

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bennett Edward 1865 diary  
Civil War

DB37-4J

Scanned May 2015

PERSONAL DIARY

of

EDWARD D. BENNETT

\*\*\*

Middlebury, Vermont

Year of 1865



## FORWARD

The following is a diary written in the year of 1865 and contains twelve (12) months of personal mementos recorded by a man who lived during the American Civil War.

Edward D. Bennett was thirty-two (32) years old at the time he wrote the diary, and was a telegrapher for the American Telegraph Company in Rutland, Vermont where he worked both in the office and on line installation and repair in the surrounding area. He was essentially meek and humble and, as the year's entries will bear out, a lonely young man.

The diary was over a hundred years old when found in an old desk at an auction in Vermont. It had been written in pencil and, while it was quite well preserved, the writing itself was not always done legibly and it has been necessary to "guess" at some of the words. He also had a habit of abbreviating, not making sentences, and not finishing some of his entries. However, except for a few minor punctuations to make reading easier, his English, spelling and expressions have been left just as he recorded them.

After carefully reading and studying the diary, several references have been extracted and explained below to assist the reader in more fully understanding the diary as it is written.

- a) John is his brother, and is a teacher in a local school.
- b) The "Sis" or "Sister" he speaks of is really his Sister-in-law, the widow of his brother, Henry, who was killed in the War Between The States.
- c) He was no doubt musically inclined since he frequently mentions attending "Singing School," has recorded the purchase of music in the "Cash Accounts" pages at the back of the diary, and writes of his "playing" and "pumping" which probably refers to the melodeon organ he had.
- d) The "Midd" he mentions all through the diary is short for Middlebury, Vermont, his home town.
- e) Eating "sugar" is really maple sugar which is so popular in Vermont.
- f) His "playing with Katie" refers to the little daughter of the widow where he boards. Both mother and child are named Katie.
- g) When he speaks of his "widow(s)" they are the women who operate the boarding houses where he stays.
- h) "Cars" are the coaches of the trains.
- i) "Up trains" and "down trains" are simply the trains that are going up to a town or down to a town from where he is boarding it.

For any day where there is no recording, the Editor has simply typed "No entry." Two pages (Wednesday and Thursday, June 28 and 29) are missing from the diary and are marked accordingly.

Apostrophe marks have been omitted in typing most last names when they are plural or possessive because there really is no way of knowing whether the name itself was spelled with, or without, an "s" on the end of it.

The October entries have been put in correct places. When his Father died, he was so grief-stricken that his entries in the original diary were mixed up at this point. His explanation of this, however, enabled the Editor to put the entries under the correct dates.

The poem at the end was written on a separate piece of paper and was found in a little pocket on the inside of the diary's back cover. The explanation of it appears at the end of the poem.

Since, throughout the diary, he makes several statements and references for which he supplies no explanations, the reader is left at the end to wonder and speculate on much of what he has read. One especially wonders why the weather was of such importance to him, yet there are but few entries made in the month of December, and, with the exception of mentioning that he saw a Christmas tree at a Church on December 25, and ate a splendid Christmas supper on December 28, he makes no other reference at all to Christmas.

However, one must remember that the diary was maintained solely for his own pleasure and that he, himself, was completely familiar with whatever he wrote. Had he known that, more than a hundred years later, another generation would be reading his notes, he would, of course, have taken much more care in his writing and would have been far more explanatory in his references.

- Editor

- The End -



## YEAR OF 1865

### Sunday, January 1

I can hardly realize that this is the first day in a new year, that the old year of '64 must now be numbered with the things of the past. It does not seem but a few days since it was New Year's, yet when I think of all that has transpired, all that I have passed through, it seems like an age. I wish that I could say that the past year had been a profitable one to me, that I was a little happier than I was before but, alas, I cannot, and I am nothing now. I can only wait and wish, but wishes are made. Forget is all that's left me now.

### Monday, January 2

I believe I filled out the allotted space yesterday without giving any account of my proceedings so I guess I had better do it in this place. Well, I got up about eight o'clock at Boardman's, stayed there till ten and then went home. Made myself as comfortable as possible till eve and then went over to Smith Seely's an hour or two, came home and went to bed. So passed my New Year's. Got a letter from Walter today. Was glad to hear from him. Came to Rutland this morn. Stayed in the office the rest of the day.

### Tuesday, January 3

This has come the nearest to being a pleasant day of any we have had in some time. The sun has shone nearly all day. I have been in the streets most of the time today seeing the soldier boys. Attended their examinations as horsemen in the forenoon. Spruce Street for the rest of the day. And now I'm at the office waiting for the night train to go to Midd on a repairing expedition. I should like pretty well to go to bed for I feel darn near sick.

### Wednesday, January 4

Well, here I am 4 PM at Brandon. Waiting for the train to go to Rutland. Tired and sleepy as an old man but the whistle blows. I must dry up. Back again with old office after the loveliest job I've had in some time. I took the cars this morn at 2 AM, got to Midd about three. West to bed and slept till eight. Came to Whitehall on mail train, from there to Brandon on foot. Tied the wire three times and lost my dinner in the bargain.

### Thursday, January 5

Another day has passed into what - who can tell. I have tramped the streets today until I am lame and footsore. Yes, Cavalry boys have been here today being mustered in and have gone to Burlington to camp.

### Friday, January 6

Have been in the office all day. Everything as quiet as you please. Cousin Noble Dewey came through here tonight on his way home. Train was late so had a chance



Friday, January 6 (cont'd.)

to visit with him some time. Was glad to see him. The weather has been rather unsteady today - first a little snow, then rain, then snow again. Am afraid we shall lose our sleighing before we get through this thaw.

Saturday, January 7

This has been an old fashioned winter day colder than "all get out." When I went to bed last night it was snowing fast and a good prospect of rain before morning but when I came out, it was one of the worst mornings we've had this winter - about a foot of snow and snowing and blowing a perfect hurricane and it has kept it up all day long. The railroad men are in trouble - all our trains blocked on every side.

Sunday, January 8

Another very cold day, but some more agreeable than yesterday for it has been very pleasant. I have stayed in the office most of the time. What a long, lonesome week this has been. It seems like an age almost. I cannot help thinking how I acted last Saturday night. I am afraid I did wrong in treating her as I did, but I could not help thinking, "She cares nothing for you only as a plaything till somebody comes back that she likes better." And I determined I would show her I could play coquette as well as she. Why, oh why did I ever care for her?

Monday, January 9

This has been a very pleasant day - just cold enough to keep a fellow stirring lively. I have stayed in the office most of the day and a long one it has been too.

Tuesday, January 10

Today we have had another of those mean storms - rain and snow mixed together from the north with a nice wind to make it pelt good. Have felt pretty near sick all day. I have managed some way within a few days to get a good nice cold - how, I don't know. I suppose this is Singing School night in E. Midd. Would like to be there a little while.

Wednesday, January 11

Have spent the day in the office as usual. The weather has been very pleasant all day and this has been one of the most splendid evenings I have seen this winter - just cold enough for comfort and almost as light as day. Would like to be up in old Midd tonight and would like better to have somebody I am thinking of. I wish I could call her sister once more but that is passed. In a sleigh with me, I think I would improve this good sleighing and moony night.

Thursday, January 12

I am homesick tonight. I will own here I am in the old office where I can see the sleighs go by but cannot join myself. I am foolish. If I could only forget the past,



#### Thursday, January 12 (cont'd.)

I should be as happy as I would wish or at least as I deserve. Have been out on a little January expedition today. Took the train this noon. Went down to Ludlow in pursuit of a break. Found it all right. So came back on the first train. I thought it was pleasant last night, but it is pleasant this eve.

#### Friday, January 13

Another warm and pleasant day - a little too pleasant for our own sleighing I'm afraid. Have been in the office as usual and have done a little more work, I guess, than usual though I have felt pretty near sick all day.

#### Saturday, January 14

Well, here I am again at home after an absence of two weeks and glad enough to be here I am. Home! Can there ever be any place like it. I am sure there never can be to me but little did I realize it a few years ago. How true it is we seldom know the value of anything till we are deprived of it. Came up to Midd after dinner, found John there, got aboard of the sleigh and stayed for hours and a fun time we had in snow two or three feet deep, no road broken. Charly here this eve.

#### Sunday, January 15

I did not expect when I came up home that I should find such going as they are having. I thought I was going to have a sleigh ride today or night but found this an impossibility. Went home with Charly this morn. Stayed till night. Had a good visit with "sis." Came home feeling better than I have in a good while. Went up to Uncle Sam's awhile this eve. Came back and pumped, sang and ate till most morning and then went to snooze. All OK.

#### Monday, January 16

I am thinking this has been rather a tuff day - for me at least. I started from home this morn on foot for Midd and if I didn't wade there, no matter. The roads were all drifted full.

#### Tuesday, January 17

I have kept pretty quiet today - more so than I like to. My head has ached like the old nick for two days. I shall be tempted to have it pulled if it don't stop before tomorrow. This is Singing School night in Midd, I believe. Wonder if the boys have got the roads broken out so they go out in style tonight. If it is storming as hard there as it is here it won't be very nice.

#### Wednesday, January 18

I have had rather a tough one today taking it all around. Wire failed up this forenoon so I got aboard 12:45 train and went up to Brandon. Found the break a mile north of Pittsford so had to come back there. Took the 4:40 train home. After supper, went up to the Town Hall and heard Mr. Abbot on "Jesus and the War." Was very highly

Wednesday, January 18 (cont'd.)

entertained. Would go every night to hear such a lecture as that was.

Thursday, January 19

We have had a very nice winter day - warm enough for comfort and not enough to thaw. Have stayed in the office most all day. Feel somewhat tired today though not as bad as I expected. I am afraid it is going to snow tomorrow. I hope it won't snow next day for I want to have a little time on Saturday if possible but I presume I shall have to work on that day. It will be my luck. I would like to stop in and visit with my sister awhile tonight. I don't think I should feel quite so lonesome if I could.

