

November 17<sup>th</sup> Friday.

Dad was awakened this morning at about four o'clock by the piteous cries of his little pet canary, the wild one. He came out and found a rat, the rat we have all been plotting against and trying catch for the last two or three weeks chewing the little canary's leg. He scared it into the pantry and headed the door and then broke the old wooden spoon that Mr. Mum made killing the rat but he did kill it. He let <sup>the canary</sup> it go till noon and then found that its leg was broken right off so he had to spill it. Bill and I took out and got a loaded corn talps. We got three <sup>bags</sup> ~~loads~~ <sup>bags</sup> and unloaded by noon and there is about another bag standing and the rest are all down and too wet to bring in. It began to sleet about noon and soon turned into rain. It rained all the after noon and night and much milder to night. All the snow has vanished and given place to - mud. Bill went down town this after noon. Dad and I did not do much but chores this after noon. I read "The O'Paddy" most of the time and find it is an excellent book.

Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>

It was a brute of a day rain, sleet and wind, and to night is blowing and freezing. I spent about an hour this morning repairing up my old boots. Then I went out and helped Frank get in Dad's sled while home as trying put a window in his new <sup>to the feather of foot</sup> chest <sup>top</sup> could see to go to roof. I went over to <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> about noon with a buck saw blade to get him to set it. Dick and Ila went down town this morning to wish Aunty. I made a happy birthday and Ila of course stayed. Dad, Frank and Ila went back to where Dad was blowing to fill a ditch. When they came back Dick went down town and Frank and I stayed home and took in the old barn all afternoon. I wanted to see how it would work to come down a hole made yesterday in the straw right on to the oak. Dad did the work. I read "The O'Paddy" to night. I see no possible chance of getting out of having a bath to night as Dick is catching it now.