

**DIARY OF HENRY SHELDON****1871**

January 1: The Lords day of a new year reminds us of passing time and a fitting commencement of a New Year. The old year opened up on us in Vineland but the Sickness in February which I have not yet recovered from decided us much against my feelings to return so July 21<sup>st</sup> we bid adieu to Vineland & friends ever to be kindly Remembered and the next day reached home. Since June 25 have been taking medicine prescribed by an Indian Woman Mrs. Morong of Philadelphia. Hope & feel that in some respects I am better but others perhaps not as well so I have from the past but little hope for the future. Hope to be patient and with Courage & a good hope do what I can for time and eternity.

2: The Sabbath a good day. Sermon AM by Bro. Jno Blandin Agt of the Bapt Education Soc. of this State, Sunday School PM Communion. The Bap, Pres & Methodist are to unite in observing the week of prayer & Bro. Child preached at the Presb. House Sunday morning. Wife & I attended a gathering at Jason Smiths this afternoon.

3: A hard Stormy day Windy & Cold. Bro. Jno. Blandin visited all day at My house. I did not go out at all. Mr. Horace Morse is near the end of life in this world, cannot remain many days if the night out.

4: Mr. Morse still alive this AM. Wrote to L.H. & Calista Morris sent them five dollars Christmas Present & wrote about price of Land.

(no date): The week has been continually Cold & blustering. Only been out today Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> to Meeting PM. Keep about so thankful that I can do nothing.

8: Sunday closed the week of Prayer by all Christian denominations throughout the world, closed here by a Meeting in the PM at the Bapt House of all the children of the 3 Societies and Sermon in the evening at the Pres. House by Rev. Mr. Brooks Methodist. May much good be done and much fruit spring up to the glory of God & salvation of souls.

9: Very cold 13 degrees below zero, has been 30 degrees.

10: Still to cold to storm. Went to M.D. Morris PM.

11: Weather cold still, rode to Grays with Mr. Aldous, 1<sup>st</sup> time I have been there since we returned from New Jersey.

12: Milder & almost a rain wind south. Came home at noon. Mr. & Mrs. Child at our house this PM. Attended prayer meeting this evening.

13: A very warm clear pleasant day, Wind South & thawing fast, sleighing spoiled. Mercury 45 degrees to 65 degrees. Commenced taking Dr. O. Phelps Browns Medicine & using his ointment today, resting from my Indian Medicine which I have taken since 20<sup>th</sup> June last & at times have thought it doing me good but at this late day cant see as I am materially better.

14: Still warm & not uncomfortable. Sleighing poor.

15<sup>th</sup>: Sermon in connection & in explanation of the S School lesson & some interest felt as the result & effect of the week of Prayer.

16: Has got to be cold as winter again, frozen rain so that slipping is quite good.

17: A Pretty cool day. Went with Father Aldous by the natural dam to Little Bow & home, delivered Mr. Kip a Priest & Nun Book & paid him \$9. Cash on Slab Wood.

18: At home today. Cold & some rain & ice.

19: Cool but quite pleasant. Went to V. Morris to buy Straw for Cow bedding. Could not get any. Sold a Priest & Nun & Home Circle to Mr. (Haysis), and a Life of Christ to Mr. Pooler & walked home.

20: A comfortable day, Snowing & raining some. Recd letters from P. Kidder & 1 from O.O. Shumway enclosing \$480 for School Books left with him to sell when we came from Vineland, also a letter from our dear friend Mrs. Clara Klock formerly Mrs. (McClain) of Oswego & Sister to our dear departed Timothy & Marian – she like me sees many poor sickly days and yet lives, says if well enough will visit us in the Spring.

21: Wrote to Mr. Shumway. A chilly snowing thawing & freezing. Father A & the children and Anna except Theodore who went last night to Rensselaer falls down to Lucias in Dekalb for a ride & Visit.

22: Very cold this morning Mercury up to 24 degrees. Attended ch & S. School, had a good time in my class. Preaching at 6½ PM – so cold I did not attend, wife & others went, had a good meeting & some hope of a revival.

23: Found it unusually cold this morning & has been all day, Mercury from 20 to 36 degrees below zero, said to be the coldest day but one for 15 years. Have been no farther than my barn. Wife washing, children at school, have got 12½ cords Slab wood for Summer if we live to want it. Mrs. Barrel failing, consuming away. My health not much improving tho I am gaining flesh, short breath consequently no strength pain & restless nights but little rest or sleep, am earning nothing this winter using up what little God has given me & I praise his name for thus keeping me & mine from want & suffering for the necessaries of life & can I not still trust him for the future yea I will trust Him and do what I can.