Friday, January 20

This has been one of the most beautiful days we have had this winter - warm and pleasant as summer almost. Came up to Midd on mail train. Found John, then bound for Uncle Schuyler's so up went about eight PM.

Saturday, January 21

Sat in the house most of the day singing, eating, and playing Euchre with cousins. About four o'clock we hitched up and started for home where we arrived at seven and glad to get beside the stove, ate supper, had a good sing, and then went to bed.

Sunday, January 22

Have stayed in the house most all day reading, sleeping, and thinking. After sup, John and I hitched up and went over to Pipers. Stayed at Seelys and got Charly and Lilly out. Came home about ten some glad I went and some not glad. What can I say or do? She doubts me still. Can it be that she would.....

Monday, January 23

Got up this morn at six, ate breakfast, hitched the horse and carried John down to his school. Came back, and father came with me to Pipers, from there on foot to Midd. Rode on the outside of the cars to Rutland. Nearly froze. Got a good nice cold and feel darn mean.

Tuesday, January 24

I have been out of sorts ever since I got up this morn. I could not be easy anywhere. I have tried to work, tried to read, tried to sit still, but could do nothing with any comfort. I am lonesome, tired, almost sick.

Wednesday, January 25

Have been in the office most of the time. After supper, went down to Bidwells Singing School at Buffners Hall. Had a good sing. Came home and went to bed.



#### Thursday, January 26

Came up home this afternoon in car. Went over to Olmsted's with John to a party, dance, shindig, or something of that sort. Found quite a number of my old friends there. Danced till three o'clock and then trotted up home and to bed. Enjoyed myself pretty well, though was disappointed at not seeing my sister there.

#### Friday, January 27

Came back to Rutland this morn and have kept pretty still since too for I have been so plaguing sleepy I couldn't tell which way the sun traveled half the time.

#### Saturday, January 28

Have sat in the office most of the day. All quiet on the Potomac.

#### Sunday, January 29

For a wonder I have been to Church today. Heard two sermons, and good ones too, I think. Mr. Seaver is as smart a man as I ever heard.

#### Monday, January 30

This has been a pretty good winter day - just cold enough for comfort, and it is almost as pleasant as day tonight. Would be great if I had a horse and sleigh and somebody I know of within my reach. I'll bet I would improve this beautiful sleighing to my heart's content.

#### Tuesday, January 31

Warm and pleasant all day. Trying to get up a storm, I think, tonight. I hope it won't make out to rain sure.

#### Wednesday, February 1

Another warm and pleasant day and a lazy day too. Have sat in the office most of the time reading stories. Saw my sister across the street this morn. Guess she did not care much about seeing her brother, for she did not even look this way. She would not have me any nearer than a brother if she could. Why can't I forget as well as this.

#### Thursday, February 2

This has been rather a sleepy day with me, though I did not sit up last night. Have been loafing as usual.

#### Friday, February 3

Cold as Greenland yet. I don't believe we shall ever have any more warm weather. Found my sister here today and had a good visit with her. Was glad to see her again.

#### Saturday, February 4

Loafed as usual till noon and then took the cars and came to Midd. Got aboard with Smith Seely and rode out home but did not find cousins there as I expected. They had gone home and John with them.

#### Sunday, February 5

In the house all day. Uncle Will and Edd came here this morn. John came home after dinner in the car. Went up to Singing School with John. Came home and now I am going to bed to sleep, I hope.

#### Monday, February 6

Came to Rutland this morning. Attended a lecture at the Town Hall tonight delivered by Dr. Stone of Boston; subject - England and United States. Pretty good lecture, I guess. My head ached so I could hardly see all the evening. Guess my sleep will be sweet tonight.

#### Tuesday, February 7

I have worked all day with Mr. Read on the Battery. Have finished one and this evening I have been to hear a lecture by Proff. Francks; subject - Spectacles and the Human Eye. After the lecture, he gave us some very fine views on a screen.

#### Wednesday, February 8

Worked on the Battery all day and am tired enough tonight. Saw Smith Nobles today. He is visiting at Bidwells.

#### Thursday, February 9

Laid by this forenoon and rested after my labors. After dinner, took the train and went up to Pittsford, done a little repairing, and came back to Rutland on the freight train. Edd gone home to get ready for the Ball tomorrow night. Wonder if I had better go! Don't believe I had! This is a splendid eve. Would like to have a sleigh ride with somebody I am thinking of but no, poor I must content myself with what providence chooses to grant.

#### Friday, February 10

In the office till noon. Took the one o'clock train and came up to Midd. Went out home with Albert Boardman in the eve. Went up to Singing School with the crowd - about twenty - all in one sleigh. Had quite a time tipping up. Am stopping Henry B. tonight.

#### Saturday, February 11

Called to see the girls awhile this morn. Albert hitched up and brought me over home after dinner. Went and got Sis and started for John's school house. After school was out, all hands which were Charly S., Major Albert and Henry B., Edgar



Saturday, February 11 (cont'd.)

P. and myself, with their respective wings, went up to Farris and took tea where we stayed until dinner when we played music.

Sunday, February 12

At home all day sitting by the fire which I thought was the best place on such a day as this, for it is colder than Greenland. Went up to Uncle Sam's with mother awhile this eve.

Monday, February 13

Came to Midd on foot. Had a good visit with Harrison while waiting for the train. Got to Rutland about one o'clock. This has been the coldest day we've had this winter. I think the thermometer stood at thirty below this morn and it is cold enough tonight.

Tuesday, February 14

In the office all day. Cold as Greenland. I wonder if we shall have this weather the year around. We have had it for about two months at any rate.

Wednesday, February 15

This has been just as nice a day as we've had this winter - warm and pleasant all day. I have been lonesome today. It was too warm to stay in the house and as I could not take a sleigh ride, I have wandered about the streets. Saw my wife's sister in the depot this noon. She was about starting for home. Was a good mind to go with her but thought not better.

Thursday, February 16

Started for Troy this morn at six on the R & WR but did not get along very fast. The snow which was about four inches on the tracks held them fast at W. Rutland until they got an extra engine on which drove us into Salem at noon. Thought I'd better start for home so got aboard up train. Engine failed at Rupert. Had to go back to Salem and stay till evening train. Got into Rutland at ten half.

Friday, February 17

Warm and pleasant. Have been in the office all day. This evening went to a panorama of the Mississippi River at the Town Hall. With a little very good singing mixed in, was very highly entertained. Think I got my money's worth certainly. I suppose this is Singing School night in old Midd. Would like to be there.

Saturday, February 18

Came over to Ludlow on the cars this afternoon, from there up to Uncle John's on foot. Found the house locked up, but after a careful reconnaissance, made a

Saturday, February 18 (cont'd.)

forcible entrance through a window and took possession of the entire works. The enemy, in the shape of Uncle John, appeared in the course of an hour when I was relieved. He says aunt and cousins have gone up to Sherburne. Sorry to hear it.

Sunday, February 19

Got up this morn about eight and ate, sang and played till two o'clock when aunt and cousins came in upon us. I was glad to see them and they acted as though they were glad to see me and you had better believe we visited as much as ten knots an hour till about Monday morn.

Monday, February 20

Aunt and cousins came down to Ludlow with me this forenoon. Made a call at Mr. Burns and then the girls escorted me up to the depot, and about two o'clock I got aboard and came to Rutland feeling that I had had a good visit, though not half long enough.

Tuesday, February 21

This has been one of the most beautiful days I ever saw. It has seemed almost like summer, not a breath of air stirring and the sun shining as clearly as it ever did. Such a day makes me lonesome, uneasy. I cannot be contented anywhere. It seems as though I must fly away, away from..... Oh, how true that, after life's fitful fever, sleep is sweet.

Wednesday, February 22

Another very pleasant day, though not quite as glorious as was yesterday. First Love: Our first doing or experimenting of anything carries with it a certain freshness, novelty and zest forever to be remembered and unknown to any of its repetitions.

Thursday, February 23

Cool and pleasant.

Friday, February 24

Well, here I am in No. Bennington - chief cook and bottle washer of this office. I came down on the noon train and they have kept me pretty busy ever since. Think I shall try to find a bed pretty soon. Hope 'twill be a good one for I am somewhat tired.

Saturday, February 25

Another long day has passed into eternity and I still live, but am not feeling quite as nice as I would like to for I've got a tremendous cold and am tired and lonesome



Saturday, February 25 (cont'd.)

tonight. I was intending to go home this afternoon but don't see how now, but I'm in for another week at least. I wonder if my sister thought of her brother tonight and watched to see him pass. I would give one old shoe certain to see her tonight.

Sunday, February 26

If this hasn't been a long day, then I never saw one. It rained all night and has kept it up pretty well all day. I have wandered about from one place to another trying to find something to amuse myself with, but could not find it. There is not a soul in town that I am acquainted with, nor have I seen one yet that I cared to get acquainted with. If Hills don't come back tomorrow, I will raise a bruise, I'll bet.

Monday, February 27

This has been quite a pleasant day - warm and sunny. Hills came home today, but did not stop long so I had to stay till.....

Tuesday, February 28

Went down to Troy this morn. Stayed till afternoon and then came back to Rutland. Am about played out tonight. Hope I shall feel better tomorrow.

Wednesday, March 1

I got up this morn with a racking headache and it has stuck by me pretty faithfully. I am stopping at the Phoenix in Whitehall and I would give most anything if I was at home for I feel sick all over. It seems as though my head would split open sure.

Thursday, March 2

I have worked all day and hard too. Ed Ranno and I have been putting the wires into a new office line which has been a pretty rough job. Am feeling pretty good today. Hope my headache is cured for good. Got back to Rutland at 11 1/2.

Friday, March 3

Came up home on the one train after supper. John and I went down to Seelys. Found quite a company there.

Saturday, March 4

Stayed in the house this forenoon. After dinner, father came with me part way to depot, and I came to Rutland. It has rained and snowed all day long.

