

Irene Dixon Bamford 1896, Diary Transcription

5034_4-1-5

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Irene Dixon Bamford

Diary 1896 1896

[stamp]

Queen's University Archives

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Box 1

File 5

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[seal: R Date 1896 Sealed with Gulfwax]

Continued. 3

[binding tape has obscured the writing on the left margin, it will be indicated with #]

#kes his leave, going to call on Yonger

#lks & from thence to uncle Sammy's.

Tonight we would be alone this eve

#t not so evening visitors Frank Woodman,

Ed Weaver. Leather land

#yed pedro till eleven P.M. Leather

all night.

Thursday 6 Dec 1896

Cloudy wind

#South 7 O'clock this morning

I call Devolson. Leatherland

stays till 12 noon day and after a

cordial hand shaking all round

leave again for Kingston

at uncle Sammy's for his

'sack instead went to Niles to

his dinner and thence to Geo Gillespie

evening we are alone quietly G popped

full of corn

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Monday 7 Decr 1986

warm morning.

Awoke this morning to find the ground white with snow. A sort of wierd [sic] ghostly morning. The trees and shrubery were never so beautiful in leafy month of June, though more lasting, than this morning when when every tiniest branch is drooping under the pure whitening of snow.

Saw Leatherend peg leging off up the road this morning. Will and Devol went to run nets but got nothing.

Wellie went to Niles for his tools
V called at Margans for cutter fills .

I got to churn and work over butter,
butter no good, cream no good,
threw 6 pans of milk and cream
to the hogs.

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Tuesday 8 Nov 1996

[illegible scribbles]

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Wednesday 9th Dec 1896

A day of all work, butter and
Fowls to dress for market. Voltie goes
to Niles and buys a rug for Nellie which
I will give her for a Christmas present,
sending it tomorrow. Maud sick with quinoa.
A dirty day cloudy and looks like rain
and does rain like jehy before dark
and after dark.

Thursday 10 Dec 1896

A lovely day after the
rain of last night. We arose at
4 breakfast ready in a few minutes
after the fire is built and they load
on their batter and turkeys, 14 butter and
3 turks leaving Maud and I alone
& Maud is sick with sore throat.
Will drove the team home from dock and
stayed awhile and told ghost story. I work
hard all day, stew and hang up pumpkins. Bamford
bought a new stove to day and Wellie, Will, Voltie & friends
set tarp. Brought Morgans groceries in basket basket.

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Thursday Dec 10th

Almond Joslin here to dinner.

Will came over and helped put up the stove pipe.

Friday 11 December 1896

A fine day. Arose at four a.m., routed the family, got breakfast early and V gets on the road at half past six a.m. enroute for Kingston with the cattle which he sold Burnside Wednesday. Welling & Perley & Percy Gillespie also drive cattle and they all go in company to Marysville.

Devers wanted the boys to drive his cattle but "got left". Maud quite sick with tonsillitis quinsy. School teacher came after school to make a visit. Jim Morgan came for his tea. Frank here too in evening. V came after dark.

Saturday 12 December 1896

A warm day, very fine for December. Maude better to day. Grace scoured pantry floor with brush, made cookies. I worked all day except showing Alice the mistery [sic] of lace knitting. Jim Morgan rowed down with a skiff for his basket of groceries and V helped him carry the basket to the river. V plowed in afternoon. Uncle Samy plowing with 2 teams all day.

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Sunday 13 Dec 1896

A fine quiet day cloudy all day and looks like a rainstorm.

Miss Foley here. Will here too & Wells Jr, Grace & Will popped corn. Maud better much better.

Would like to go over and see mother but the roads are muddy so Will says. V towards sundown goes to Wills for kerosine.

Monday 14 December 1896

A beautiful clear sun bright day. After breakfast Voltie goes to corners for oil. C Woodman goes with him. Took R Percy's rig.

V brought 10 gallons for himself. C & Devolson ate dinner at R Perceys. R Percy not at home. Returned at 1/2 past one p.m.

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I fell and nearly broke my neck,
the veranda post saved me
by the hand of providence, I
scaped. Sustained a doubled and
twisted wrenching of the back and
hip beside bruising shin rather
badly. Good for rheumatism.
V brought Maud rock candy and
lemons. Miss Foley stayed with us till this
morning. Grace washed clothes.
W Sr puttying glass for double windows.
A beautiful sunset - and moonlight
night. Moon in second quarter since
Friday. V plowed after he came back from
the corners, every furrow turned now will not
have to be done in spring. Geo Niles and
[Johny Niles][John Jr Niles]] called here on their way to
Wills to play pedro, John Sr having preceeded
them. After supper V accompanies them
to Wills. Johny Niles brought Grace a
letter, an invitation from Mary Dignum
to visit her tomorrow eve with Voltie
Saying Miss Foley will be there too

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Tuesday 15th December 1896

A cold frozen morning,
ground bare and a very cold
day: frost on windows, water in
washdish frozen & bilged. I am
not quite so lame as yesterday.
Patched vest and pants for Voltie,
finished the lace for the apron & worked
it and partly sewed it on. W Sr
preparing double windows and cellar
window. V drew wood from old
orchard, apple trees that the heavy
winds have blown over. Grace cleaned
chamber and white washed her bedroom.
Will here this evening. I made head cheese.
Maud had a fit of pouts, poor dear Maude.
Wills little ones at school to day. They must
have been very cold, poor little dears.
A very cold night and river steaming
cloudy. Grace ironing this eve after making
two underwaists. Well thank God we are
warm and comfortable this night. V
couldnt have crossed the river this day.

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Thursday 27 Aug 96

A fine day. Grace & Maud

Harry & Fred & Marjorie all go to Kingston
leaving Voltie and I at home alone.

Didnt send any butter to market this morning,
butter too soft.

~~Friday 28 Aug 96~~

Wednesday 16 December 1896

A clear cold day, ground bare and
hard frozen. Samy butchering. Ed Weaver
here for butcher knife. Wellie called on
his way to get his pay of Niles for carpenter work.

Got nothing. Niles going to pay him some
tomorrow. W Sr fixing over an old bedstead.

Wellie and Voltie cleaning a grist for milk
to send to Kingston tomorrow. I got to churn
and make out a little butter for market.

Jesse Reid came back with the other fisher from

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~~Saturday 29 Aug 96~~

way back Jesse Reid here to supper.

Rachel came over for butter print.

I going to use it, sent Charley &

Flora in evening for print.

Volty this evening gone with Reid to

Niles to play pedro. Ground bare

no snow. Maud had nose bleed.

Reid came back with V to stay

over night.

~~Sunday 30 Aug 96~~

Thursday 17 Dec 1896

A gloriously fine day cold still

and sunbright. Arose at 4.

Jess Reid stayed to do the

chores. Such a talker his tongue

is like a bell clapper that is

continually ringing. Dont like him

the dirty fraud. He goes down cellar often for

cider. He is drunk on cider and he's

on the lounque snoring. Oh I could

write a chapter about this day

will some time.

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Monday 31 Aug 96

Tuesday 1 September

A very good day. Voltie
went to foot of Island for wood but
got none, some body had taken it
all.

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Wednesday 2 September 96

Churned and made 45 lbs
of butter for market. Charlie came over for
butter print. Voltie gone to Kingston: started
horse back borrowed Cavalry's covered
buggy, returned just after dark. Jim Morgan
here: bought some beef of him. Jess Reid
drove up the cows and Jess and Leatherland
milked all the cows which was a kindness
indeed. V paid the 2.50 R.V.R.