31: The past week has been extremely cold. Mercury from above to 36 degrees below zero. Pump Frozen up & well froze over 8 ft below surface. Am doing nothing yet. Theodore turned out of school or suspended for writing a note to another scholar. France & the French gone up, Paris Surrendered or capitulated, 6 or 7 months ago the proudest & most powerful nation on earth so considered today gone. Nations are punished in this world for their sins & frances cup was full.

February 1: Wednesday. Feb. comes in Mild & thawing, have had quite a thaw & rain 3 days past & sleighing gone up, got my pump thawed out. Mr. & Mrs. C. Brown here visiting this PM.

2: A good Meeting this evening. Several have found a hope and others seeking. Nose comd bleeding at about 8 oclock in the ch & bled till after 4 this AM. Today Sunny little thawing & west wind. The seats in ch to be rented today. Theodore gone to Watertown to see if he can get a place on the train.

4: Weather cold as need to be, 12 to 20 degrees below zero.

5: Did not attend ch today so cold.

6: Still cold. I dont get out, have heard that George is at Charles in Michigan. Dont know yet what to do nor how to do it.

8: Weather moderated & Comfortable. Rev. Mr. Lane from Malone Came up Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> to help Bro. Child preach this week so preached Tuesday & Wed. Evenings, said exceedingly well. Several arose for prayers after preaching. Have nothing new about myself to write.

9: Mild & Rainy. Dedication of Methodist M House today. Sermon by Jessee L. Peck Text One Lord 1 Faith 1 Baptism. Dedication Services continued by having a Rev. Beggar Name Ives to dun & shame out of the people enough to pay for the House and he done it effectually raising it is said about \$8000., 10-1200 more than the debt it being about 6500. Making the ch cost about \$13500. I took cold in it and am now coughing to pay.

10: Froze last night & all day today. Went with Mr. Aldous up to C. Conants & home at night.

11: Today pleasant but cold N wind, thaws some in the sun. Father Aldous & the Children gone riding to Zerviah Aldous. Rev. Mr. Lane returned to Malone today, the Meetings have been so broken in upon this Week that they have not progressed much tho we hope some good has been done to Souls. Ch Meeting this P.M.

12: Good Meeting but weather pretty cold, did not remain to S School.

14: Weather Milder. Town Meeting today no great excitement. France voting for a monarchy & the republic will probably go up.

15: Quite a comfortable day. Mrs. Barker at our house visiting. Went up to see Mrs. Roots place to talk of buying, find it in very bad condition, hardly think it will pay to buy.

18: A very Strong southwest wind last night & continues today with Rain & thaw, ground covered with water instead of snow. The District School closed yesterday, are to have 3 weeks vacation then commence a new term with same Teachers. The Meetings continue 4 evenings a week but with not much progress in a general coming up to the help of Lord. Have a hard cold & cough bad but am in the hopes to drive it out.

19: A cold day. All at church, 10 in my Bible Class and a full school, the Lord is in our midst & some have come over on His side.

20: Some stormy Snow but not cold.

21: A cutting cold NE wind. Talked with Temple about buying his Blacksmith Shop but he has not quite come to my terms so it will probably go by.

22: Washingtons birthday observed generally by Balls, feasts & guns. Quite mild & pleasant today, thawing tho. Weather 10 degrees below zero this A.M. at 7. Recd a letter from Calista scolding me for not hiring them some money.

23: Weather Mild thawing no sleighing.

24: Still warm & thawing, strong west wind. Went up to Mr. Gleasons to sell him some books, not at home, talked about buying a House of Hoover opposite Egerts store \$2500.

25: Still thawing stiff wind from the west. Visited Mrs. Barrell just going with consumption, has a good hope & is waiting for the mater to call her home. Recd a letter from Alway from Otsego, says mother went in December last to live with Warren, he has bought Sherwoods old farm, his wifes fathers.

26: Mild froze last night. Mr. Child not able to Preach today. Dea. Thayer read a sermon of Spurgeons on the sin of unbelief, an excelent discourse.

27: Rain last night & high n.w. wind. Naped a little in my chair till 3 oclock & went to bed.

28: Pleasant sunny day but a Cold strong west wind. Spent the day looking at houses as I think of buying one. Called on Mrs. Almond Barrell who is nearing the end of her journey on earth and is soon to gain the victory over death & sin & receive the crown awaiting her as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. What a happy thought & what a victory & what a peace. Shall I a poor

halting sinner ever attain it, a peace & glory far more precious than the Prussians have won over the French. God grant that to be the last bloody strife of Nation with Nation or Man with Man & they may learn no more War.

