very cold day, snow flying.

We live in a blizzard this winter
with nose froze and toes a frozen.

Wells Sr went to J.N. and borrowed
a bag of coal. Grace cleaned more
doors and I must wash some
towels and other things. Oh for Liberty!

I would like to sew, read—yes study,
knit yards of lace, crochet, sew for a carpet,
piece bed quilts, make scrap books but
only drudge & drudge. How I wish we
had a lot of new
books. Grace and I all the standard
works of good authors. Set up and
read till late.

Sunday 10th Feb

A very fine day snow lightly falling *

warming but soon clears away *

* the sleighs and cutters. to day *

* in every direction our *

* house is a great highway *

* say I washed those towels to *

* had roast beef for dinner *

* a visit stayed till 9 p.m. *

* Voltie got a bod cold.

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June 9th Friday 1893

It is long time since I wrote
in this diary. Many things have
transpired that I wish to have
written which has entirely escaped
my memory but I will try and
trace the days back in
memory as far as I can recolect.

This is a lovely day clear and
warm light wind South.

Last night Nellie came home with
Grace from Kingston for a ten
days vacation. Wellie & Martin

* manure away over

* the grange from this barn

* helps act the meals *

* &c. After dinner they *

* Mrs Niles and I am al *

* supper for the boys.

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Wednesday 13 Feb 1895

A soft day. Grace washed and hung the clothes out. Voltie drew wood and hay, run his net and got two pickerel and a perch. Mart went to school. George Niles here inviting to Lills & Henry's party. Volty & Grace declined the honor of attending. Mart went. Mrs Nailor here yet. Charley Holliday at HH's party and called off a couple of changes so we heard from Belle and the children they are free

continued on page 39

June 8 Thursday 1983

A fine summer day. Grace goes to Kingston - took 50 dollars *
* pay Mills & Kent Brothers. Took *
note of 25 dollars given by her *
* Kent brothers paid 25 dollars *
* Mills for V and took no *
* would send it up the *
* Gillespie burried to day *
Wellie G came home with *
Wellie went to funeral *
* Wellie caught a young *

41

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14 June Wednesday 98

A fine day. Mart and Frank drawing manure over to Grange. Wellie working for Sam's folks, sent Milley down to borrow Joinder and circular saw. Grace in Limerick. James Gloyds and Will Slate over visiting and get a pig. Wellie got cheese money order to day. \$27,75 cts very well but Hugh is going for it all.

15 June Thursday

A fine day wind

South. Wellie gone to Kingston on boat.

Frank Woodman pretending *

Mart draw manure. Drew *

one load this a.m. *

* have to cook their meals for *

* around I suppose some *

* will get done cooking *

* ache so either. Will *

sifting sand to the river *

* Grace in Limerick.

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Sunday 17 February 1895

A beautiful day. Wind South. Alone
till dinner time ie. Wells, Mart, Maude & I
then came. Van Bamford cider swilled
and swearing, next came Will Dixon, Will Pillar,
Charley Holliday bringing Mrs Naylor and
All Percy came next. I nearly forgot
to say that Wellie and Charley Easton came
before the others that is in fore noon.
Mart went to church and heard Harrold
Burnhams funeral sermon preached
by Rev White

continued on page 45

June 17 Saturday

A hot

day clear, no rain since Sunday

* not home yet. I am *

* can scarcely crawl around *

* came up and scrubbed the floor

* a great favor then. Mart & *

* go Sams and play ball a while.

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Tuesday 19 February 1895

A fine day. Wind South. Will D and Will P went to O'Briens to get irons made for ice boat. Charley here for milk. Looked for V & G home to day this was the day they said they would come.

Wednesday 20 February 1895

A very good day. Wind West and snow drifting some. Will Pillar went home to day. Will and Charley here for milk and buttermilk. Will going to make a beets draw
* from Howe Island. Will gave me 25 cts
* milk. I didn't want to take it from him
* he said if not he would get no more milk
* for G & V all day but they didn't come.

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45

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June 22 1895

A hot day look like showers
Barometer low. A shower last
night. Grace gone to Kingston.
Wellie drove to dock. Maud and
I alone and weed out the
flowers. Grace carried \$25 dollars to
Town with her will pay Ackley \$10
on account. Wellie and Mart working
out their road tax. I must feed
the hogs for it is now 12 o'clock noon.
Grace took up the milk can to
get it fixed putty or beeswax wont
mend the leak.

Monday 18 Feb 1894

A very good day. Wind SE
look like a storm dark around
the horizon. William Pillar here *
* and made us a long 6 *
*. Jolly good fellow. Wellie *
Al Dixon half tun of hay. Charley *
* for milk

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Saturday 16 February 1895

A beautiful day arose early. Wills and Wells Jr gone to Kingston with a cow and calf to sell.

Voltie & Grace gone to John's. Will and Charley here. Will making ice boat in shop. Chimney caught fire from stove pipe.

Wind S.W. cool snow not settled down any yet. Wells and Wellie came home 1/2 past nine. Mart and I watched from the windows only received 20 dollars for the cow purchased by B Folger. Will Pillar came to day put his horse in our barn & went to Wills.

13 June Tuesday

A fine warm day
continued on page 42

* any wind South

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Thursday 14th Feb 1895

A very good day not very cold.

Welly came and brought some holders for Grace to stitch. Mart

came home at four a.m. had

fine time. Gone to school now

Voltie going to Marysville with potatoes

to buy groceries. Little Flora Dixon here visiting.

Will gone to Howe Island for wood. Wellie gone

with him with our team. Bamford fixing over an

old cutter. A beautiful afternoon. V came home

early. Webster called here again going to Horns.

Wellie got home at dark from Howe Island.

Colder this evening.

Wills came for Flora and drew her home on sled.

Friday 15 Feb 1895

Wind N rather *

* gives promise of a beautiful

* Voltie draws wood and hay and

* to Johns and take a cow to Kingston

* Charley Holliday drove *

* Flynn's for pigs says: the *

* bad cold. Mrs Naylor *

* with him and I am glad she *

* carried her croak with *

* awful old woman try *

* things. a fine and *

* she is gone a beautiful *

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