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Thursday 3 September 96

Raining from South

quite warm weather so much so that the butter is soft, but Grace takes 39 lbs to market which she sells for 18 cts per lb in bulk leaving 6 lbs home. A very rainy day filling the large milk can in short time towards evening clears up. A wet day for their carnival in Kingston. Ferry boat does not leave the city till 6 p.m. and nearly nine when Grace arrives home with V from the dock. Saw Harry in town and called on Harry's grandma and aunts. Maude stays home on account of rain. Jess Reid here most of the day. Letherland helped Voltie milk this morning. Voltie drove hoe Cavalrys buggy.

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Friday 4 Sept 1876

A beautiful cool day

after the heavy rain storm of yesterday. Maud at school and learning very well: going to keep her at school every day when the weather is fine. Our work to day is preserving pears, churning and general house work.

Plenty of work to be done those days in doors and out. Orchard loaded with apples to be gathered and the finest of them stowed away in the cellar in barrels, some made in cider & many dried besides giving to our numerous friends. And there are potatoes corn and turnips to harvest, pumpkins to dry, sweet corn to dry &c &c &c. Mail. a letter for Harry and the Whig. V goes over to Mr Dignam's to get Herb to help dig potatoes tomorrow. Vitsitors Jess Reid here this evening for leads and sinkers.

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Saturday 5 September 1896

Herb came over to help

Voltie dig potatoes. Dug till noon, rain

came pouring down. Reid came over & the boys all go to the shop (after sitting in house awhile) where V has been at work a long time. Raining all p.m.

quite steadily. Our house work is churning, working butter, cleaning floors, digging corn, patching V pants. Want to wash a few things but Will has got our wash tub with fish nets in.

Maud ciphering in redirections. Voltie milked all the cows 9 of them for Charlie. drove in

here from the foot of island and Grace went

home with him. Charlie had been to

Clayton to look for a ~~pet~~ or valise

belonging to a Mr Gibson whom Charlie

is rowing. Wind South. Maud went

to Wellies for a potatoe fork. Charlie Dixon

& Flora here at dark through the rain for yeast

cakes & apples. Wellie here this a.m. worrying

over our business troubles. Says Nick Mosier

been cleaned out on account of his debts

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Sunday 6 September 96

A cloudy squally looking day. Wind blowing fresh from South West and increasing to nearly a gale towards night. Reid here all a.m. Wallace N made a call and they all talk fish talk. V goes over to the other orchard. Reid goes with him. Maude and I walk down through the orchard as far as the old maple. The trees are bending under their load of apples this year. Return to the house and get dinner ready just as V comes back from the old orchard. After dinner Reid comes back and stays till bed time. Henry H brings Grace from at dark. Very glad she came.

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Monday 7 September 96

A beautiful day breezy from South. Grace washing. Greenwood here and served summons on Bamford in favor of Tom Hatfield: but I dont care how things goes now days. I'm content: my children are big enough and old enough by God's help to take care of themselves. Voltie digging potatoes in the orchard. Will & Jess R are fishing. Lottie, Ethel, Muriel and Hubert here. Wellington, Burnham and Perley are here cleaning grain at our grainery. Churned again to day.

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Tuesday 8 September 96

A beautiful September day
warm and bright. The pastures and
meadows green as in June. Churned
again to day Voltie digging potatoes.
Maud at school. Dont know what Welles
is doing. Reid here talking to Voltie
all afternoon & says grandmother is better.
Voltie gone to Wellies: when came back said
he been cooning. A letter from the
Gov says he is not very well. I'm sorry.

Wednesday 9 Sept 96

Arose at 1/2 past 5 am
another lovely day: churned again,
mushrooms are plenty. V, digging
potatoes. Noon very warm, butter somewhat
soft. Wellie drawing grain (pease) for J.N.
Maud at school. Mrs Niles and Shelly
made us an evening call.

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Thursday 10 September 96

A delightful day - afternoon extremely warm and cloudless with scarcely a breath of wind: river like a mirror. Grace gone to market with 88 lbs butter. Maud at School. Will & Reid fishing. Voltie digging potatoes. Irene churned again and worked very hard and am so very tired. Rachel came home this evening on the ferry Boat accompanied by a young maid of the forrest. Reid gone to the Cape with Weaver: came home on the square. Jen & Eveline went to market with butter. This is the Princess tess trip. Sold butter for 18 cts per lb.

Friday 11 September 96

A very fine day

just breezy enough to be pleasant, clear and cloudless and warm. Leatherland here to dinner. Maud finished potatoe digging. Maude at school.

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and Jess Reid went to the Cape in Niles skiff. Wind strong from North, sailed up & rowed home. Returned 1/2 past nine p.m. All abed but I. A very hard pull from the Cape against heavy sea. Voltie wet from head to foot, bought a fine pair boots, said Mrs Harnny had a stroke to day.

Sunday 13 September 96

A windy morning. Wind North.

Very glad to find Voltie home this morning.

We are alone nearly all day, towards evening Grace goes over to Will Dixons accompanied by Maud. Voltie milks all the cows. Wallace came to make us an evening call. Soon Grace came back bringing Rachel & Ansan Maricle a full blood squaw from Deseronto.

Then came Jesse Reid and Will Dixon and Wallace stayed also till 10 O'clock Had night mare Sunday night 2 O'clock V woke me up.

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Monday 14th September 96

A warm day. Wind S churned
butter soft. V makes a barrel of cider vinegar.

Sarah Gillespie came up and cut and made
my dress skirt, went home at dark and will
not be back till Friday. Maud at school.

S.D. Woodman & George Williams went with
Weaver in the yacht across the river to Millens Bay.

Tuesday 15 September 96

Wind North, weather

delightfully pleasant. Maud at School

Voltie making cider. Grace getting the
meals and working on Mauds dress.

Irene not well, sick all last night
(eating to much green corn) lots of

work to be done this day: churning,
canning tomatoes, making catsup.

Went to bed awhile. Jess Reid here.

Rachel and the "abrigonie" [sic] visiting at

Evelines. Voltie churned. Grace took care of butter.
This swarm like bees in June.

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Wednesday 16 September 96

Dont fell very well but work all day, churn and make 32 prints for market. Rachel, Jesse Reid and Mrs Marrickle gone to the Cape with fish in Niles skiff. Came home at dark towing behind Weavers seow yacht. Rachel got a new dress ready made

Thursday 17 September 96

Grace and Maud gone to Kingston. Sent 32 pounds of butter to market. Voltie and I alone all day. V went to Niles for his beans that he had threshed in Niles barn. V churned. Irene worked hard all day, cleaned floor & washed. Rachel and the squaw went to the city. Pierpont makes her first fall trip. We had to get up at four this morning for the boat comes in at six sharp with old McKenzie for spouter. Grace brought home a basket of peaches. Watson came home with Grace (enroute forSyracuseMicheal Corneil

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Friday 18 Sept 96

A mellow yellow warm hazy day. Wind S. V repaired his skiff with coal tar: perfume not pleasant. Jesse Reid borrowed the skiff and has gone to the Cape. I gave him his \$190 dollars, glad he has it some how I dont like him. Ignorant unprincipled and vicious. Rachel here a few minutes & carried home a part of water. V fixed his punt. Will cleaning fish at river. Sarah G finished my dress and gone home. Maud at school.

Saturday 19 September 96

Awoke in night to find the rain pouring down & a rainy morning and a sunny day. Harry Watson here and cannot go over to Dr Buchanan to day. James Morgan stays all night & ate breakfast with us this morning. Will & Charles here this morning and borrowed our big basket. Irene churned. Grace & Maud doing housework. Voltie working in shop all a.m. makes an apple dryer. Grace cooks corned beef, potatoes & cabbage for dinner and custard pie.

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Sunday 20 September 96

A chilly morning but fair,
not much wind this morning.