March 1: Wednesday. Weather Mild but almost a gale all last night & today from the west. Called on Mrs. Barrell, found her poorly. Called on Mr. Newell to see about getting Potatoes. Called at Pantheas to see Horse & Waggon to buy, talked horses in the village. Mr. Miller of Ogd. Lectured in the seminary last night. The Meetings continue at the ch evenings, some encouraging results & prospects.

2: A mild & delightful morning but soon began to cloud up & snow & by noon comd raining & rains yet at 9 P.M. Have done no good today, looked at some horses men wish to sell. Theodore has finished sawing 1 pile of wood of 5 cords. No particular news. Mrs. Edward Maddock died at Hermon Tuesday, was buried here today, was one of our oldest citizens & I doubt not a good Christian.

3: Rain all day at night a little snow & froze. Done nothing, wrote to P. Gifford. Noze bleed in AM and at night.

4: Bright pleasant sunny morning. Academy School closed last night. Covenant Meeting & a good time this PM. Miss Baker related her chr. Exper. to the ch & was recd as a Candidate for Baptism.

5: Sunday. Cloudy but not cold, froze last night. All attended ch but Emma her eyes sore, a good and I hope & feel a profitable day to us all. The ch. have just supplied themselves with a new communion sett costing \$27.00 and Linnen cloth & napkins \$12.

6: Cool Wind NE & rainish almost Snow. Bot A Black Mare of P. Morse today & pd \$80 Cash, has ring bones so is unsound. Moses & Martha Willcox started this PM for Evans, have been here to Pantheas on a visit since Mr. Morse died. Have written to Mr. Brown of N.Y. making him an offer for land in Nebraska, do not think he will accept it.

7: Corporation election a lively time to elect an anti liquor President succeeded by 4 majority Stinson over Bown.

8: Cloudy AM but come off mild & pleasant. Went to Ogdensburgh & back to Canton Falls.

9: Very Warm & pleasant. Mercury 70 degrees in Shade, frost coming out of the ground fast. Stayed at J.R. Mills last night, home 3 PM.

10: A Strong S Wind last night & rain. Some Cooler & Rainy today. Sisters Maria & Julia here yesterday.

11: A Cool unpleasant day. Have just received the news of the Death of Dea. Allen Smith the 1<sup>st</sup> child born in this Town and for over 50 years a resident here, a good Brother & Deacon of the Bapt. Church here, heart disease, death sudden, no particulars yet. So we are passing away. Cleaned the Buggy, attended the ch. Meeting, very few present.

12: Cool & Rainy. Attended ch. A hard rain all day.

13: Cold & Rainy all last night and river raising & mud deep.

14: Weather Cool day pleasant. Tried My Mare, fear she is not just true.

15: Weather cold & unpleasant. Nothing new. Father Aldous returned last night in the mud. Have been cold & chilld all day & done nothing. Theodore off on train.

16: A cold misty day a little froze. Recd a letter yesterday from Dea. S.A. Van Deburgh of Vineland enquiring about Mrs. Dr. Morong. Julia recd 2 letters from Aunt Maggy at Passaic N.J. & is going there Monday to Sewing. Had the nose bleed 3 hours last night, no sleep till after 3 this AM, took 3 ayers pills & all together am feeling about used up today, have internal piles bad. Time is on the wing hurrying us to eternity. 3 Men Were drowned at Harrisville Tuesday running logs, I dont know them.

17: A cold bad & PM Rainy day. Self Julia, Theo. went up to Chanceys as Julia was going to Passaic next week to work with Aunt Maggy. I stayed all night, found them Sugaring off.

18: Saturday. Pleasant but cold with a NW wind. To much sick cold cough & other ailments to go out, dont see as I get up much.

19: Cold with a NW Wind & froze. Went to ch.

20: Cold N.E. Wind but pleasant. Recd a letter Friday from Wm G. Smith of Vineland with acct for rent & Taxes & Cash. Julia went this P.M. 3 oclock train to Passaic, dont know when she will return. May the Lord go with & keep her & bring her to love Him & walk in his ways. Lord Save & bless. Gave her cash \$16.00 & sent 22½ lb Maple Sugar to Levi cost 16c pr lb +3.60. I am poorly today cough & raise & wheeze & ach & head full. Patience.