Sunday, March 5

Cool and pleasant. Have worked all day moving our office.

Monday, March 6

Worked this forenoon setting things to right about the office. Am waiting now for the sleeping train to go to B.

Tuesday, March 7

Got aboard the cars at three this morn. Arrived at Burlington at seven. Went to work tying wire. Had rather a heavy job. Got through at ten. Started for home at two. Got as far as Charlotte and had to wait until eight in the eve for up trains. Came into Rutland about eleven. Mighty tired and sleepy.

Wednesday, March 8

I have kept quiet today.

Thursday, March 9

What can I do with this page. I cannot think of a single thing to write. Nobody has died, nobody has got married that I know of, so I don't see but I shall have to give it up as a lost day.

Friday, March 10

Cold and stormy. After dinner, went up to Midd. Stayed an hour or so and came back to Rutland. I had a mind to go home after I got up to Midd, but thought I'd better not as I could not stay over Sunday. So, I went up to Uncle Will's and had a good eat of sugar and trotted back to the depot.

Saturday, March 11

Have done nothing today worth writing. Am mad because I cannot go home tonight. I have not been home to stay over Sunday in five or six weeks and have hardly seen my sister in that time. I will raise a row pretty soon if there ain't a change in the program.

Sunday, March 12

Have attended Church all day - the Episcopal Church in the forenoon, the Congregational in the afternoon. Heard two very good sermons.

Monday, March 13

Went down to North Bennington this morning.

Tuesday, March 14

Went down to Eagle Bridge this afternoon. Am stopping at the Eagle.



### Wednesday, March 15

Heigh ho! Glorious news. Can it be possible. When I got up to go out tonight, Mr. Holly followed me to the door and wanted I should be sure and be at home tomorrow eve for there would be a wedding. Glory to glum. Who would think it that my widow is going to let that great big man sleep with her. I should think she would be ashamed, but then she is human nature I suppose. Came home from the Bridge this noon and have been to hear Edmund Kirk's lecture this eve. Liked him first rate.

### Thursday, March 16

Warm and pleasant. Have done nothing today but loaf. This evening I have done considerable, or have seen it done rather. First on the scene was the wedding which went off in pretty good style. After that was over, I went up to Bidwells concert at the Hall. Pretty good thing.

### Friday, March 17

Sat in the office until noon and then took the cars for home. Got off at the Bridge and had rather a rough time climbing, fording, wading, etc. in getting home. John at home and Charly stopping here.

### Saturday, March 18

Cold and stormy all day. John and I went home with Charly after dinner and are stopping here yet.

### Sunday, March 19

Came home this morning. Went to hear Mr. Ludlum at E. Midd. Home this eve.

### Monday, March 20

Came back to Rutland this morning.

### Tuesday, March 21

I think this is the warmest day I ever saw in the month of March. It has seemed like summer all day. Came to Whitehall on three o'clock train. Dug up and set a pole and then started for the Phoenix.

### Wednesday, March 22

Warm and rainy all day. Worked a while this morning and then took the cars for home and have kept pretty quiet since. I was intending to go home this afternoon and attend Singing School but thought it would not pay. It was so unpleasant. Would give one old hat at least to see somebody tonight.

#### Thursday, March 23

Have done nothing today worth recording that I think of now. The weather has been cool and a little stormy. The snow is entirely off the ground and the mud is deep enough to suck anyone I am sure.

#### Friday, March 24

This has been another of those mean March days. Have done nothing but sit by the stove and read or wade about the streets just for amusement occasionally. This eve I have been to hear Mr. Bidwells Singing School before the public and now I am sitting in my room alone, lonesome, blue, wishing that I was somewhere where I could forget myself and I wish I knew what.....

#### Saturday, March 25

Bleak and cold all day. Loafed till noon and then took the cars and went to Midd. Called at Uncle William's awhile and then went out home. The boys had gone down to Mr. Seelys so I started off too. Enjoyed myself first rate and came home feeling happy as a clam. I wish I was a good deal better than I am. Charly came home with me tonight.

#### Sunday, March 26

Have sat in the house all day and told stories, read stories, cracked butternuts, etc. Tonight we boys went over to Pipers. Was sorry Lillian could not go. Would have stayed with her if I had dared to.

#### Monday, March 27

Came to Middlebury this morn with the boys. Took the mail train for Rutland. After dinner, went down to Pawlet and mended a break in the wire. Came back to Rutland on evening train. I guess Lillian is offended at something I've done. She hardly spoke to me this morning. Saw Walter today a few minutes.

#### Tuesday, March 28

Have done nothing today worth recording unless it was the ride I took this afternoon up to Middlebury and back which I enjoyed pretty well for it was a splendid day - warm and sunny as you please.

#### Wednesday, March 29

Went up to Burlington with Ranno after dinner and worked putting the wire into the depot till night. Came back to Rutland on the night train. Got up to the house about four o'clock. Warm and pleasant till towards night when it began to be cloudy and cold.

#### Thursday, March 30

Warm and rainy. Got up a little before noon and loafed the rest of the day.



### Friday, March 31

Have done nothing but run from one place to another in pursuit of something for amusement.

### Saturday, April 1

April fooled one fool. Came up to Midd on one o'clock train. Walked out home in the evening. All hands numbering ten in. All went up to Singing School on horse-back and a gay party it was surely.

### Sunday, April 2

Have sat in the house all day. Read some, sang a little and so on. John did not get home from Whitehall till night so I had to play alone. After John got home, we went down to Mr. Seelys where we cracked walnuts, drank cider and told stories till it was time for children to be in bed. I wish I could stop thinking of those words. I should feel better, I know.

### Monday, April 3

Glorious! Glorious! Richmond and Petersburg are in the hands of our soldiers. Surely this awful war cannot last much longer. Went up to Vergennes on freight train this morning. Worked a little and back on express to Midd and am stopping at Uncle Will's tonight and a most splendid evening it is too. Would like to take a ride tonight if it was only as nice underfoot.

### Tuesday, April 4

Came down to Rutland this morning on mail train. Have done nothing of consequence since. Am stopping at my widow's as usual. Terrible fighting! Hundreds are dead and thousands stretched on the fatal field torn and mangled hoping, praying that death may soon give them relief. Richmond is ours. Yet how many faithful hearts are no longer beating on earth and how many are waiting with that sickening dread worse than death itself for that list of names which shall tell of loved ones at the fatal field.

### Wednesday, April 5

What a long dreary day and so lonesome and weary tonight. Why cannot I be happy like the rest. I do the best I know how.

### Thursday, April 6

This has been another of those mean rainy days when it is so warm that you cannot stir and still cold. It is ten o'clock and I am all alone in my room sitting and thinking. Oh, how much pleasure it would give me to sit down beside her and have a good long talk and a few sweet kisses. I believe it would drive away some of those dark clouds which make the hours so drear. But, he told me he was going out there and she is probably happy.



#### Friday, April 7

Warm and rainy. Came to Midd this afternoon. Ate sugar at Edd Seelys tonight and doctored a sick one till morning.

#### Saturday, April 8

Came from Edd's up to Uncle Schuyler's in the AM. Went hunting woodchucks, squirrels, mice and so on. In the afternoon, Harrison and I went down south. Had a first rate time. Came back. After we got started, it was one of the nicest evenings I've seen lately. I suppose the folks are having great times at Singing School tonight. "Say, were it vain to seek that manly heart of thine or be it a fond response to mine."

#### Sunday, April 9

Have sat in the house most of the day reading, visiting and so on. John came up this morning. "We met as strangers, not as strangers do we part. Long, long shall thy image be enshrined upon my heart."

#### Monday, April 10

This has been a day I shall remember as long as I remember anything, I think. We got up this morning and found it raining and snowing after all our wishing for a pleasant day. Came to Midd with Har and Frank and then got the report of the surrender of Gen. Lee. Glory Hallelujah! Walthy and Sumut start for their vacation home today so thought I would go as far as Troy with them. Was glad I did. Stayed about an hour in Troy and took supper with them from their store of everything that was good to eat.

#### Tuesday, April 11

Have done nothing but loaf today unless it was to grunt and scold. Went up to the Town Hall to hear Comical Brown this evening. Heard some very good singing and some good acting.

#### Wednesday, April 12

This has been the most lonesome and dreary day I've seen this spring. It has rained all day and the wind has blown a perfect hurricane the most of the time. I have tried to work, tried to read, and tried to sleep but failed to do either. I could not be easy anywhere. Everybody is rejoining because they think the war is ended. If it would only give me back my brother, I too would rejoin but how can I now. That happy boy that so bravely left us. Those long days of anxious waiting and that open grave are ever before us.

#### Thursday, April 13

Another day has passed away and a long one it has been too. The sun made out to shine awhile this afternoon which relieved the dullness a little. I cannot help thinking of that remark she made the other night. Can it be that there is a regret for the



#### Thursday, April 13 (cont'd.)

past - a wish that it was ---- instead of Edd. If I thought it was so, she should never see my face again.

#### Friday, April 14

This has been one of the nicest days we've had this spring - warm and sunny as you please. The streets are almost as still as if 'twas really Sunday instead of Fast Day. The stores are all closed and not but a few trains running. Would like to be out riding today but worked all day instead.

#### Saturday, April 15

Sad indeed is the news we have had today. It does not seem possible. The first thing on going into the office this morning, we got a dispatch saying, "President Lincoln was murdered last night" and that Secy. Seward was mortally wounded, his son dying from his wounds. All by an accursed rebel.

#### Sunday, April 16

Cloudy and cold and a little rainy tonight. Have been at home all day. John and Charly here. Went home with Charly and stayed a while. Love it is that's life's rough part.

#### Monday, April 17

Came down to Rutland this morning. After dinner, went up to Brandon with Edd to work at the depot. Came back on express. Warm and pleasant. For a wonder, it has not rained today.