Harry & Voltie ate dinner at Wellies and
Harry goes across the river with Mr Maloney's
boys in skiff. Voltie comes
home at milking time driving home
the cows. River is rough this afternoon,
a strong wind from the West. Rachel
and Jen came over and stayed till
after supper.

Monday 21 Sept 96

A cool day but
fine. Grace got a cold and sore throat.
Reid came across river this am
wind blowing strong from S.W.
Maud at school. Voltie cutting up
corn. Grace and Irene make tomato
catsup and can sweet apples and churn.
Grace, Voltie & Maud gone to prayer meeting
and I am alone with the dogs for
company this evening.

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Tuesday 22 September 96

Wind North. A very chilly day.

Churn in kitchen. Grace trying a log cabin quilt. Jess Reid here visiting nearly all afternoon wish he'd go home. Churned. Maud at school. Voltie making cider.

Wednesday 23rd September 96

Rather cold day. Wind North.

Churn and print butter for market 30 lbs. put up a bag of apples to give away besides a loaf of bread, a lb of butter, a can of new milk: send Maud early in morning to Wills for the print & Jen & Will after it in evening. A chilly evening. We put up the butter in the baskets and get every thing ready for morning. Maud at school this day. Did not attend church this evening.

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Thursday 24th Sept 96

Rather a nasty morning raining.

Get out bed at four clock. Grace

to Kingston to market 30 lbs butter

Carries Mrs Piggott a bag of apples and

a small private basket besides. Voltie

bought a bushel of tomatoes of J Wilkinson

and brings them on Waggon from dock & two

apple barrels. Grace bought a new 6 chairs \$400.00

Maud stays home from school, church

steeple raised today.

Friday 25 Sept 96

A mild day, broken clouds. Wind

South. A fine autumn day.

Pickling and canning

nearly all day. Maud home.

There is no school today. Teacher

gone home. Voltie fixing the waggon.

Grace washed small washing & got dinner,

afer dinner went to Mr George Gillespies

to see Dora, found her better. Dr Buchanan

there.

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Saturday 26 September 96

A cloudy forenoon. After dinner Bell, Charley and their children came down home. Charley went home leaving them here. Rain comes pouring filling tub in a short time. Grace got a bad cold.

Jess Reid helped Jim, Devolson milk which was a favor for Grace. churned.

Sunday 27 September 96

A dull rainy day but we are comfortably and happy and noisy, the children cant get out door much to day so wet but they venture for a few mushrooms. Evening visitors Jess Reid and Florence Morgan and Wallace Niles

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Monday 28 September 96

A very fine day quite mild and sunny. The little girls attend school 4 of them. Skim milk, churn, sweep, make beds and get dinner, soup for dinner. Voltie & Wellie gone to Kingston in waggon started late but came home quite early. Grace had to go over to the grange for cows. Mr Niles came for cider mill and made us a call.

Tuesday 29 September 96

A very mild calm day. Voltie early this morning rowed Belle and baby Grace across the river to Mrs Gloyds. Marjorie, Beatrice & Maud gone school leaving Charlie & Irene here at home. Wellie makes us a call and feels much better after going to Kingston about their office business. Irene B does house work. Grace gets dinner and irons clothes and starch and irons J.D.'s shirt and her white dress. Reid and Weaver gone

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to Cape Vincent with fish. Our youngsters
are all going to Beads point, Hickory Island
to a party at Hicks 2 O'clock p.m.

Cloudy, warm just a breath of air South.

Weaver & Reid just returned from Cape.

Voltie went to Wellies for a barrel of swill.

I am writing while I sit on veranda
beginning to rain just as the party embark for
Hicks, bids fair for a a nasty night.

Wednesday 30 September 96

Rain pouring all night in torrents.

Wind blowing heavy from North.

Came home at half past 4 o'clock am.

Weaver tumbled them all out, leaving
them to get home best they could in a
drenching rain storm and wind

strong enough to lift them off their feet.

Voltie stays aboard to help Weaver down

to Joslins bay with the yacht. Florence

comes in with Grace. Will Niles, George

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& Jim & Bernard Morgan & Mabel & Alice
go home in skiff and nearly get swamped.
With great anxiety I await Volties return.
About daylight he comes thank God.
Wet, cold and hungry: none of the
party having had a morsel to eat since
leaving home last night. Grace & Florence
devoured a loaf of bread, 1/2 lb butter and
an apple pie. No female women to greet
them on their arrival at the grand ball
only male men Rick's body guard.
But Oh it was providential and I am
thankful. At half past 5 wind changed
to South and tore things right and left.
Such a gale of wind seldom calls
here, the river white and flying spray,
unroofing barns, demolishing others,
uprooting trees, taking every apple from
trees, weakening ever obstacle in the
way, waves on river running 20
feet high and dashing on the rocks
shore with such tremendous force, the
water was thrown above the tall cedars

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on the high shore. Weavers yacht turned bottom side up rolling the engine clean out in the the mud.

Thursday October 1896

A quiet morning. Gloyd's (ie James & Charley) brought Bell and Gracie home and a grain bag full of litterature. JamesDevolson drove with Grace to the dock. In afternoon Bell and Gracie went visiting to Wells Children at school. Belle much worried about the storm and the trip to Beads point.

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Friday 2nd October 96

A cool day. Belle gone to Evelines accompanied by Marjorie and Gracie. Beatrice crying to go. Children picking up apples gathering nuts, mushrooms. Voltie shingling for Niles. Will and Reid here for team to draw fish from dock. Belle came home tired out carrying Gracie

Saturday 3rd October 1896

Not a pleasant day, chilly. Charley came for Belle and the children couldnt carry all their apples and tomatoes and forget their chicken. Voltie and Wellie working for Niles repairing his barn. Henry Halliday at Niles making cider. Drove here for Bells apples ought to have taken three instead of two. Voltie & Jim OBrien went to bay for oil. Jesse Reid here in evening also Collfer and another lad wanting the skiff to go to Bay: dog made a row.

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Sunday 4th October 1896

An autumn day very cool & dull.

Jesse Reid here. Malony's boys brought Dr Watson over. Very quiet after Belle and her children go home but we are seldom alone. Frank Woodsman here. Will Dixon here and they all drink cider. Oh well not very quiet Sunday after all.

Monday 5th Oct 1896

A cloudy day. Wind

North. Our house is never free from visitors or our guest chamber free from a sleeper. Harry W here. Jesse Reid here. Indian here camping in our cedars. Voltie shingling Niles barn. Wellie threshing for Breaky. Grace and Reid chasing a chicken. They yet work on church steeple. Wellington Burnham here.

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Tuesday 6th October 1896

A cloudy spotted kind of a day
over head. Wind North, moderately
cold or weather medium or merly [sic]
straddle of the fence. Voltie drawing manure
all day. Maud at school. Irene churned,
skimmed milk, strained milk, washing milk
pans & made jelly. Grace sewed. In evening Voltie
went to J Niles and played poker till 10
p.m. Ed Weaver called for V this evening to
go tomorrow to Marysville to play baseball
but he will not be such a dunce.