21: Strong Cold NW Wind all night blew up a rain & this PM some snow. Went up to see Mr. & Mrs. Barrell. Mrs. B gradually Sinking. Mr. B getting better. Self much cough & feel bad & weak, stay indoors.

22: A cold windy day, hard West wind all last night and today ground froze. In pain all over all night, could not lie still nor sleep, cant see the Cause, am wearing down & growing poor & weak. Have done nothing today self nor Theodore.

23: A cold day & snowing has about 4 inches. Have been to the Village to hear the news but have done nothing. Recd a letter from Maggie, Julia arrived there Tuesday all safe & a good journey. Recd pay for the Sugar Sent them.

24: Cold sunny day but thawing. Miss Mary Graves & Hatties little girl came here today, glad to see them, left at night for Mr. Fullers. Sister Julia here.

25: The records of the day are pleasant, snow most of but cold, thaws but little. James & Arthur went to C. Conant this AM & Theodore went with H & Waggon after them PM. Wife sat up with Mrs. Parsons & Sterling last night both sick. Many complaining & many quite sick. I keep about but am not feeling well at all. Have got My Buggy painted & home \$7.00.

26: A delightful spring morning, birds singing. All went to ch. Clouding up PM & storm coming.

27: Snow fell about 8 inches deep last night. Snowed all day today but did not increase the depth, thawing some tho the wind continues north all day. I only went out to Spencers to hear them talk Colony as they are trying to get up a St. Law. Co. Colony to settle on the North Pacific R.R. in Northern Minisota so as not to be where it is to warm for a Northerner.

28: Morning pleasant froze quite hard last night. Thawed but little during the day. Bought a Harness of Panthea & Nomi for \$500 pd cash. Father started on a peddling trip this AM Dekalb way.

29: Pleasant morning, froze last night, looks to be a good sap day. No extra good or pleasant feelings this AM trembling & pain in stomach bowels & dizzy headed & weak, not very encouraging for a living.

30: Near the close of the 1<sup>st</sup> month of Spring weather open but ground covd with Snow and but little signs of its going off.

Note: Covd abbreviation for covered.

31: Thawing only in the sun, sap weather continues. Levi wishes me to send him 35 lbs more Maple Sugar. The month closes with the world still moving. France in a state of anarchy & Paris only needing to be touched of to start a general slaughter. Rail Road enterprises and settlements west by colonies going on beyond calculation. The religious would tho apparently dominant is under its great head going forth from conquoring to conquest. My own health has not improved the past month, have hardly been able to keep up, have stopd taking all Medicine but my cough killer, have just found that it will help me sleep.

April 1: Saturday April fool day today in boyhood pleasant but cool. Piled wood forenoon. Theodore off on the cars. Afternoon covenant Meeting a good spiritual season, many Sisters

present also Bros. E. Maddock & J.F. Willcox. Panthea & Naomi have sold their farm & are going to Evans to live. Recd a letter from H.H. Haile. Mrs. Root wants me to take her place at my offer.

2: Quite a mild pleasant day all attended church. Father A. returned from a peddling trip last night. Communion this P.M. Lyman Nobles died this AM about 7 oclock. Has not been expected to live for several weeks, has lived in town as long as I can remember, we were boys & school mates together but he has been called for was an upright honorable Man but loved money more than God, but he has his reward.

3: Pleasant - Death is claiming its victims on our right & left saying repeatedly be ye also ready. At 7 this morning our neighbor Mrs. Almond Barrell quietly went to her rest in Jesus. She has gradually tho perceptibly failed for over 4 years past with the consumption that most potent shaft of death in this climate and yet so sure. She has lived the life & died the death of the righteous & gone home to heaven. Oh that it may be used by God to bring her bereaved husband to the saving knowledge of Jesus so as to meet her in heaven. And yet again death has come up into the windows of another Neighbor & taken a husband a father yes Robert Ormiston to passed away at 10 this morning. Mr. Omiston has been a long time Struggling with disease to hold on to life but has yielded to its superior power under God & he to has gone to his home in Heaven. And still another Mrs. Laura formerly Hartly died this PM consumption long painful flattening & lingering has at length yielded to deaths mighty power. Others are up on beds of pain & sickness but may God spare & raise to health & society & families.

I have felt full as well as usual & worked some piling wood but 9 oclock at night has passed, family are all abed & we have commended them to the watchful care of Him who never slumbers & I to will lay me down hoping to rest.

Note: Blank appears after the name of Mrs. Laura above.

4: A cold but not very unpleasant day.