#### Tuesday, April 18

Warm and pleasant till about noon when it began to rain but cleared up again this evening and looks quite favorable for a comfortable day tomorrow which I really hope we shall have. The people are making great preparations for the funeral services tomorrow. I hardly know whether I am dead or alive tonight. My head aches so I can hardly see.

#### Wednesday, April 19

This has been a very nice day - warm and sunny as we could ask. And a day of mourning it has been surely. Everyone seems to feel that he has lost his best friend. At half past eleven, the procession commenced forming on the depot grounds. Seven companies of the Ninth Militia is leading with the death march and five companies citizens carriages and so following. After marching through the principal streets, they went to the Church where we heard one of the best sermons that ever came from that pulpit. Mr. Seaver is smart. No mistake.

Thursday, April 20

Cold and rainy.

Friday, April 21

Cold and some rain. Have been in the office all day.

Saturday, April 22

Again I must write "cold and rainy" though not quite as bad as yesterday. Came up to Midd on first train. Went up to the office and stayed an hour or two. Took supper with the boys and then came out home with John.

Sunday, April 23

Have sat in the house all day. Would liked to have walked out a little but it was so cold I thought 'twould not pay. John went back to Midd tonight, and I went as far as Seelys with him and stayed a while in the eve. Enjoyed myself first rate. Was not sorry I went as I most always am.

Monday, April 24

This has come pretty near being a winter day. This morning we had quite a snow storm and a cold wind the rest of the day. I came to Midd this morn and down to Rutland on ten train. Am in my room now hanging on to my head with both hands to keep it from splitting open. I wish I knew what makes my head ache so like thunder.

Tuesday, April 25

A splendid day this has been. No mistake. It has seemed the most like summer of any day we've had this spring. Went up to Midd on mail train to attend the Junior Exhibition. Went off pretty well, though I have seen a good deal better. Saw Lillie a few minutes which was worth more than speaking - much, a good deal. Came back to Rutland on eleven train and now am going to take the sleeping train for Troy.

Wednesday, April 26

Well, here I am at my home again after a pretty severe tramp. We took the sleeping train in Rutland about one o'clock. Went to bed and found ourselves in Troy at six this AM. Ate breakfast and then took the cars for Albany. Joined the procession in the streets and after an hour of hard labor, got into the Capitol where I saw all that's left of Abraham Lincoln, our loved and lost President. He looked very much as I expected.

Thursday, April 27

Have been in the house all day and have had to work hard to keep awake. Warm and pleasant as you please.



### Friday, April 28

Have done nothing today worth recording that I can think of. It has been very pleasant all day, though not quite as nice as yesterday.

### Saturday, April 29

Got up this morn and found it raining like sixty. Thought the prospect of getting home was rather poor, but it held up a little so I started out. Got off at Salisbury and came up home all right, hitched up the pony and went to Midd. It commenced raining just as I was going into the village and gave me a good wetting before I got under cover. Came back with John all right.

### Sunday, April 30

At home all day. After supper, hitched up and carried John over to Pipers. Stayed till nine o'clock and came home. I wonder if Lillie expected to see me tonight. Guess she didn't. She has been so highly entertained this week she would not be particular about seeing Edd. She said she loved me and I will believe it yet, let them say what they may. "Backward, turn backward, O time in your flight. Make me a child again just for tonight."

### Monday, May 1

Father came with me to Midd this morn. From there I came on the cars to Rutland. It is as cold as Greenland almost today. Guess will snow before morning. I have been mad at myself all day because I did not see Lillie yesterday. I want a letter awfully and a kiss too. Yet I suppose I done right in staying away, though it was hard seeing it so.

### Tuesday, May 2

Cool but pleasant all day. Loafed till noon and then got aboard the train and went to Brandon. The down train was three hours late so did not get back to Rutland till eight o'clock. Would like to be up in old Midd tonight or soon when I could have a moonlight ride with my Lillie.

### Wednesday, May 3

Another very pleasant day, though not quite as warm as I should like to see it.

### Thursday, May 4

This is one of the most splendid evenings I ever saw. It is almost as light as day and not a breath of air stirring. If I could get the right one tonight, I should like to take a moonlight walk, but I had rather read old newspapers than spark anything I've seen in Rutland yet.

### Friday, May 5

Cold and rainy all day. Have done nothing but grunt and scold.

Saturday, May 6

Came up home today. Charly and John here tonight.

Sunday, May 7

I cannot write tonight. "When away from the lips we love, will make love to the lips that are near."

Monday, May 8

Came down to Middlebury this morn with Smith. From there to Rutland. The air is hot and sultry tonight. A cloud in the southeast is doing a pretty good business playing with lightning and thunder. Wouldn't wonder if it favored us before morning. Is it possible that I can hate and despise when once I loved and trusted? I hope not surely, but I fear.

Tuesday, May 9

A dark, gloomy, lonesome day this has been. It was raining when I got out this morning and it has rained as steadily as you please all day long. This evening it is moonlight.

Wednesday, May 10

A misblunder. This should be May 8. (Ed. - In the diary, he mistakenly wrote his May 8 entry under May 10, which explains the above notation he made on May 10. There was no further entry on May 10.)

Thursday, May 11

Came to Lansingburgh on mail train with Mr. Dodge. Am going to stay in the office here a while. Stopping at the Phoenix House.

Friday, May 12

Have been pretty busy today, though not drove very hard. I like much better than I expected to here. This is one of the pleasantest places I have seen in a long while and this has been a very nice day. I think I should like living in a city first rate. Mason came down here today and stayed a while. Was glad to see him. Wonder if I shall get that letter this week.

Saturday, May 13

Another very pleasant day, just such a one as I should like to meet seven days in a week. My duties here are somewhat complicated running such a telegraphy as this is and a Post Office is rather more than I care to do but I guess I can stand it. Would like to be in old Midd tonight but I am not, and not likely to be soon. I wish my folks were out of there. I'll bet I wouldn't trouble it nor them very much.



### Sunday, May 14

My first Sunday in Lansingburgh has nearly passed and a long one it has been too. I have wandered around alone all day exploring unknown streets, sitting on the bank of the noble old Hudson viewing the beautiful scenery along its margin and watching the water as it rolled along. While I sat on the bank, a stranger came along and kindly pointed out the different objects of interest, showing me a good many things I have read of but should not have recognized. I was very thankful. This eve, I have been to Church. Was glad I went.

### Monday, May 15

Well, I am tired enough tonight. I have had to work harder than I like to but it gave me a chance to see the wonders of the city if I did have a warm time of it. I think I never was in a place where the streets were as pleasant as they are here. You can stand in the street and look each way for 2 miles where it is as level as a floor and the rows of trees on each side spread their branches like an arch over the street. The evenings are splendid.

### Tuesday, May 16

Oh, how hot it is tonight and has been all day. I'm feared I shall make a grease spot before morning. Wonder how they all are up in old Midd. I thought I should get a letter from some of them tonight sure but did not. Guess they are glad to get rid of me. Well, I can stand it if they can. I was anticipating a nice walk tonight but did not shut up till 'twas too late, as I was too tired. I love you. How precious but a few days ago were these words to me. How soon forgotten are the promises made.

### Wednesday, May 17

All day long, the sun has poured down with a scorching heat - not a breath of air stirring. It did seem as though one would suffocate tonight. We are having a thunder storm. Hope 'twill purify a little. Got a letter from home today and right welcome was it. Wonder if Lillie would answer if I would write to her. Of course not. She hates to write letters. Why cannot I forget? I don't want to hate. It is late. I must go to bed and think.

### Thursday, May 18

Quite a change in the weather since last night. Then 'twas hot as Africa. Now 'tis cold as Greenland. I have had a pretty comfortable day - not drove, yet busy. Wrote a letter to send home today. Poor Lancing. I am sorry for him. Ten years will make him an old broken down man, but he chose that road and he must travel.

### Friday, May 19

Well, where am I now? I hardly know myself, only that we have got into a new boarding place and a gay one too, I guess. Widow and daughter. Wonder what I've done that the widows should visit me so, but I guess I can stand it. I got up



### Friday, May 19 (cont'd.)

this morning with a sore throat and have been hard up all day shivering and shaking over the fire. It has rained all day and is cold as winter. No more sweet dreams. 'Tis past, 'tis past.

### Saturday, May 20

Well, one night and day has passed away in my new home and pretty pleasant too. Think we have a good place. I have felt a good deal better today than yesterday, though I come pretty near being cross because I couldn't go home today. No letter this week. It is no more than I expected. I would like to step in and see what is going on at Father's tonight, but I mustn't think of it or I shall be homesick.

### Sunday, May 21

It is Sunday night again and a long Sunday this has been, though not quite as long as last was for I have had someone to talk to today - a young war widow and a pretty one too. I sat in the house till after tea and then took a tramp around the town. New things, new scenes glitter and dazzle for a little, but soon their attraction is gone and all the beauties of home return. How fortunate is he who is not compelled to leave it.

### Monday, May 22

I am tired and lonesome tonight. The pavements have been a little too much for my feet.

### Tuesday, May 23

I cannot write my thoughts tonight. It would be impossible if I wanted to, but will not try. They are wasted thoughts.

### Wednesday, May 24

This has been a tiresome and troublesome day, though very pleasant. I have had to work harder than any day since I came here, and had a plaguing, mean headache to boot. I got another letter from home today which was welcome, no mistake, though it brought not one word from my own dear Mother, nor from that one who once was next to my Mother, the dear one. I wonder if the Lansingburgh girls are all like those we saw tonight - a weak and foolish set, if so.

### Thursday, May 25

"It is only by bitter lessons of experience that we learn that whenever the heart begins to flutter with joy, the iron bars are just before it against which it is destined to be bruised and broken." Too true alas. This has been a very fine day - warm and pleasant. I haven't had much to do, so have loafed considerably. This evening, sat on the steps a while and then took a walk with Katie. She is a curious mortal, no mistake, but I like her. Wrote a letter home today. Wish I could have gone with it.



### Friday, May 26

This has been a splendid day and a more splendid evening. It is ten o'clock and have just got in from a good long walk which I enjoyed first rate.