Wednesday 7th October 1896

Wind North

changing to west. A rainy morning
and rainy cheerless chilly day. The
woods are turning crimson golden
scarlet and a sunset brown, and bronze
green, most beautiful. Churned and
made thirty two lbs of butter for market.
Jesse Reid and Will Dixon here
Ethel brought home the butter print.
The pasture is green as June. Grace

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finished my dress and I put it on.
Maud at home washing dishes and
writing a letter to her father. A base ball
game was to be played to day at the Ferry
and a dancing in the evening. Grace washed
a few things. Voltie had a D-I of a time
looking up his razor. A nasty dirty afternoon
weather. Well I must get up and skim
the milk. Glad the milk is in the pantry.
What hurry hurry worry the days are from
morning till night. Henry out of bed
when one could sleep an hour or two longer
with so much comfort. Henry to get the
milk skimmed. Henry to get breakfast.
Hurry to wash milk pans and strain
milk, hurry to churn. Come hustle
around and get the chow chow going
Come Maud hurry up- get ready for
school. Come hurry and get the dishes
washed, and get the dinner and then more
dishes to wash again, an interval of
making jelly or catsup or preserving
then more pans to skim, empty and

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wash, another meal to get more dishes
to wash and if you can catch a little
time between each mentioned job why
there is sewing, darning, patching, apple
and pumpkins to dry and saying
must put a quilt on the frames. next
week sure come put wood in stove
and make a rousing fire or the bread
will run over and step around now
for the floor, chairs and windows
must be cleaned. and I'm sure we will
have to do a big washing tomorrow.
and about entertaining visitors. I'll
keep dark and not say one word
Well now this is only in door work.

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Thursday 8 October 96

Slept out bed at 7 am,
a cold cloudy dark morning been
raining all night. I drove to dock
with Grace and Harry. Maud at
home. Eveline and Will Dixon gone
to Kingston. Eveline carried her carpet
rags to the city to have her carpet woven.
Maud works well all day. Wellie came
up after breakfast. Muriel and Hubert
are with him. Voltie and Wellie go to Geo Gillespies
to thresh. Wellie came back
and the children go home with him.
V goes with Jesse Reid to help him run
his nets and load the fish in to the waggon
and draw them here. Jesse helps
draw manure and milk the cows. Eddy Bates
ate supper with us and then they
go to the dock for Grace.

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Friday 9th Oct 1896

A very fine October dewy & Wind N
V and W Jr thresh for Geo Gillespie.
Jesse and Wall here. John McDonel
here for bags. Maud and Grace go for
hickory nuts after dinner. Irene makes
chow chow. A letter from Bamford
he is not very well. A letter from
Mrs Naylor Brown. Ed Weaver here
a few minutes this eve. McGlynn
came down to see Wall & Jesse Reid
about fishing. Go to bed early and
have a most refreshing sleep all night.

Saturday 10 October 1896

Another beautiful day, Wind N.
V gone to thresh for Geo Rattray
Leatherland gave us a call this
morning. Jesse came for them to draw
their nets home from Breakey Bay
obliged to haul them out the river easily.

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this morning started at 4 p.m. Reid couldn't catch the white mare & had to go back home for Will to do the catching. Wish Leatherland would go instead of standing holding door open all day. Grace cleaning floors. Maud washing breakfast dishes. Irene baking chow chow, worked over butter & churned. Reid came over in the evening for V to go to Niles to play "pede" he calls it ("pede") But Reid was here earlier in the day & not well pleased because I had lent the skiff to McCuen, Flynn & Mrs Dignam when Reid was anxious to go to Cape Vincent with fish. I had forgotten all about it for Will or Reid didnt ask for the boat. So they cleaned what fish the had on hand and put them on ice. Working yet on steeple. Eddy's last day on steeple. Now going to work for Dignam. Wind blowing quite strong from N at eventide.

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Sunday 11 Oct 1896

Quite a pleasant day. Wind N

Arose at 1/2 past six a.m. Hustled around & helped get breakfast, skimmed milk, washed pans, strained milk, washed pots and Maud washes breakfast dishes and then Maud and I walk over to Wills.

I'm very lame but manage to get there after awhile. As I was leaving my own door. I met Jess Reid coming in. Well I found them all well and comfortable only no wood, only what the children pickup out back and no water except carrying it from the river which is awful hard work to get wood or water.

I had fine visit and had chicken pot pie for dinner and sweet apples preserved whole and as our appetites were ravenous we enjoyed our dinner.

Reid & V came also to dinner and after a time or two Grace came, she having been down to Evelines and called at Niles on her return trip. Jess Reid here this evening. Grace got a pain in shoulder. Will

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and Charlie accompanied Maud & I home. Grace having gone home before us so we all had a little toast, coffee & cider and good night.

Monday 12 Oct 1896

1/2 past 5 a.m. Wind North

and strong breeze: cold but not freezing a dismal melancholy autumn day cloudy and threatening storm. Pastures green as June and cows doing well, flow of milk much better than earlier in season. Voltie gone threshing for Geo Rattray. Grace not well but trying to wash: brought some water and obliged to lie down while Jesse Reid here all a.m. an incessant talker but brought 4 pails of water, fed the hogs and brought in wood and now has gone home to help Will dig potatoes. Will & Charley had the team to draw wood. Jess was very kind. John Niles Sr plowing all day. Jesse & Voltie went to J Niles to play pede. Irene churned 12 lbs of butter. Jess drove

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home our cows. Wellie here too

Clarence Emma want you

to come down and

bring mort with you

from Edith

Tuesday 13 Oct 1896

A raw windy day.

North wind. Partly cloudy.

Voltie threshing for Geo. Rattrays.

Jesse Reid here. Maud home

from school to day. Wellie here

came up for waggon to draw wood.

Grace sewing for Maud - making

Maud a dress and finished it. In evening

Maud and Grace go to post office. Hattie Joslin

Miss Abott, Will Dixon and Wallace Niles

came back with them. A chilly eve

Jess Reid ate supper with us & then Reid and V went

to John Wilkinson's and played pedro. V came home at 1/2 11 pm.

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Wednesday 14 Oct 1896

Quite a fine day warmer than yesterday. Thought we were gong to have company for a skiff rowed directly here from over the way, which proved to be Mr Gloyd bringing two women across. They had great difficulty landing at the consession [sic], the women went to J Niles and

James Gloyd rowed home again. V drawing corn and sorting and bagging apples for Belle and barreling some for himself.

Jess Reid went to Cape Vincent with their last load of fish for this season returned quite early. Tomorrow Reid and Will depart for "Devil Lake" fishing and hunting. Jesse Reid here this afternoon and again this evening.

If I should express my mind in this diary about a certain individual it would not be a very pleasant reflection on paper. June pares apples for drying. Maud at school. Grace sweeps , dusts, mops, gets the meals. Irene churns and prints 29 lbs for market. V retires early & so ends the day. Painting the church.

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Thursday the 15th of Oct 1896

The loviliest [sic] Oct day

I ever saw and last evening there was
was the loviliest sunset: bright crimson,
purple, scarlet and gold and the reflection
on the water of our little bay was enchanting
lasting till daylight was gone.

Voltie gone threshing for Ed Rattray. V drove
to the dock with Grace, carrying Bells apples
and a basket of posies and a few apples for
Kelly. Jess Reid & Will Dixon started
this morning for their fishing tour. Well I wish
them good luck and success. Painting church
and building new chimney.

Maud gone school and I alone all
day. every thing so quiet so peaceful
when was I ever all alone before. The
house is still except for the buzzing of
the flies in the window. Once in a while
a day like this alone is enjoyable but
I think I would grow tired of the
monotony of day after day: but I always
was fond of soltitude if not to prolonged

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Miss Foley here to tea and after supper Miss Foley & Maud go over in waggon with Voltie to the dock and they do not return till after 8 p.m.

A letter from Belle and a bag of provisions, pork, squashes & carrots.

Lent Miss Foley some books, 3 of them.

Jen came home to day.

Friday 16 October 1896

A cloudy morning and rather cold but not freezing. V gathering apples
Wind West. Still painting the church steeple white, slate, green, red the miniretts are black. Churned. Grace made V a shirt. Maude at school: cold and certain mild clouds all day. Dignam people has a dance this night.
I got a cold. Evening mail - The Whig & a letter from Dr Watson.