5: A clear cold day wind north W. Attended Mrs. Barrells funeral at 10 AM, Mr. Ormistons at 2 PM, Miss Hartley buried today also a day of Sadness & morning, God speaks to us, be still & know that I am God as also be ye also ready.

6: Self & I went to the Borough to see Mrs. Roots place, talk of buying. Stopd at Chauncey Conants, found him sick quite bad off. Wrote to Mrs. Root or Mr. Haile I would give her \$14.00 dollars for her place, dont think she will take.

7: Friday, day pleasant. Went up to Chanceys with Dr. Fisher of Canton, Chancey no better. Bot Me a cow of Egert to pay \$50 in 6 mo.



8: Got cow home, gave note, got shaved, attended ch Meeting but few out, to pleasant a day. Miss Haile Daughter of Lewis Haile was recd for Baptism.

9: Sunday pleasant but cooler. Attended ch but in so much pain did not enjoy it much nor stay to attend my class in s school.

10: Theodore drawing sand & spreading manure. I looked about & went up to Mr. Wm VanBurens to talk about buying 10 acres land.

11: Tuesday rain all night cold from NE & has been showery all day but has come off mild. Saw Dr. Fisher told him how I have been all my life.

12: Theodore Hauling dirt. Rented Mrs. H.K. Spencers lot for \$60 this year.

13: Cold & pleasant. Theo hauling wood &c.

14: Nothing new, only cold. C. Parsons plough ½ day.

15: Snow this AM. Clinton Hauling ashes on Mrs. Spencers lot.

16: Sabbath, cold wind but pleasant. Sermon AM on Baptism & after Sunday School 5 Ladies were Baptised, Miss Dodds, Miss Blandin, Miss Baker, Miss . May they stand fast in the truth.

Note: Blank after the final name, "Miss".

17: Snow this A.M., ground covered. Clinton hauling ashes for Me on Mrs. Spencers Meadow.

18: Pleasant. Hauling manure on lot.

19: Pleasant. Theodore hauling manure. Clinton finished plowing. Sent 38½ lb Maple Sugar to Levi pr express, cost 14c pr lb, 5.39 & wrote him.

20: Rained all last night & today. Emma getting her teeth fixed at the Dentist, cost \$4.00. Recd a letter from son Charles, is getting along, has George & 3 men at work for him, thinks I might help him & feels hard that I dont.

21: A cold windy day. Planted Early Rose Potatoes on Mrs. Spencers lot. C. Conant not much better.

22: A cold west wind, some squally. Finished Planting E R Potatoes in forenoon, Theodore hauling manure on my lot on the hill PM, and C. Parsons Plowing on same ½ day. Recd a letter from Bro. P. Kidder & Wm G. Smith of Vineland, no more rent collected by S. Mr. P. sick of V.

for a place of business, tired out & home at 3 PM with my back to the stove thawing out just tired & gone up.

23: Cold but pleasant, rained all last night. All at ch today, thankful for the health given us to do so. Mr. Child preachd a giving sermon, the Missionary union wants funds. Mr. & Mrs. Arnott or Jim Holbrook & Natie Arnott Start for California tomorrow.

24: Pleasant & cold. Hauled Lumber for fence & Manure.

25: Hauled Straw from Loomises & Hay from Browns. Rained some this PM. Mr. Aldous returned.

26: Hauled boards for fence. Mama & Theodore fixing fence about Mrs. Spencers lot. Sprained My Shoulder this morning and am enduring severe pain, unable to move it, am bad off & much work to do.

27: Pleasant till 10 AM then rain bal. Day. Had a Man diging up Willows to thick. Arm or Shoulder better but cant use it.

28: Rain all day. No work, cut a few potatoes. Wrote to Bro. Kidder of Vineland.

29: Rainy some all day again wet wet wet. Sewed some plaster on Mrs. Spencers Meadow but did not finish. Am to weak & short breathd to do anything, ought not to try but I had thought I should improve by careful Exercise but I am disappointed. Sold Giles Haywood a Dictionary for 10.00.

30: A cool pleasant & Showery. Attended ch but did not stay to S S, feel to bad. The week has been cold & wet grass grows finely, season 10 to 12 days earlier than usual. Am used up with Rheumatism Nuralgia &c, can do nothing to much use. So another Month has gone to await the day for which all other days were made.

May 1: Not so rainy but My Man can work getting rid of my Willows. Mr. McDonald work for me.

2: Worked ½ day, Bot Potatoes 3 B of G Haywood, Bot 1 Bush Peas & 1 of Potatoes of Mr. Barrell. Has been a pleasant day but rained North. Planted 1 B Early rose & some other Potatoes. Set out some White Strawberry Plants of Child.