### Saturday, May 27

It is Saturday night again and I am glad of it, for tomorrow is Sunday and no work, but rest. Three weeks ago tonight I was up home. I wish I was there tonight, but I am not, nor likely to be soon. I have not heard a word from Lillie in all that time. I was provoked at her the last time we met and I cannot get over it yet, and shall not till I see her which will probably make it worse, for she does not care. But I shall talk. I must stop. Oh, what a dream I had last night. Like the day dreams, it soon vanished.

### Sunday, May 28

A long, cold dreary day this has been. I was intending to get out of doors a little today, but did not venture. It was so rainy and drear, so I sat in the big chair and read love stories and played with little Katie. Anything but a rainy Sunday. I wonder what John is up to today. I'd like to have a good sing with him and the old melodeon.

### Monday, May 29

Oh, what a mean day this has been - rain, rain all day long - dark and drear as Egypt.

### Tuesday, May 30

A beautiful day this has been and a beautiful evening which I tried to improve, and did to my own satisfaction pretty nearly, and somebody else seemed to enjoy the walk too.

### Wednesday, May 31

Well, I am in the house again and ready to go to bed as soon as I can fill out this page. I am tired, lonesome and sleepy. I went down to Troy this evening with the idea of taking the sleeping train for Midd, but missed it so came back. Was some spunky, for I wanted to go home if I did not stop more than ten minutes. It has been a splendid evening.

### Thursday, June 1

This has been a National fast day so I shut up shop and took the cars for Rutland. Got there at noon. Called on my widow and several other places and came back at 4:00. It has been one of the nicest days you ever saw. I would liked to have laid down on the grass under some old tree and dreamed the sunny hours away. Day dreams. O why cannot the reality be something like those beautiful visions?

### Friday, June 2

Tired and sleepy tonight. I have worked pretty steady all day and have sat up rather late for children tonight. Especially if they get up at five as I did this morn and feel as rough as I have through the day. The weather has been rather changeable. This morn it was cloudy and rainy. Tonight it is as nice as you please.

### Saturday, June 3

O, how hot it has been today. The sun has poured down with a salamander heat, but thank fortune I haven't been obliged to be in it very much, for if I had, I should have quite wilted, sure pop. I don't see what makes me feel so meanly. Guess I eat too much.

### Sunday, June 4

Hot, Hot, awful hot. I thought it was hot yesterday, but it was nothing compared to what it has been today. It did seem as though one would melt. I could not move without boiling so I kept in the shade. Wonder how they are up in old Vermont today. Don't believe it is quite as hot there as 'tis here. How can one sleep tonight. The air is suffocating. I am sure corn will grow tonight if there is anything in old signs.

### Monday, June 5

Woke up this morning and found it raining and the air considerably cooler which was very welcome. It rained till toward noon and then cleared up and is as pleasant as you please tonight. I have been so sleepy today I could hardly navigate and shouldn't wonder if I should be troubled some tomorrow, for it is most midnight now.

### Tuesday, June 6

No entry.

### Wednesday, June 7

No entry.

### Thursday, June 8

A splendid day this has been and a splendid night this is too, but I have not enjoyed it very well for Katie is away and I am lonesome. I went down to Troy with her this morning. Was good mind to go along with her but thought better of it at last.

### Friday, June 9

Hot, hotter, hottest. Not a breath of air stirring. Nothing but sweat and grunt. About two o'clock it commenced raining, but that did not seem to change the air much. Heigh ho, how nice I feel tonight - just as if I'd been boiled out in tallow and nothing to do tonight but go to bed. If Katie don't come home tomorrow, I'll just fix her when she does come.



Saturday, June 10

Warm and rainy all day. Haven't had much to do so loafed. Went down to Troy and took the sleeping train for Midd. When I arrived about three, came out home on foot, found the folks all abed but routed them and found a hearty welcome.

Sunday, June 11

This has been a beautiful day - warm and sunny as one could ask. Forenoon, John and I went a strawberrying. Got a nice lot of them which made us a good supper. Went over to Smith's with John and Charly. Saw Lillie. Went down to John's a while and then home to bed. Poor girl. She knows not what she's doing.

Monday, June 12

Came to Midd this morn with Father. Took the ten o'clock train for Rutland where I arrived about three. Found my office in quite a commotion. Sat on the steps with the girls a while and then took a walk. Got some acquainted with Miss Sarak. Liked her first rate. No Katie tonight. I am afraid she told a whopper. It is a splendid evening and has been a grand old day.

Tuesday, June 13

Have been in the office all day doing nothing. Started to go up to Diamond Rock to-night but did not get farther than the top of the first hill.

Wednesday, June 14

No entry.

Thursday, June 15

A long dreary day this has been and one I shall not soon forget. I have written two letters - one for Father and one to Lillie which I hope will be the last at least of that description. I have nothing to do now but forget the past and her. Can I do it? I will or forget myself.

Friday, June 16

No entry.

Saturday, June 17

Hot, Hotter, Hottest. Can we ever live through the night. One cannot stir nor sit still with the sweat running a stream from all sides. All day long the sun has poured down upon us poor mortals till it seems as though we are completely baked.

Sunday, June 18

No relief yet. Still the same burning, scorching heat. I have sat in the house most of the day. Once or twice, I ventured out for a few minutes but was glad enough to

Sunday, June 18 (cont'd.)

get in the shade again. I would like to be up in old Vermont today and try the old run with the boys.

Monday, June 19

Very warm, though not as hot as yesterday.

Tuesday, June 20

Warm and rainy a little but not half enough. Have had nothing to do but keep myself comfortable.

Wednesday, June 21

Warm and pleasant. Have been quite busy all day, but tonight I don't know what to do with myself. Katie has gone off in the country and so I have no one to talk to unless I go making calls which don't suit my feelings at all tonight.

Thursday, June 22

A splendid day this has been - the first thing in the morning a nice little shower and.....

Friday, June 23

No entry.

Saturday, June 24

Alfired hot. Went down to Troy after dinner.

Sunday, June 25

Have sat in the house nearly all day. Read some, slept some, and ate considerably. I did not go to bed last night till after twelve and then was routed at two by the cry of fire. Was out almost an hour to see that burn.

Monday, June 26

June 26th. Four years ago, brother Henry died. How well I remember that day. It seems but yesterday.

Tuesday, June 27

A very pleasant day.

Wednesday, June 28

Page missing.



Thursday, June 29

Page missing.

Friday, June 30

To one I love. How I long to see you darling, long to hear your voice again, you do not hear or heed me, prayers and tears are all in vain.

Saturday, July 1

No entry.

Sunday, July 2

In the house all day grunting with the teeth ache which has stuck to me for the past week. Pretty cloudy. Have had an occasional shower for a change today.

Monday, July 3

July 3rd. Four years ago today, brother Henry's body was laid in the grave. The war had just begun. Now it is ended. Hundreds, yes thousands, have followed him to their long home. Why could he not have lived to see this day?

Tuesday, July 4

Went down to Troy this morning. Saw the procession. Went to the Church and heard an oration by J.D. Fulton of Boston which was a ringer, no mistake. Saw them Pila Rustins, heard the oration, went on the hill, saw the fireworks, from there up home tired and sleepy. This has been a glorious old Fourth - a gala day.

Wednesday, July 5

No entry.

Thursday, July 6

No entry.

Friday, July 7

No entry.

Saturday, July 8

No entry.

Sunday, July 9

Warm and pleasant. Attended Church this forenoon. Have sat in the house reading, sleeping, etc. the rest of the time.

Monday, July 10

Got up this morning most dead but after eating and taking a walk and stirring up a little, I felt better. Did not go to bed till after one o'clock and then slept cross-wise. I hope I'll never have occasion to feel again as I did last night. Took a little walk up, down and around somewhere this eve. Got in about eleven.

Tuesday, July 11

Cloudy and rainy a while in the morning. Cleared up about noon and has been very pleasant since. Went boating on the river this evening a while. Enjoyed my ride first rate but would have liked it better if Katie had been with me instead of the one that was. Took a small walk and then home to bed at ten o'clock.

Wednesday, July 12

No entry.

Thursday, July 13

No entry.

Friday, July 14

In the office all day. Cool and a little rainy in the morning, but pleasant after noon. Took a little ride this eve and a pleasant walk.

Saturday, July 15

Went down to Troy this afternoon to see Mr. Dodge but missed him, so tramped around a little at the Telegraph Office a while and then home.

Sunday, July 16

Cool and rainy. Started to go to Church but was driven in by the rain so sat in the house and.....

Monday, July 17

Rainy and cold.

Tuesday, July 18

In office.....

Wednesday, July 19

No entry.

Thursday, July 20

Went up to Lansing's Grove.



Friday, July 21

No entry.

Saturday, July 22

No entry.

Sunday, July 23

Very warm and pleasant. Attended Church in the forenoon. After dinner, joined a party of ten and went up to Oakwood Cemetery. Had a very pleasant walk, though rather warm. Went to Church again in the evening. Home with Walter. Took a walk down town. Took a little ice cream and came home little before Monday.

Monday, July 24

No entry.

Tuesday, July 25

Ribbon grass

Thistle

Chrysanthemum

- Give me a kiss.
- Three words offered me. You have deeply wronged me. What is more painful than to be misunderstood by one we love.
- Chinfellows in adversity.

Wednesday, July 26

Barley

Buttercup

Cabbage Leaf

Clover Blossom

Hayle Twig

Iris

Lark Spur

Laurel

Oats

- Come again tomorrow.
- Your presence is consoling to me.
- When you come again, come sober.
- I will live for you.
- Forgive me.
- Why have you destroyed this.
- Your love is my aim.
- You have my heart.
- Return.

Thursday, July 27

No entry.

Friday, July 28

No entry.

Saturday, July 29

Sat in the office and read "Lena Rivers" till noon.

Sunday, July 30

No entry.