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Saturday 17 October 1896

Another autumn day more clouds than sun shine, not freezing but cold. Voltie drove to the dock for the dry goods box and the barrel of cement: rolled his barrel of apples together, 12 barrels in all. After dinner V drew manure out to the field. Grace washed a general washing and cleaned floors. Maude washed dinner dishes and went to Wills for horse nails. Wellie here for waggon to draw his potatoes that White is digging for him: they are the spaff Joy potatoes. Irene paired more apples to day. Still painting the church and taking down the staging after them.

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Sunday 18 Oct 1896

Mother, Voltie & Maud gone over to Belle's. Mother going to remain for a week [sic]. So I will write in her diary when I think of it.

This day a very disagreeable one.

Sun under clouds, and wind blowing cold from West. Snowed a little last night. I stay alone all day. Voltie & Maud come home about 3.30 p.m.

In morning, Wellie & Wallace Niles here a few minutes

Monday 19 Oct 96

Voltie & Grace arise at 4.30 in morning. Grace gets breakfast and milk 4 cows, have breakfast a little after six. Then Maud washed dishes & goes to school. Grace scims [sic] milk, prepares to strain. Voltie goes to Woodman to thresh in forenoon he finishes

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Sunday continued

Voltie's shirt then after
dinner works over butter
and churns a big lot of
cream. then sits down
to write in this diary in
a hurry? takes butter out
of the churn. I am all alone
again today with the exception
of flies & two dogs & dozen cats.
When we arose, the ground was
frozen with a heavy white frost,
the wind was West. later it
changed to South, the sun shone
out bright, warm nearly the whole
day. Men still working at church
tearing away staging and the
chimney or rebuilding it. I cant
tell exactly which. Voltie came
home from Woodmans early. Wells Jr
& Bob Ranons came with him.

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Tuesday 20 1896

The wind blowing a gale from
south, Maud gone to school.

We did not arise so early as usual
on account company last
evening. The Morgans, four of them,
Miss M Foley, F Woodman,
Rob Ranous, Will Niles & C hell, a,
Geo Farr were here and danced
until eleven [sic]. Voltie threshing after
dinner at Woodmans come home
for his supper in forenoon. Wellie,
Eddie & Voltie drawing up
grain for Scow, all here for
dinner. I saw in evening
while V goes for mail. No
mail tonight. V & Maud peel
pumpkins.

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I prepare churn for cream
at noon. V churns. I work over
the other butter, then take care
of the nut butter, stitched
Maud's dress & fit her a
petticoat, make a cake
for dance at OBriens
tonight. Wallace Niles
came down this morning before
breakfast asked me to go
to dance. So Maud & I are
to have an escort, very kind
of him. Miss Alice Foley
& Florance Morgan are over
Watertown, N.Y. were to come
home today. But wind blowing
so heavy from South West
cant come. ~~cleaned~~ the floors.
22nd 1896 Oct Thursday
Did not arise until 7 oclock
after dance feel sleepy,
got home at 3 in a.m.
Windy cold from West. Granpa

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did not go to Kingston today.
the 1st Thursday since the boat
started in spring. Make breakfast
at 8. V goes to Niles
for cider mill. Maud lays
in bed until all hours in
day. got out at 11 a.m.
Wallace Niles came down after
dinner, helped V make cider.
E Bates here too. Frank W
drove in here for drink cider,
another dance tomorrow eve
at A Joslins. Geo home getting
it up. Grace cleaned Ma's
bedroom and done general house
work. Eveline & Wells both went
to Kingston today. Hattie keeping
house for her.

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Friday 23rd Oct 1896

Wind South, rather nice day.

Maud gone school. Miss Foley came home last night from Watertown via Kingston.

Walls Jr here this morning went to Niles for flour and carried home cider mill. Voltie repairing thing around farm in fore noon, after dinner drawing his potatoes to the cellar from barn.

Grace did house work, swept all rooms, cooked, washed dishes, took care of milk, & helped milk, made jelly, baked beans & write in Ma diary. Flora came over brought home tea Aunt R borrowed. In Eve Voltie & Wall go to Joslin's dance. Rachel came over a stayed with Maud & I, rec'd letter from Ma N & Laura V.Y.

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[top margin]

Jaune Morgan here likes night playing pedro
until 10, ate his supper here
& helps with drinking jug of cider.

Saturday 24 Oct 1896

In morning quite nice
then clouds up & rains
a little. Wind West after
noon quite pleasant,
great squalls of wind.
Aunt Rachel stayed until
after breakfast. Voltie gets
home from dance 4 a.m.
arise at 6. Grace gets up
5.30, builds fire, gets the
breakfast then milks. Voltie
shoeing horses most of day.

G churns, bakes bread &
does all Saturdays work.

Sunday 26 Oct 1896

Wind still West quite
pleasant out. We did not
arise vary [sic] early, after breakfast
V goes to the marsh.

F Woodman & E.W. arrive here
all day smoking setting in
the way. Miriam gone home

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Frank stays for supper,
just as we were going to
eat, D Mahoney came
so we waited and he
took tea with us,
stayed the evening. F W
went home, a lot of cider
found it way down the
boys throat and so on
& so forth.

Monday 25 1896 Oct.

Wind South. Sun bright
a very nice day. Maud
gone to school. V drawing manure.
Grace churns, make cookies
and all kinds of work. Alice Foley
came home with Maud
from school. Alice helps M
wash dishes while G milks
after supper. Jim Morgan
comes to play Pedro & drink
cider. Grace pops corn

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dont go to bed until nearly
eleven.

Tuesday 26 1896

Arise a 4 a.m.,
milk cows, get breakfasat,
help saw wood, eat breakfast
at 5.30. Maud & Alice do
their breakfast at 7 a.m.
Voltie brought 6 pails of water.
then went to Kingston via
Marysville. After Alice & M
are gone to school, G goes to
washing, wash all day, all
lines full, bushes full & some
clothes on fence. Most a beautiful
day, river like glass
all day. G brought 10 pails
water from river, milks
7 cows at night. Jim Woodman
down for two lbs butter, had
no way of weighing so guessed
it. Great Horse trots to
villiage to-day.

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Wednesday 27th

at Belles

Thursday 28

at Bells

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at Bells

Friday 29th

at Bells

Saturday 30

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Sunday Nov 1

Came hoome fro Belles to day.

Charley brought me. Martha Irvine laid in the vault to day. Charley drove in to Irvine yard and we drove down behind the funeral procession. We found

Miss Foley here. Charley stayed to dinner.

When he went home Miss Foley rode in buggy as far as Morgans consession [sic] road.

Rachel here a while.

Monday 2nd November

A beautiful autumn

day. Voltie mixing cement for the wall. Wells Jr went to J Niles

to do some carpenter work for him, found the folks gone to the Card

Ranous weding except John Sr

- so came back and help V.

Mary Farr (Widow) there keeping house for shower. Hank drives down for Shell to go to wedding.

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Tuesday 3rd November 1896

Wells Jr working for Niles all day.

No soap cant wash.

Wednesday 4th November 1896

A warm hazy morning like

Indian Summer. Got out bed

1/2 past four a.m. V commenced
plowing and butchered 2 turkeys and
8 chickens. Grace and Irene dressed
them for market, churned and made
20 lbs of print butter for market.

Rachel here and brought the quilting
frames home again, not doing enough.

Rachel & Will drew wood from the McClary place. Charlie
and Maud at school - great spelling match. V working for Nile
carpenter at

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Thursday 5th November 1896

Arose at 4 Oclock a.m. Raining fast. Voltie & Grace milked the cows. Ma tied the turkeys and chicks and put them in basket, then print up the butter for market. Thought they never get started, cant find any thing. V's neck tie missing, cant be found, had to look and hunt around for socks. V taking his new clothes back. Too small. Found coat and vest in the clothes press and pants hanging on a nail in mothers bedroom. Had to look around for whiffletrees, load a grist to put on the waggon, eat breakfast finally at 6 Oclock, got under way through rain and mud. Will drove over.