3: Pleasant but Cold N Wind. Went up to Chancy's after Pig (\$4.) & Seed Corn & Corn to sow. Man spading in Garden. Theo hauling manure from here to lot up river. Sent for 3 Bbls Proudett (\$10.) to Foster 66 Cortlandt St.

Note: Parentheses in this date's entry appear in the original diary.

4: Rainy wind N. Cut potatoes to plant, Theo gone on the train. Doing but little, wrote to Rev. P.R. Russell & Wm G. Smith Vineland about sale of my place there.

5: Rainy forenoon. Theo hauling manure to lot up the river, self & man fixing fence up there. Recd bill of Poudrett from N.Y. Turned out my white cow today, comd pasturing on lot bot of Wm VanBuren.

6: Rainy. Worked Mr. Newell Plowing for Me & Sowed Peas & Oats on lot up the river, am hard up. Attended Cov. Meeting this P.M. Mrs. Chism & Mrs. Sparks told their ch experience and were recd for Baptism, also Gilbert Brown Son of Ch. Brown.

7: Sunday. Cold winday & squally & hail. Gilbert Brown &        were Baptised today. Stormy & my Rheumatism kept me home.

Note: Blank follows & symbol.

8: At work AM Garden PM. Theo & Man moving rails. Cold squally rain. Drew \$60. from the Bank.

9: Man at work in Garden, Theo & self hauling grain lumber & Manure.

10: Cold but no rain today. Work in garden "filling," Theo hauling Manure up to lot. VanBuren plowing for Me. C. Parsons dragging ½ day today. Recd Poudritt from N.Y. 750( ) 938 freight 3.93.

11: Cold. Cutting potatoes & planted a few. Theo & Man furrowing for Potatoes.

12: Self Theo hired men planting Potatoes, day pleasant Sun hot, planted 12 B Potatoes, pd Man 12 for work today.

13: Pleasant but a cold north wind, need overcoat & mittens. Plowed my garden & picked up stones on lot down the river. Theodore been very unkind and undutiful often, caused me to loose the work of others for want of interest enough in my affairs. Wife bot shoes for the 2 little Boys. Did not attend Ch Meeting this PM. Settled with my Irishman for work pd \$9.00 a poor unprofitable hand.

14: A cool day. All attended ch but Theo & Emma, had fire in ch to warm and wore my overcoat. Cold W or NW or NE wind constantly so that nothing grows. Have given up my class in S School, feel to old tired Nervous & ignorant to keep it so Bro. Baker has taken it again.

15: A hard White frost last night but warm in the Middle of the day. Set Theo to draging the garden & his having plowed it Saturday but soon found the horse standing hitched to the

cultivator & Theo gone of on the train, horse to wait till noon unless she chose to drag alone or run away at 11 oclock I went with my pony to L. Loomises Sold him Priest & Nun to pay for a Jag of Hay Straw, had planted some champn England Peas & E. Rose potatoes in my garden, gave C.D. Smith agency for Hollands books, let him have some Samples Book. Theodore has been of no use to me today only disappointed me & get nothing done.

16: Cold. Hired Mr. Kenyon to work for me today because I cannot depend upon Theo. Made fence & hauled Stone from my lot down the river. Theodore has played truant again to day & tho he told me this AM he would help me & I might depend upon him he left me in my time of need, been off on the cars so grieving & provoking me in my feeble & pevish condition so I have worked today in more misery & pain often so exhausted I could not move or stand but I am thankful that God sees & knows us and all our ways & trials & my prayer is that we may all come through purified and meet for his service & Kingdom. Oh how great will be his love mercy & condisenion. 10 oclock PM all abed but me, cant sleep if I go to bed even if I can lie down.

17: Drag corn ground Theo I in garden. Cold Cold Cold, haul manure here & to lot.

18: Warmer but cold NW Wind. Old Mr. Killmer died last night is an old inhabitant here. Dr. Jas. Sanders died last night. Man planted 1 acre Corn in Mrs. Spencers lot for Me. Theo haul manure 5 ( ). Planted Beets Carrots & Sweet corn today, planted some some G Seeds today. Sister Ann Bundy came this morning.

19: Warm Sun Cold wind. Gardening Theo hauling Manure from Ormiston.

20: Pleasant cool & dry. Hauling Manure to lot & furrowing for corn.

21: Sunday & hot. No meeting at our house S School at 12, M. Mrs. Child gone to Chicago to Miss. Meetings. Family attended Metho. Meeting & I the Presbyn. Am to nervous to do good or take any comfort.