Monday, July 31

Attended a picnic at Lansing's Grove this afternoon and evening. Got home at eleven tired and.....

Tuesday, August 1

Have been in the office all day. Warm and pleasant. Wages gone down the river.

Wednesday, August 2

Ache, Ache since Sunday night. My teeth have kept up a steady pull. Oh what an old scorcher this has been. Nothing but grunt and sweat.

Thursday, August 3

Very warm but pleasant. In the office all day. In the streets till eleven o'clock with M-----e.

Friday, August 4

No entry.

Saturday, August 5

No entry.

Sunday, August 6

No entry.

Monday, August 7

No entry.

Tuesday, August 8

Took the cars at Waterford at one o'clock for home after a good-bye to Maggie and Lansingburgh. I have found many pleasant hours in the burgh and it is with sorrow that I leave. Still, I am glad to get home for I am about sick. Got to Midd at six half. Found John and Harry at Depot. Went up to Uncle Will's and got some lunch and then went to Exhibition, back to Uncle's where I will stop tonight.

Wednesday, August 9

Am with my Father and Mother once more and glad to be there too. I attended Commencement till five o'clock and then came out home with John.



Thursday, August 10

No entry.

Friday, August 11

No entry.

Saturday, August 12

No entry.

Sunday, August 13

No entry.

Monday, August 14

Down to Rutland this morning. Back at six half.

Tuesday, August 15

Went up to Burlington to see the Supt. Came back at four.

Wednesday, August 16

Made out to stir enough to go down in the meadow and rake hay a little. Were driven in by a thunder shower. In the eve went up and got Shorty and took a bit of a ride. Got home in the night.

Thursday, August 17

Raked hay this afternoon. Down to Seelys this eve.

Friday, August 18

Stayed over at Seelys.

Saturday, August 19

No entry.

Sunday, August 20

No entry.

Monday, August 21

I suppose I come under pay again today but under work. Well, it suits me quite as well so as otherwise.

Tuesday, August 22

No entry.

Wednesday, August 23

No entry.

Thursday, August 24

No entry.

Friday, August 25

No entry.

Saturday, August 26

Scenes that are brightest may charm a while, hearts that are lightest and eyes that smile, yet o'er them, above us, though nature beam, with none to love us, how sad they seem. Words cannot scatter the thoughts we fear, for though they flatter, they mock the ear, hopes will deceive us with tearful cost, and when they leave us, the heart is lost.

Sunday, August 27

J.C. Englibran - Nyelbrecht - Farewell is a lovely word.

Monday, August 28

Came down to Midd. Met John, then went back to Uncle Dan's and stopped an hour or so and then home to dinner. Came down again at three o'clock and am running Kendell's Office. Boarding at Cushmans.

Tuesday, August 29

Have been in the office all day.

Wednesday, August 30

Went down to Pittsford on the mail train. Looked over the property a little and came back to Midd on three train. Took tea at Uncle Will's and then got aboard the train and came up to the Camp Grounds where I am going to stop tonight.

Thursday, August 31

Went to Camp meeting. Did not see anyone I wanted to. Sis was not there. I forgot. I didn't mean it. I stayed all night and camped out. Felt 20 years old when I woke up in the morning. I wished I could go home but run across the pretty schoolmarm in Midd which cured me entirely and passed the remainder of the day very pleasantly. I did a thing today I am sorry for - not because it does not suit me - for nothing would



#### Thursday, August 31 (cont'd.)

give me more pleasure, but because I fear she will regret it when she knows me, and because I cannot, if I do my best, give her more than my heart for several years at the least, but I cannot give her that now for she has it already. O why am I not rich. I am poor so I must struggle on alone. Yes, alone, for I will not destroy happiness by asking her to leave a happy home for me. Why do I love her!

#### Friday, September 1

I am almost happy tonight - happy in the consciousness that I am loved and for myself alone, and I should be quite happy if I could be to her what I would like. I like her - yes, love her, but what does that amount to when 'twould be almost an insult to offer her more than my love and I don't know but it is to offer that, but I cannot help it now nor do I wish. I have been told when one learned to love so quickly they would as soon forget, but I believe she loves me and will as long as I am a man.

#### Saturday, September 2

Home again after another week of telegraphing, Camp meeting and so on. I came down to Pittsford yesterday morning and went to work putting in the instruments last night. Put up at Tiffanys where I'm going to board. Today, I've finished up and had a little rest and a little time to think. Yes, think, for I like to close my eyes and dream of her who has given me so precious a change. I wish I could see her tonight and every night, and I will tomorrow night if possible.

#### Sunday, September 3

This has been a long, warm day. I went down to Seelys in the morning and got my property from Lillie and bid good-bye to the weak and silly creature. Came up to Smith's and played with the baby till two o'clock and then came home afterwards. Went in to the River with Father and now I am going to see Alma and take a ride if she will go, an account of which I will give tomorrow. I like her now. Shall I love her?

#### Monday, September 4

I am lonesome tonight. I wish I could be with her always. I know I could be happy. Last evening was passed the most pleasantly of any ever within my remembrance. I enjoyed myself perfectly which is something I seldom can say. I did not get home till after one o'clock and then wished I had stayed longer. I wish I could have one of those kisses tonight, but I cannot. Poor I must content myself with an occasional ride and good time. Came to Pittsford on mail train and now am most ready to go to bed. It is awful hot.

#### Tuesday, September 5

Hot! Hot! Hot! It does seem as though one would melt. What a long lonesome day this has been. Nothing going on for amusement, not even work enough to keep one



Tuesday, September 5 (cont'd.)

busy half the time. I would give most anything to be up in old Midd tonight. It is a splendid evening - just right for riding and wouldn't I improve it if I was there though. I wonder what Alma is doing tonight. I wish she was with me or I up there.

Wednesday, September 6

Another day has passed and still 'tis hot, hot. I thought sure this morning it had set in for a rainy spell but a little sprinkle for an hour played the whole thing. Have written two letters today - one to Katie and one to Alma and received one from T.B. I hope Alma will answer my letter but it was such a poor thing, I am afraid she will think it hardly worth the trouble. I would like one or two of those prospects tonight.

Thursday, September 7

This has been a very comfortable day and it is going to be a good night to sleep, I think. Sent the first paid message from Pittsford office today. Received a letter from Katie but haven't written any.

Friday, September 8

I am lonesome tonight - almost homesick. I haven't seen a single person yet that I would give a straw to get acquainted with. They look like Riptinites but appear well enough so I suppose are. I would give one old hat certain to see Alma tonight but wishing don't amount to much with poor I. Such as fortune offers I must accept. I am weak now: shall I always be so? I hope not!

Saturday, September 9

Cool and pleasant, though not sunny. Commenced raining about five P.M. and is raining nicely now. Went down to Rutland and stopped about an hour. I would liked to have gone home tonight but thought I'd better not. Wonder if Alma will take that ride tonight. I am glad it rained. Hope it will do the same every time he comes there. I am sorry I was so careless as to forget to write home tonight for Mother's sake.

Sunday, September 10

A long, dreary, rainy day. Have been to Church twice - Congregational forenoon, heard Mr. Brown - Methodist PM, heard Mr. Inglis and the remainder of the day and eve have spent playing with the baby, reading, eating, and thinking of the splendid ride I had last Sunday night and wondering if she has forgotten me by this time. I presume she has, and I - why did we ever meet?

Monday, September 11

Very warm and a little rainy this morning, but some pleasant tonight, though this is the most dreary evening I've seen this fall.



## Tuesday, September 12

Warm and pleasant all day. Went up to Midd on two P.M. train. Stayed about two hours. Saw John and several others that I was glad to meet. Got back at six. Found a couple of letters for me - one from Katie and one from my Alma. Was glad to see them. I had begun to think that Alma had forgotten her Edd or that she never cared anything about him but was very gladly disappointed. She does love me. She is mine, all mine.

## Wednesday, September 13

A very warm and pleasant day this has been - just hot enough to keep one in a sweat all the time whether idle or at work. Have been in the office all day.

## Thursday, September 14

Oh what a day this was. I did seem as though I should melt - not a breath of air stirring and the sun pouring down like a furnace heat. Little sleep will we poor mortals get tonight, I imagine. Sent a letter to Alma today. I wonder if she was glad to see it as I was to see the one she sent me. True friendship - changeless as its divine author.

## Friday, September 15

I feel just like going to sleep tonight and doing a good business at it. It was so hot last night I could not half sleep. Stayed in the office till four o'clock when I took cars and went down to Rutland. Came back at six, and now am going to bed to sleep and dream sweet dreams of her whose picture is before me. My Alma.

## Saturday, September 16

A very nice day this has been - warm and pleasant. Stayed in the office till six half when I took the cars for home. Found Father at Depot so rode out home. Was glad of it for my head ached grandly as meanly as you like.

## Sunday, September 17

Have been at home all day and evening, though I haven't felt much like it. I wanted to go up and see Alma but it commenced raining about two o'clock and has kept it up pretty steadily ever since. I was a good mind to go, rain or not, but thought I'd better not for several reasons which I can tell only in her ear. Harry and Frank came down this morn. Went home tonight in the rain.

## Monday, September 18

A cold rainy day this has been but a good one, I suppose, for the parched earth. Father brought me to the Depot and I guess got back home without getting in the rain very much.

Tuesday, September 19

I hardly know what to write tonight. I do not feel very good. I wish I could see Alma tonight. I think if I could have a good talk with her I should feel a good deal better. The letter she sent me today I cannot relish all of it, but she was careless. She does love me. I know she does and I will not rest till I can see her.

Wednesday, September 20

No entry.

Thursday, September 21

I am tired tonight - almost sick. It has been a long, hot, tiresome day. I went up to Midd on morning train. Found John, and about eleven o'clock we went on the Fair Ground. Saw some pretty things, a good many people, and my Alma which was worth more than all the rest.

Friday, September 22

No entry.