When Will drove team back, said they just arrived in time for the boat.

A rainy nasty day. Half sick all day pain in back, but work all day like jehu. Maud home from school and helped me work. Maud brought water and I clean floors. Supper waiting when

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they arrive safe and sound. Will drove
home the cows and put them in stanchions.
Harry came home from Kingston enroute
for St Lawrence N.A. X 7 p.m. A
heavy and temendous storm of wind
began just after they came in from the
boat, blowing a hurricane and raining
all night.

Friday 6th November 1896

A wild wild morning Wind S
and blowing a tempest. Harry
never before saw the reiver so rough
and the rolling waves dash so high against
the shore. A chilly day and we are glad
to gather around the kitchen fire.
We take our time and dont work
very hard to day. Maud home from
school. Grace poped [sic] corn white as
a snow drift. A letter from Dad and
the Whig is all our mail. McKinley
presedent [sic] of the United States my
dear native Rand, my eyes behold the
[illegible] the shore

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[random scribblings]

1/2 1/2 1111111 1 1/2

Saturday 7th November 1896

A quiet day after yesterday's wind storm. V rowed across the river with Dr Watson nearly noon when he came back. Brought from Gloyd's a tub of picklelill's for Belle. We smouged some for dinner. Very good. Harry by request called at Charles Woodman's to see the sick baby, little Pearl. Malony's drove Dr W to the Bay to report before driving to St Lawrence hamlet. V plowed all p.m. Grace cleaned floors, a peaceful happy day. V drove to Wills for cabbage 75 cts to pay.

Sunday 8th November 1896

A sad quiet lonely day sombre and dreary out doors. A typical Nov day. Shell and Inez came while Grace went down to see little Pearl Woodman. Thinks she has consumption. Sylvia Woodman Sr there

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Monday 9 Nov 1896

A medium day. Voltie plowed and Wells building barn for Niles.

Maud at school, cleaning cabbage for sourkrout. Grace and Irene cut nine heads cabbage into the barrel and wait till evening to finish. Will & Charley came over to help make krout but Wall Niles came and they all left and went to Wills to play pedro and left the cabbage to take care of itself the kitchen. V came home at 1/2 past 10 pm and found us all abed for we had no wood to build a fire and he went down on shore for wood and got around to his own bed at 12 midnight, took the small clock up stairs to get out of bed by old clock, ran down or stoped. got out bed at daylight.

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Tuesday 10 November 1896

V plowing and drawing wood from Devil's. Grace and I got cabbage ready for the barrel and cut it up (at night) with knives on kneading board and old kitchen table (I.O.) V and I did the cabbage. A letter from Capt W.B.

Wednesday 11 November 1896

A very nasty a.m. raining hard filling tube in short time. V in shop shoeing old James. Will & Charley here. Will telling some of his back woods experience. One was about the man that was very friendly and well acquainted with her Royal Majesty Queen Victoria Sovereign Ruler of England and Empress of India.

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Thursday Nov 12 1896

Market day but Grace stays home. no butter for market to day - packing it in crock. Grace done big washing and all on the lines. Will gone back to the woods and lakes to day. Ed Bates came across riv to day. Said by Crimas Dr Watson was driving down the river road as if he was sent fore in hurry and Buchanan driving the opposite direction like all [?]. Jen Dixon, Sylvia Woodman Sr and Frank Woodman went to Kingston. F.W. & J.M. & E & W. here paying [sic] cards till 9 p.m. Grace drove over to dock with V, carried apples to Capt Allen De Rush here drinking cider. Lottie here got V & Harrys clothes from them. V clothes all right but coat sleeves not right.

V coat sleeves to long and too small at the top, got to go to the shop again.

V drew wood from Devero'

Friday 13 November 1896

A drizzly half rain, half snowy day.

Wind light from all points of the compass. N. E. S & W Not cold. Voltie shot two wild ducks which we roasted for dinner. Volt plowing this a.m.

Going to kill a pig this p.m. Wellie working on Jonah's barn but is coming down to help V butcher. Maud at school.

The clouds look dreary and heavy with rain. Think V will get tired of waiting for Jr to heave in sight. Wellie here killing

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continued

half Irene pared 3 pumkins
to dry. Grace knitting and skimming
milk. Very chilly raw day. Wind North.
Clouds dark, low and rolling along
from North to south ward. Cows
broke in straw stack again last night.
Evening. V and G after discussing
the matter conclude to make
Dignams an evening visit accordingly.
V borrowed F.W.'s buggy and hastily
doing the chores and speedily getting
supper they depart for Dignam's leaving
Maud and I alone to clear the
table and wash the dishes and entertain
ourselves till bed time. At last every
thing is finished, dishes put away, hearth
and floor swept and a cheerful fire burning
brightly in stove. Maud remarking
how warm, cheerful and cosy we were.
Maud reading her lesson to Grandma
while she knit the lace for the Christmas
apron as a gift to Grandma Dixon.
Prince and Tiny are comfortably
snoozing, each on an old rug
which Maud has spread for them.
When rap rap rap upon the door
announces an unwelcome visitor and

by request Maud timidly advances to the door which upon opening a young man enters dressed in the height of fashion, his neck enveloped in a white muffler, his head covered with a very close fitting cap which by way of greeting he makes no attempt to remove. After saying good evening, and offering a chair of which he seems to take no notice but standing like one confounded or dazed. I make the discovery that I am addressing Mr Herbert Dignam and I forth with proceed to inform him that his people are honored by evening guests, that Grace and Voltie had gone to their place for a visit. Why, said Herb "George Morgan told me Bamfords folks were having a dance to night" Well said I, this does not look much like it does it, and there upon he took his departure. With the fire replenished we were once more comfortably settled.

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Maud reading Daffy down dilly
when rap rap rap once again assails
the door which Maud again proceeds
to open, which this time admits
the genial smiling face of Jimmy Morgan
which I have no difficulty
in recognizing. Where are all the
folks asks Jim in his hearty off hand way.
Gone to Dignams replied I.
Come and please be seated.
"Why I was told you were having
a dance here to night and as I
was at the Post Office and while so near
thought I'd come in awhile" 'Sorry James you
are disapointed James said I
but we have no dance here and dont
know as we ever will have. Well, said
Jim, "I'll go home and read the Whig
(which he was carrying in his hand.)
and there upon he took his departure.
One more Maud and I are quietly
engaged each in our respective work. Maud
saying I wonder who'll come next.

when rap rap rap again thunders
at the door, and Maud who has again
commenced reading about old Mr Foil
once more goes to the door saying
Oh dear and upon being opened
in walks Florence Morgan, Miss Foley,
George Morgan, Bernard Morgan and
a young Mr Lerush with whom I was
duly made acquainted. Well I began
by this time to think there was most assuredly
going to be a dance at Bamford as
Mr Lerush carried a fiddle case under
his coat sleeve. Surprize and disapointment
at not finding V & G at home was plainly
shown in their manner but they were
made as welcome as the flowers in May
inviting them to be seated and disencumber
themselves of their wraps "Florence remarking" Well
we have got left this time" another saying
"Guess we'll go home "Oh no" said the hostess
"you can dance just as well though I think
I'll not set the stove our door to night, so
after sitting awhile in scilent [sic] disapointment

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they made a merry jest of it and laid
aside their overcoats, caps and mufflers.
Mr Lerush began to draw the fiddle bow
and I cleared away the chairs and
all other movable obstacles and Geo
and Miss Foley danced a whirligig
but Bernard and Florence made no
response and they worried out 2 long
hours and at last concluded to go home.
I politely said I would invite them
into the parlor but we had not yet
set up our coal stove and the rooms
excepting the kitchen were very cold to
invite guest into for an evening's entertainment
but though the kitchen was warm and
cozy it was hardly the place for a party
as over head were suspended baskets
of pop corn, dried apples and pendant
strings of yellow pumpking drying
on the poles and long traces of pop
corn hanging on the wall besides two
bags of feathers &c &c. at last they took their
departure and I came to understand that my surprise

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party was a failure and Maud, the dogs
and I are alone and tis over the moonlight
and allmost midnight & time Maud &
I were abed two hours and a half ago.