22: Monday. Fixing for Planting corn forenoon. Spaulding planting corn for Me this PM. Very warm or hot, Mercury 88 Sunday.

23: Tuesday. Cold, so I worked all day coat on & buttoned & very changeables & dry, no rain for a long time, cold N Wind. Mr. Bassett planting for Me today.

24: Wed. Quite a hard frost this AM will doubtless injure Much fruit here. Planting Corn again, Mr. Bassett ½ day, Mr. Kenyon all day. Sent to C. Conants & got ( ) qts more seed corn alm beans.

Note: The number preceding the abbreviation qts is covered by an ink stain.

25: Warmer. Finished planting Corn & doing but little cause Theodore has to spend so much time at the cars. Went at night to C. Conants for 1 Bush corn to sew.

26: Finished planting potatoes over to lot AM warm. A delightful rain last night just what we needed and for which I feel truly grateful. Attended the funeral of Mrs. George Lyon who died Wednesday last quite unexpected tho long ailing with Consumption, was I feel a Christian Woman a regular attendant at the Bapt Ch tho she had never united. Funeral Services Conducted by the Episc minister to suit her Father not being certain Mr. Child would return in season.

27: Quite a warm day. Theodore fooling away his time off on the Cars while my work is suffering to be done. Workd over Manure pile & planted Sweet Corn Mellons Lima Beans etc. in my Garden, Planted Mr. Poolers corn & potatoes in the Garden Thursday.

28: Very pleasant & comfortable day. Mr. Child preached about Chicago and the aniversaries.

29: Very warm. Theodore at play, thinks to hot to work so my work lays still & team idle. Pd Kenyon \$2. bal. for work last week, pd. Fosgate \$5. on acc for (full) & flower at mill.

30: Tuesday. Another trouble & trial is upon me picking up brush to burn out of the way a stick struck against the ball of my left Eye, which has made it effectually blind so that without the other I could not get about but with difficulty and it now appears as tho it might not ever be better but I hope & trust as in past darker days. Team & Theo Hauled Manure from Barnes to lot up the river 5 loads, had Mr. Kenyon to work for me finished temporary fence so as to pasture my back lot down the river & set out Willows in creek between me & Blackburn & then came night. Father Aldous returned from a trip to Redwood to see his Elnora has traded horses since been gone. No other Case of Small Pox as yet but Mr. Dike who is reported doing well. Recd a good letter from Julia.

31: A Splendid and timely Shower this forenoon wetting things Comfortably. Theo play of on Cars all forenoon & done nothing PM Self & Wife up to C. Conants PM Sister Ann Julia Gray Duane &c there.

June 1: A very warm growing day. Planted Punkin Seeds in Corn on Mrs. Spencers lot. Planted Brown Corn Beans &c in Garden. Theo. off to play all P.M. Mr. Dyke getting on well with Small Pox.

2: Hot & dry. Hoeing & planting Sorghum Beets &c in Garden.

3: Very Hot. Planting & hoeing in Garden. Theo. Off on train to stay till Monday.

4: A very hot day 90. Attended ch but not S School Covenant Meeting yesterday Comn today did not attend.