Saturday, September 23

I have felt mean enough today and feel about the same tonight. I am darn near sick. Wish I was at home but don't see how I can get there very well now. I wrote a letter for Alma, thinking I could send it up on mail train today but could not so she did not get it as I promised her she should. I am sorry. I would not.....

Sunday, September 24

Another Sabbath day has passed away. Time flies swiftly - more and more so as we grow older. It has been a dreary day - not as long as some, for I have slept a part of it. This morning I went to Church, afternoon slept till supper. In the eve went up to "A.M. Honn," back at eight and to bed at nine, or in my room rather. I suppose Alma is at home tonight having a gay time perhaps with that red head. Will she think of lonely Edd? Yes, I know she will.

Monday, September 25

No entry.

Tuesday, September 26

Cool but pleasant. Stayed in the office till four and then took the train for Rutland, took tea at my old boarding place, had a good visit. From there, went to the Town Hall and heard "Colleen Brown" played by Forester troop. Enjoyed it first rate, and now I'm waiting for the train to take me back to Pittsford.



Wednesday, September 27

Very cool but pleasant. Have been in the office most all day. Went to a ride with Harry about four miles over the river. Got back to supper.

Thursday, September 28

A splendid day this has been - warm and sunny as you please. I went down to Rutland on mail train and went on to the Fair Ground a little while. Saw a good many people that I didn't know. Heard a good oration, a little nothing, and came home to supper. I wish Alma could have been there, though I would good deal rather be with her to-night, for it is a splendid moonlight night. I want to see her very much.

Friday, September 29

What a splendid evening this is. I would give one old boot certain to be out a-riding with Alma tonight. I'll bet she wouldn't sleep much before tomorrow certain. I wonder if she thinks of her Edd now she's home again. Rather a dull day this has been - not much business but most darned hot.

Saturday, September 30

Warm and pleasant all day. Have.....

Sunday, October 1

John and I hitched up this morning and went up to Uncle Schuyler's. Ate grapes, apples, and drank cider till four o'clock when we came down to Pipers and spent the evening. Ate grapes again and had a good time generally. Came home and found Mr. Vew and family there. Was sorry I was not home earlier. Would liked to have seen them.

Monday, October 2

Came to Middlebury on foot with John this morning. Went on the Fair Ground a while and saw the boys mustering and then took the cars. Came to Pittsford. I got another letter from Alma today and very glad was I to see it. She likes me now but I fear she will forget in many months.

Tuesday, October 3

This has been a long, cold day. On the three o'clock train which was an hour late I went up to Midd to see the muster. Got there just as they were breaking up. Saw Alma a few minutes but did not have a chance to talk with her as I wanted to. Took supper at Uncle Will's. Stayed till ten o'clock and then went to the Depot. Arrived safe and sound at.....

Wednesday, October 4

Cold and rainy a little. Have been in the office all day.

Thursday, October 5

No entry.

Friday, October 6

Visited at Mrs. Henders this eve with Amos. Had a pretty good time. From there to the Depot and put up with Amos.

Saturday, October 7

Warm and pleasant. Went down to Rutland on freight and stayed till last train and came back. Would liked to have gone up home tonight so I could go and see my Alma tomorrow but was afraid she had not got home from her fair.

Sunday, October 8

A long, cold, rainy day this has been. I thought I should go to Church all day sure but got hold of a good book in the morning and have stuck pretty closely to it till a few minutes ago when I found the end. I have not answered Alma's last letter yet. I am sorry but perhaps it is well for I am afraid I should have written what I would rather not. I wish I could see her tonight.

Monday, October 9

This has been a pretty nice day but is not a very nice evening. I went down to the Mills for a ride with Charly and had to hurry back to avoid the rain which gave us a little sprinkle before we got in, and if it don't rain good now I will give it up. Guess we'll have a shower before morning. I received another letter from Alma today. Glad to get it too. I had not answered her last.

Tuesday, October 10

Brandon News Tuesday Eve 10 P.M. Here I am located and like to be for a while, I guess, though if wishing would amount to anything, I would be home. I came up on the six train to attend the Fair. Stopped in the Hall till half past eight and then came to this place. I wish I was in bed. I answered Alma's letter today and started to answer Maggie's but didn't find time. Read a letter from L. I wish she would stop writing. I hate to tell her I don't want to have her write.

Wednesday, October 11

Warm and pleasant. I have been pretty busy today. Rail Roding and telegraphy keeps a fellow pretty busy. Went up to Henders and spent the eve. Had a pretty good time playing Euchre.

Thursday, October 12

A cold mean day this has been. I have kept pretty closely to the fire through the day. This eve went over to Mr. Wheaton's with A.D. Heard some good music and had a pretty good time.



Friday, October 13

Cool but pleasant.

Saturday, October 14

Came up home tonight on six o'clock train. Got off at Salisbury and came up on foot. Stopped at Wannrights a few minutes. They told me Father was sick. Came on home and found it too true. He is sick, and seriously so, I fear. He ought to have a Dr. tonight.

Sunday, October 15

This morning Father was no better so I started off as soon as I got up for the Dr. He said he would come by noon if possible. About eleven o'clock Father had a sinking spell. We thought him dying. I hitched up the horse and went after Dr. Ross. He came and done what he could. About two o'clock Dr. Bass came. He says he is very sick. It has been a terrible day and an awful night is before us. The rain comes down like a thunder shower and the wind howls and shrieks about the house like a demon.

Monday, October 16

Oh what a day this has been and last night it was beyond description. All night long he lay with his eyes wide open looking up at the ceiling and every few moments would raise his hand and point toward the sky and whisper about the good Jesus and his dear Henry. And all day long he has been the same. Not a moment has he closed his eyes. The Dr. says he will be better tomorrow but I fear he has got about through.

Tuesday, October 17

How can I write of this day. A Father is dead. Yes, my own dear Father is dead. Oh, God, can it be possible! I stood by his side tonight and saw him as, without a groan, without a struggle, he breathed his last on earth. The Dr. came out this noon and told us he must die. Nothing could save him, but we did not expect it so soon. Through the afternoon he lay in a stupor, each breath seeming shorter, till ten minutes before seven when he was dead. Dead, dead. Oh, God, yes, he is dead, gone. No more shall I see that smile as I return.

Wednesday, October 18

Oh, what a long, long day this has been, but 'tis all over at last.

Thursday, October 19

All, all is over at last. We have returned to our desolate home after seeing our dear Father laid to rest beside his "dear Henry." One more is added to the number. Half of our family group are sleeping 'neath the sod. At twelve o'clock, services were held at the house. From there, we went to the Church in E. Midd. where a sermon was delivered by Mr. Bidwell. A dream. Yes, it seems all like

Thursday, October 19 (cont'd.)

a dream. I cannot realize that we shall see him no more - that the cold earth covers him.

Friday, October 20

Today has been another of sadness and gloom. At two o'clock we attended the funeral of Geo. Goodrich where John and I acted as bearers. Only yesterday, we saw our Father laid in the ground. Today, we help lay a young schoolmaster in his long home. How unimportant is life.

Saturday, October 21

No entry.

Sunday, October 22

It is now Oct. 22nd. One week has passed since I have attempted to write in my diary. So terrible have been the events of the week, I could not write, could not even think, but I will fill out the days now as best I can.

Monday, October 23

John came to Middlebury with me this morning. Father used to come with me and how glad I used to be to see his face at the Depot on Saturday night as I came off the cars, but he is gone now. No more shall I see his ever smiling face. Very often, as the sight of that cold face in the coffin comes before me again, I feel as though I should sink to the earth. I cannot have it so. Dead, dead! Oh, God, yes!

Tuesday, October 24

No entry.

Wednesday, October 25

Went after Libbie. She was very much pleased to see me. E. Bennett. Cool but pleasant. Have sat in the office and read St. Phillip most of the day. Went down to Rutland at five o'clock. Saw Mr. Prescott. Back at six.

Thursday, October 26

Cold as winter all day. Have sat in the office and shook with the chills till I am about sick of it. If we don't have a stove pretty soon, I shall scold.

Friday, October 27

This has been one of the worst days I have seen this year. It was snowing hard when I got out this morning and is doing the same now (12 PM). I got aboard mail train and went out to West Rutland to fix the wire. Got back at 2 PM. After tea, went up to Brandon and attended the concert with Kendall, Miss Atgate and Roberts. Had a



Friday, October 27 (cont'd.)

pretty good time. The "Robin Ruff" by Thomas & Switt was splendid. Back on 12 train.

Saturday, October 28

Another long, cold, stormy day this has been. Rain today instead of snow. Last night when I came home, the snow was several inches deep. Now it is all missing. I came up to Midd tonight on 6 train. Walked out to Pipers where I found John. Stayed an hour or two and then came on home, but no Father did I find there to welcome me with his ever ready smile. He has gone a little way before us. Death. Oh, God, yes.

Sunday, October 29

At home all day and a long, long day it has been. It seems so strange to not see the ever smiling face that used to greet me on these loved days. I cannot realize that he will never return, but I must. He sleeps 'neath the cold, cold sod. The light has gone forever from that loved face.

Monday, October 30

Came to Midd with John this Monday and took the 10 1/2 train for Pittsford. This eve I spent at Mrs. Henders with Amos and a few others. Enjoyed myself very well considering.

Tuesday, October 31

This is the last day of the month and the last of two months since I came to Pittsford. It does not seem so long. I got a letter from my Alma today and glad to see it was I too. I wish I could see her tonight, but that is in vain as all other wishes with me seem to be.

Wednesday, November 1

This has been a very nice day - warm and pleasant - and this evening is splendid. I would like to be up in old Midd tonight. I would try to have a ride if the mud wasn't too deep. I got another letter from Katie today.

Thursday, November 2

I got up this morning expecting to see a pleasant day but found it rainy and have seen the same thing all day. Oh, how lonesome it seems - cold, dark days. I have worked plugging hard and have been rather unfortunate too today. I fell from the platform in the morning and hurt my knee, and some rascal stole my gloves. Wish I had him by the neck, I do!