Saturday 14 Nov

Great fun over to Dignams
music, wine & cakes but Saturday
work must be done so we fly around
and bake, mop floors, churn and iron
after awhile I am informed that V & Grace
going up to Morgans to make an evenings
visit & as the evening is quite mild I dont
object. V saying he would walk as far
as Niles, and invite Wallace and Shella to
accompany them. About two hours after going
the wind commenced blowing from south, and before
midnight increasing to a gale and as it
is Saturday eve, think they ought to
be home by one Oclock a.m. Wind
blowing fearfully, cant sleep thinking
perhaps they have started for home in
the skiff and have been overwhelmed,
swamped by a tremendous breaker
after awhile began to think V should be
here if G had to stay at Morg's all night.
When the dogs anounces their safe return
and I find they walked all the way up &
back together with Wall & Shell

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Sunday 15 Nov 1896

I think this is a very lonely day
Wallace Niles here awhile this a.m. Walls
and V lunch and then go down
the Island in Niles buggy to invite to
a dance at Will Dixons tommorrow
evening. Grace, Maud and I alone all
the balance of the day. We breakfasted at 9 O'clock
this morning and went to bed early.
I didnot sleep much last even. I found
Geo Farr was here with Wall but went
home and across the river.

Monday 16th

A very fine day. V digging
turnips all day. Wind blowing hard from
South. A dance at Will Dixon's to night
each girl got to carry their own supper.
Great preperation [sic] for the dance. L. Lerush,
Jim Morgan, Wallace Niles, Shell Niles and
Geo Farr called here to go with G & V.
Maud crying because she cannot go to the

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dance which on account of the cider from Uncle Sammy's about 12 O'clock midnight they Morgans began to feel like old Ireland at Election time.

Jim Morgan pitched into Lew Lerush and James Morgan backed by his brother Bernard Alowasius tore the shirt of Lerush and the neck ties and collars flew in all directions with hair, black eyes and bloody noses, after being put out door again renewed the combat in the mud. they rolled each other over and more hair, blood & mud and oaths noise and hard names and they kept it up till the party dispersed Jim sneaking of to the scow with Lerush.

Tuesday 17 Nov

V and Grace came home

from Wills Dixons about 4 am accompanied by Mary Dignam. Well before they settled down for a nap I learned that there had been a grand Irish row and nearly all the company were participants in the fight and all the Morgans had blackened eyes, broken noses and bloody faces. Whiskey and cider in plenty. Mary D stayed nearly all day and the conversation was principally about the party, what this one done and that one said. How Bernard made an ass of himself. Micke Hensey, John Coffey and Friendship had a row on their own account.

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Wednesday 18

A fine warm

day. Wind South doors open to the weather all day, very mild like Indian summer.

V drawing turnips all day. I try to get butter churned and print made early, couldnt do it. Rachel here sewing on machine. Shell Niles here for books.

Inez with Shell. wrote a letter to Bamford.

Very disagreeable weather this evening. Wind blowing half a gale and raining, pouring in torrents.

Volty drove over to Dignams with Grace & her butter and a grist for the logs and for the house.

Thursday 19 Nov

Not so very bad day after last night storm of wind and rain. Voltie plowed all day. Grace gone to Kingston only 20 lbs butter this week. Been filling jar with butter for winter. Maud and I work all day cleaning up pantry and drying pumpkins beside we washed, ironed, moped pantry and kitchen floors. V milked cows early and goes to dock for Grace and we have every thing ready on the table for tea.

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Continued - Wallace and Geo Farr gone to the back woods and lakes of Canada fishing, carried with them a barrel of fish nets, guns, ammunition &c &c

Friday 20 Nov 1896

A quite pleasant Nov day.

Grace cooking all fore noon for a surprise party at Bells this eve. We get dinner early, and Grace fills her "basket with apples, pie & cake and goes across the fields to Uncle Sammy's, and goes up with the mail as far as Berry's Corners, and walks the rest of the way carrying the basket which must have been very heavy.

I think it must have been a surprize to Belle and the children when they saw her come in so unexpectedly, the company were not many only V, and G, & Shell, Frank, Ed Weaver, Geo Morgan & Alice F, Hank & Dick Halliday, Lewis & Dick Lerush and Hanks' lad Jim Hunter. Rachel came over awhile. Maud and I alone all the evening and all night.

Maud at school. A letter from Wells Sr

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Gr GBamford

Saturday 21 Nov 1896

West wind and

and a snow storm, first of the season, snow falling thick and fast, fields and trees covered white with snow every where. how wintery. Voltie trying to get the turkey and chicks in to the hen house. Wellie went to Niles came back stoped long enough to help V move coal stove in place and set it up. didn't get up very early. V slept till 1/2 past 6 a.m. Grace sleeping till 10 a.m. V took Shella to the party.

Sunday 22nd November 1896

A cold wintry

morning, fields and trees covered with snow far and wide. Not much wind North. Sleighs and cutters flying over the road all day. We expected company, but said

party of "one" did not put in an appearance. We did not cry over it but rather rejoiced at our happy disappointment at least mother Rena did although we all looked, and Volty even went to the door and called aloud to our guest "But he cometh not and we were not aweary" on his account. But another came with "Pa's son in law" who became very much "awearied" himself while awaiting for "Hunk to conclude his long evening courtship at Jonar's and was just on the point of retiring for the night when Son in law Hank drove to the door. Suppose Dignams were sadly, not gladly, diapointed and "Mary was awareied for he came not"

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Monday 23rd Nov 1896

A breezy day, ground white with snow far and wide. Maude at school. V drove down to Wellies in cutter for saw steelyards and brought back a bottle of Kerosine. Cleaned the hen house, sawed the old cherry tree for fire wood. Frank W helped him after dinner. V goes up to help Frank make a stable door. Slightly thawing. Quarterly meeting held here this afternoon. Sun shining Wind South & blowing. Dark in the North Barameter high but falling.

Wellie & John Burnham here for big kettle and butcher knives. Going to kill pigs tomorrow. A dance tomorrow night at Mike O'Briens. V drove for Maude and Wills childrens but met them coming from school. Bernard got a bad face Wind blowing strong from south to night and rain on the windows.

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Tuesday 24 Nov 1896

Wind South, raining
and thawing all night: awoke this
morning to find the ground clear of snow
and the pastures and meadows green
as a May day. V plowing. Rachel here for
flour in exchange for cabbge. Rachel
is quilting for Mrs Lib Pillar . We patch,
churn, knit lace. Maud writing the story
at the "Deserted villiage" Voltie goes to the post
office. Only a letter for Grace from
Miss Stella Healy Buffalo. Maude has a
fit of tee hee hee.

Wednesday 25 Nov 1896

Arose at 5 Oclock a.m. &
ate breakfast by lamplight. V done all
the chores and is plowing. Maude gone
to school. Wind North and wind blowing
& hailing raining which think will end
in a rain storm Which turns to frozen

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Knitted Quilt

rain which makes it very difficult
to stand or walk. We were surprised
to see Harry coming in just before
dinner and pleased to see him
Harry coming over to see
Charley Woodmans little girl who
died this afternoon. Grace mended
H's mackintosh that he had
torn on the wire fence. Rachel
came over just at eventide for
the butter print. Grace gone
down to Charley Woodmans
to help them, and Voltie also went
this evening and Maude
and I are again alone.

Sat up till nine O'clock not much
fire and rather uncomfortably cold
Sat up reading a Novel Little
Wee Wiffe tay Miss Rosa Nauchelle
Carey. To sentimental, but Hugh
Redmond is a character drawn
true to life.

83

Thursday 26 November 1896

Grace & Voltie came home this morning from D Woodmans at 4 O'clock and went to bed. I arose at 7 build a fire and got breakfast well under way when V gets up.

Earth and trees covered thickly with ice completely encased.

Maud gets up early enough to eat her breakfast and starts immediatley to school.

The weather proves to be delightfully fair Sun shining out warm and clear from a cloudless sky. Scarcely a ripple on the river. The ice dropping from the trees in showers as the warm sun light loosens it and the grass is green again. Can & tub soon filled with water as the ice rapidly melts on the roof. Grace arose at 9 and is now washing a few things. Jen & Eveline gone to Kingston. Thanks giving day throughout the United States and Canada Flora came over to bring the butter print get the shortning.

page_0085

84

Friday 27 November 1896

Wind blowing strong from South all night, got up at 1/2 past 5 O'clock a.m. went immediately and brought in the clothes from the line raining some. Grace, Voltie and Maud go to the funeral. Raining hard as can pour down. Procession past along the road in the rain. Mary & Herbert brought Grace home in carriage which is a kindness and a favor. They stay and eat dinner with us. Al Joslin, Rube McFadden, Wellie come home with V and go to the cellar for cider and then go home without coming in to the house. Herb and Mary stay till towards night then go home. Grace got a bad cold. Roast wild duck for dinner, which our guests will not partake of as it is Friday. Night very dark and cloudy. Finished the lace this eve.

page_0086

85

Saturday 28 Nov 1896

A chilly day not freezing cloudy
and a little rain this morning, cleared
up and Voltie plowed all day.

A letter from Fred S. Maud went
to Evelines and brought Harrys group
of photos of the McGill Medical
graduates. No kerosine. Made candles
which give very good light. Grace cleaned
floors and washed a few things.

A letter from dad- in Chicago- dont
know when he will come home.

Went after dark and brought in the clothes from line.

Sunday 29 November 1896

A cold morning arose at 7. Wind North.
froze hard last night, frost on windows, cloudy
nearly all day. A very quiet sabath, no one
here. V & G & M & myself alone all day.

I wrote a long letter to John. Grace wrote
to her father and Maud gave the letter to
The Rev Mr Cornell to post early tomorrow
morning. Grace wrote two more letters this eve,
one to Stella and one to Alen.

page_0087

86

Knitted Edging

Cast on 20 stitches & knit across plain

1. Slip 1, k1, over twice, p2tog, k1*k2 bind

(sl the first of the last two sts over the 2nd)

k1 bind, k1 bind, k4 sts in next stitch

thus k1p1 k1p1 repeat from * k1, O twice, p2tog, k2

2 row S1, k1, O twice, p2tog, k12* O twice p2tog, k2

3 row S1, k1, O twice, p2tog, k1*k4 in next

stitch k2 bind, k1 bind, k1 bind, repeat from

* k1, O twice, p2tog, k2

fourth and sixth rows - Like second

Fifth row like first row

7 row, Like third row

eighth row - With the empty needle

take up three loops on the side or

along the lower edge that has just

been knit, throw thread around needle

to make a stitch, p1, k2 stitches in

next stitch, thus (p1, k1), over twice,

p1

page_0088

87

Ninth row – Over twice, p2tog, k2, O twice, p2tog turn letting the 20 stitches remain on needle, knit the six stitches back and forth like ninth row until the strip has 15 loops on the side. drop the last loop at the outer edge each time across.

10 row – Take up 14 loops on the needle that has 20 stitches long the edge where the 6 stitches were just knit back and forth.

k1, sl. this stitch on left hand needle and turn 13 loops off on this stitch, draw thread up close knit two tog, k1, over twice, p2tog, k12, O twice, p2tog, k2

11 row Like first row to 20th stitch, k3tog, turn

12 row knit back, like second row except slip1.k2 then over twice &c

13 row Like third row to 20 stitch, k2tog. turn

14 row Knit back like 12 row

15 row like first row to 20 stitch k2tog turn

16 row knit back like 12th row

17 row like 3rd row to 20th stitch, k2tog, drop last st.

18 row like 2nd row except sl 1, n then O twice &c repeat from 1 row

page_0089

88

Shella

Challa

Chella Niles

St Lawrance

May Wormwith

185 University Ave

Kingston

Ont.

May Wormwith

G Grace D Bamford

G

Monday 30 Nov 1896

Wells come home to us

unexpectedly. Bill Card boy

brought him. Cold day, Wind north.

Volty intended to go across the

river for oil with Niles but John

failed to put in an appearance.

Maud at school. J.N. Jr called here

for the stone boat. John N Sr came here in

morning called on his way to Wellies

page_0090

2

Friday 4th December 1896

Wind North

Cloudy ground covered with snow.

V drove to dock for coal. W Sr built a fire in coal stove which we enjoy right royally. Will came over and Charley too. Related some of his ghost adventures. Jess Reid going to stay in the Wilds of Canada all winter. Grace [illegible]

Tuesday 1 December

1/2 past 7 O'clock am

when we arose. A very cold morning, half sunshine. Water froze in our dish. Snow squalls. V gone over Devero's for wood. Wells Sr gone Wellies & Wills to make his annual visit. Wellie called here on his way to J. Niles to finish a job of carpentering. Make 16 lbs butter for market. Geo Niles came home to day from sailing.

page_0091

88

Shell

Challa

Chella Niles

St Lawrance

May Wormwith

185 University Ave

Kingston

Ont.

Wednesday 2nd ~~Nov~~ dec 1896

Cold day wind North, frost

on the windows. Voltie shot 5

turkeys for Market. G & I

dressed them. V drew wood on

rails. W Jr came up and called

on his way to Jones. more

carpenter work being done to his

barn - floor laid &c. Well we at last

got 5 turkeys in the basket for

tomorrows marketing, butter put on the

butter basket ready for morning.

V in evening went to Wellies for

[?] waggon but [illegible]

Eveline goes to her brothers wedding at

Micheas leaving Wellie and children home

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[repeat of page 90]

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52 years ago 1896

[numerous scribblings, various names, addesses etc]

Grace D Bamford

St Lawrance

Wolfe Island

Ont.

Gr

from

Racd

D

D G B D

Graca D B

Rac Graca D Bamford

Grace D B in Graca

[continues in illegible scribblings]

page_0094

89

Thursday 3rd ~~November~~ December
Arose at half past four, rather cold looks
like a storm. Get breakfast and
then Wells Sr, Voltie, Grace & Maude
start for the dock on the old pumper. Ma
is going to see a specialist eye doctor at
wades for a pair of spectacles and
going to her Grandma Watsons from
there leaving me alone. Began
snowing before they reached the dock,
snow falling so thick and fast cant
see to the road. Wellie comes back
with team and does the chores,
brings two pails of water and goes
home leaving me plenty of wood and
water. I clean pantry shelves, wash all
glasses, run candles. Wellie coming
at 3 O'clock p.m., done more chores,
put cows in stanchions and goes to
dock for V & G & W Sr & M. Well I'm tired.
This diary is continued on page 3

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[scribblings with various names & additions - most of which are illegible]

page_0096

[back cover of diary]

[manufacturing stamp]

Photomount

Pamphlet Binder

Manufactured by

Gaylord Bros, Inc.

Syracuse, N.Y.

Stockton, Calif.

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