Friday, November 3

This has been a splendid day sure - warm, pleasant as summer. I hope we will

Friday, November 3 (cont'd.)

have a few days of just such weather. I have written two letters tonight - one to Alma and one to Maggie. I wanted to go up to see Eliza tonight but thought I better stay at home and answer some of my letters. Two of them are off, and three more to answer yet.

Saturday, November 4

A long, rainy day this has been. This morning 'twas cloudy some and about ten it began to rain and has kept it up ever since. I came up on the six o'clock train, thinking I would go home, but it was so stormy I went up to Uncle Will's and am going to stop over night. Wish I could have gone home or out to see Alma, but I guess she would not care to see me on such a night as this. Perhaps another time.

Sunday, November 5

Came out home this morning on foot. Did not get wet much, though was raining a little most of the time. How strange it seems not to see Father about when I come home. I cannot realize that he is dead, that I shall never see him again.

Monday, November 6

Came to Pittsford on mail train this morning. I thought when we started that 'twould be a nice pleasant day but before noon it commenced snowing and has made out to be a very blustery, stormy day and is the same tonight. Went up to Henders with Amos to see Eliza. Had a very good time. Back home at eleven.

Tuesday, November 7

A cold, disagreeable day this has been. I sat in the house till two o'clock when I hitched up and Harry and I went down to the cider mill and got.....

Wednesday, November 8

No entry.

Thursday, November 9

Cold as blazes. Spent the eve at Mrs. Henders with Amos, Eliza, Miss Burdill and Clifford. Had a very pleasant time.

Friday, November 10

Cold as ever. At Mrs. Henders again this eve. Same company as last night with the addition of the Dr. Kept rather a late hour I guess too.

Saturday, November 11

Came up to Salisbury on six o'clock train. Found John close by. Came with him



Saturday, November 11 (cont'd.)

to Wannrights where we spent the eve with Edgar's sister and cousins, Charly and sister. Pretty good time. Drank cider, apples and so on.

Sunday, November 12

A long, cold day this has been and a lonesome. Have been at home all day. This eve, went down to Smith's with Mother a little while.

Monday, November 13

John came to Midd this morning. Got aboard the cattle train and came as far as Brandon and then slipped aboard the mail train and came on to Pittsford.

Tuesday, November 14

No entry.

Wednesday, November 15

Spent the eve at Mrs. Henders. Good time generally.

Thursday, November 16

Spent the evening at Mr. Wheatons with Amos, Eliza, Mattie and Julia. Had a first rate time. Got home about eleven.

Friday, November 17

Very warm and pleasant all day. Am at home this evening for the first time in long while. Have been writing a letter for Alma. I wish I could see her tonight. I cannot write as I would talk if I could.

Saturday, November 18

Warm and pleasant all day. Went down to Rutland with Harry to ship him on the Bennington train. Came back at two. Took the six o'clock train and came to Midd. Stayed in the office an hour or so and then came out home. Got in about half past nine.

Sunday, November 19

Got up this morning and found it snowing grandly and it has kept it up the most of the day. I stayed in the house till toward night and then went down to Smith's. Stayed hour or two.

Monday, November 20

John came to the village with me. Took the cattle train and got into Pittsford nearly an hour before the mail train. Found Miss Clifford at the Depot so had a

Monday, November 20 (cont'd.)

chance to bid her good-bye again. This evening, Amos and I have spent at Mrs. Henders. Had a good time eating apples, cider, singing and so on. Home about half past eleven.

Tuesday, November 21

This has been a long, cold, stormy day. It commenced raining and snowing about eight o'clock this morning and has kept it up and on the increase ever since. Have kept as close to the house as possible.

Wednesday, November 22

Another long, stormy day. Every moment since I got up this morning, it has rained or snowed. I have sat by the stove most of the time and read "Dream Life." This eve have been up to Mrs. Henders with Amos.

Thursday, November 23

Cold and stormy as usual. All hands went over the river to Mrs. Henders this eve where we had everything that was gay in the shape of company and eatables. Had quite a time sweetening the girls with honey and got pretty well sweetened myself by them. Home at a late hour.

Friday, November 24

No entry.

Saturday, November 25

No entry.

Sunday, November 26

No entry.

Monday, November 27

No entry.

Tuesday, November 28

No entry.

Wednesday, November 29

Very cool but pleasant. Stayed in the office all day. Went to Rutland on the four twenty train and stayed to hear Miss Anna Dickinson's lecture at the Town Hall. The lecture was first best and the speaker superb. Am waiting now for the.....



Thursday, November 30

No entry.

Friday, December 1

No entry.

Saturday, December 2

Warm and pleasant. Should think it came nearer being September than December. I have been alone in the office most of the time today. This eve, I went up to see Eliza.

Sunday, December 3

No entry.

Monday, December 4

No entry.

Tuesday, December 5

No entry.

Wednesday, December 6

This is my birthday! Thirty-two years old! Goodness gracious! Can it be possible! Quite an old bachelor I am getting to be.

Thursday, December 7

Thanksgiving day and a long day it has been too. I got up at half past four and took the train for Midd. Found the folks all abed but routed them and got some breakfast. Went back to Pittsford on ten train, took supper at three of all the good things imaginable. At six, Harry, Chas. and I went over to Dr. Kitchens and took another supper. At nine, went over to Mr. Phillips and attended a Kissing Party. Saw about thirty girls and as many boys. All strays. Had a good time. Home at three A.M.

Friday, December 8

Rather a sleepy day this has been, though I have got along better than I expected to. One little nap after dinner and plenty of outdoor exercise kept me pretty clear. Harry and I went up to Singing School this evening, had a good sing, and went home early. It is plaguing cold tonight. The weather changed last night pretty suddenly and continues cold since.

Saturday, December 9

All day in the office and home tonight.

Sunday, December 10

Got up this morning and found the ground covered with a spread of snow, but not enough to make any sleighing. I have attended the Methodist Church all day and this eve have been with John to make a call on Walter Goodur. I wonder why Alma don't write. I wish it had been good sleighing today so I could have gone out there. I'll bet I'd wake her up.

Monday, December 11

No entry.

Tuesday, December 12

No entry.

Wednesday, December 13

No entry.

Thursday, December 14

No entry.

Friday, December 15

No entry.

Saturday, December 16

No entry.

Sunday, December 17

No entry.

Monday, December 18

No entry.

Tuesday, December 19

Live to love someone. May it be soon. Alice J.

Wednesday, December 20

No entry.

Thursday, December 21

No entry.



Friday, December 22

Alma Warnur: I could wish no better fortune than the one I sought but wishes are vain. E.D.B.

Saturday, December 23

No entry.

Sunday, December 24

No entry.

Monday, December 25

In the office in the forenoon. Dinner at two. After, went to Rutland with Rita on the cars. Saw the wedding party. If ever I was thankful for anything, it is that I escaped a tie there. This eve, went to the Baptist Church and saw a Christmas tree. Back to Mrs. Henders.

Tuesday, December 26

No entry.

Wednesday, December 27

Oh, how I feel tonight. It seems as though I should fly. Dark, oh, how dark it seems. Those I most would trust are friends only as long as it is in their interest, no matter what my feelings may be. I wish I did not think so much, cared less for the good will of others. I should be happier, I know, but so dark, dark tonight. Am I crazy? God forbid.

Thursday, December 28

Amos, Eliza, Cilicia and myself took the mail train at three half P.M. and landed in Fulburn at five half. Stayed till ten o'clock eating a splendid Christmas supper in the meantime. Amos and I got home at 12 half without the girls. Enjoyed myself pretty well, though if I hadn't eaten so much supper, I should have felt better.

Friday, December 29

Libbie Hackett.

Saturday, December 30

Farewell: but whenever you welcome the hour, that awakens the night-song of mirth in your bower, then think of the friend who once welcomed it too, and forgot her own grief to be happy with you. E. "Main"

Stand back and let the coffin pass. Richard III, Shakespeare

Saturday, December 30 (cont'd.)

Bon Soire Mon Ami. Don't forget crushing that picture of Celicia.

Sunday, December 31

Friend Bennett: May thy bark in life glide ever peacefully, smoothly on through life's tempestuous way. Jeanette.

Memoranda

He that keepeth thee will not slumber. Psalm 121. M.B.

When seated all alone and reflecting on the past, think of me as a friend, a friend that long will last. Maggie.

Accept the kind regards of Alice.

Let no dark cloud of trouble rise with frowning brow severe, to shroud in gloom the sunny skies or cause a flowing tear.

That man hath perfect blessedness who walketh not astray in counsel of ungodly men, nor stands in sinners ways, nor sitteth in the scornors' seat, but placeth his delight upon God's law and meditates on his law both day and night. Psalms, 1st Chap. E.J. Tarbell.

Feb. 10, 1866 - Maggie's birthday.

- The End -



## SOLDIER REST

By S. R. Holmes

Soldier rest! thy conflicts o'er,  
Sleep the sleep that knows no breaking,  
Thou shalt dream of toil no more,  
Days of danger, nights of waking.  
Nobly when thy country called thee,  
Didst thou answer to the call,  
Craven fears did not enthrall thee,  
Battles' toils could not appall.  
Soldier rest! thy warfare o'er,  
Dream of earthly scenes no more,  
Sleep the sleep that knows no breaking,  
Hours of pain, nor nights of waking.  
Brother rest! thy conflicts o'er,  
Soon in earth's cold bosom resting,  
Fearing earthly cares no more,  
'Gainst earth's pains, no more contesting.  
Oft with us thou gatheredst here,  
But no more shall we behold thee,  
Thou hast sought a holier sphere,  
Earthly scenes could not withhold thee.  
Brother rest! thy conflicts o'er,  
Earthly cares shall vex no more,  
Soon in earth's cold bosom resting,  
Earthly pains no more molesting.

#

As sung at a meeting of a college society  
- of which Henry W. Bennett was a member  
- and subsequently at his grave.

July 3d, 1860

Middlebury, Vt.