- 5: Still hot & getting dry. Theo returned. Hauled 1 Load Manure AM Hoed Potatoes PM. Self Duane & Gray talked over the Settlement of Pas Will, all not Suited with Grays Manageing but he does as he probably thinks right according to the will. PM Went up to Grays to see his accts. Settled with Gray for Theodores Sheep which have laid along to no acct for 7 or 8 years, he paying me \$9. the price of 3 Sheep in fall of 1869 when he expected I got them of Duane & rented to Brown.
- 6: Planted my new Sweet & popt corn & sewed carrots cultivated Sewed Corn ground & corn on Mrs. Spencers lot. Boys planting Punkin Seeds in Corn up the river. Very hot & dry.
- 7: Sowed my corn & drilled in Some Sorghum over to my lot a little rain from 9 to 12 PM done us lots of good tho but little. Theo. & Arthur cultivating potatoes after we got corn & sorghum drilled in.
- 8: Warm, Winday hot sun. Self & Jas. Hoeing potatoes & Sowing Beet Seed on Mrs. Spencers lot PM. Hoed in garden. Theo & Arthur cultivating corn up R. lot.
- 9: Self & Wife went to Lucias got there ½ pas 9 am. They gone to Rodney Conants so we went on to R's. Nose comd bleeding soon after leaving Johns & bled till about 6 oclock PM. Stopd at M.D. Morris had a poor, hard, bad, cold day. Better staid at home & worked. Got home at 7 oclock PM found Elbridge Bunday came on Morning train, Duanes Grays & Julias going to Lucias tomorrow with Elbridge. I am about used up.
- 10: Cold bright Sun & strong west wind. Sowed last of Plaster on Meadow down river & Theo. Cultivating corn, am feeling to weak & bad to work much today.
- 11: A comfortable pleasant day. Only myself at ch S. School & prayer meeting. Am weak and poorly. AM Eldridge & Sister Julia up to Grays.
- 12: Cool & pleasant. Theo. off forenoon PM cultivating corn Self in garden.
- 13: Rainy all day. Panthea & Nomi stayed here last night & gone to Stockholm today. Self & Wife went to Grays thence with them Eldridge AM Julia &c to Harriets. PM drew bal. Cash from Bank \$135.92. French man & wife & Hildreth Hoeing for me between showers, also Mr. Hildreth PM – have a hard cold. A Cold rain and cold Strong wind.
- 14: Cleared up but cold & winday. Have been diging out my corn, wind buried it in Sand. Mr. Hildreth hoed this AM, Frenchman & wife all day. Theo. Hauling Manure to lot. Mr. Hill finished Sealing Dining room 2½ days \$37.50, pd him in Books. Recd 3 Mo. House rent from Smith in Vineland.
- 15: Self & Wife to Grays thence to H. Parsons where we all visited in the rain cold & high wind.

16: Cold wind bad day. Hoeing potatoes PM some rain.

17: Saturday pleasant am hard up, wrote to & sent draft \$25. to W.J. Holland & Co. for Books, nothing doing to advantage. Made fence to yard my cows. Saw Agt of Holland, bot 3 Chn. Legacy of him. Mr. Dyke will probably survive the small pox.

18: Sunday. Cool & some rain. No meeting at Bapt. House. Mr. Child has 2 weeks vacation, visits Philadelphia. Sunday School tho few present.

19: Day cold. Doing but little in garden & up to lot. Cultivated bal. Potatoes & Some corn forenoon, PM cultivated corn on Mrs. Spencers lot 2<sup>nd</sup> time & Anne Murray & Julia & Anna came up to our house, reported Mrs. Hill has small pox across the road from Julias. Gray Duane & Eldridge gone to Yellow Lake fishing.

20: Rainy & cold. Boys retd from Fishing this PM, a poor time but some fish. Theodore on train runs from Ogd to Wat.

21: Mr. Hildreth mowing & hoeing for me. Mr. Honeycombs man repairing cellar wall.

22: Cool & pleasant. Several cases small Pox. All up to Grays but Harriet & Horace home & c E & Ann & Lucia go up to Cs. Julia home with us, is dieting for fear of Small Pox.

23: Milder but cold N Wind. Man hoeing on Job to Hoe potatoes & Corn for \$8.00. Cultivated Some & Scattered Manure on Corn. Theo. got home, is not heavy enough for brakeman. Several new cases of Small Pox.

24: Appearance of a rainy day AM but cleared up PM without rain. Self & Boys cultivating & manureing corn AM. Mrs. Risley Hill died last night with Small Pox, was buried Early this A.M. The authorities are building House in Spencers Woods for all who have the Small Pox. Pd. Corporation highway Tax 7.30. Old Mr. Stinson died this PM with Small Pox. There are now 15 cases of it in town & no one knows how many more have been exposed.

25: Warm clear & pleasant. No Services at the churches today, no new cases small pox heard of today. Anna & Sister Julia at my house dieting lest they may have been exposed. May this Scourging hand of God be acknowledged by this people & may we be humble under his afflicting providence & able to cry to him for deliverance. They have built a Small Pox House SEast of the Village & tonight moved 3 patients over into it.

26: Panthea & Naomi left Town this Morning for Evans having Sold here & bot there (foolishly). Ann & Elbridge Bunday who have been here on a visit left for home on this PM train, have had a good visit & good time for which we are grateful & happy.

Note: The word foolishly is in parentheses.

27: Cool, looks like rain. Men hoeing corn & potatoes, am able to do a little light work.

28: Weather & wind cold. No new cases of Small Pox. May God stay it where it is & suffer it to go no farther in its pestilent deadly care as our lives & healths are safe in the hands of whom are all things. Attended prayer meeting this Evening after a day of hard labor doing but little, cultivated potatoes on rented lot.

29: Rainy appearance this forenoon Mr. Hildreth comd my mowing this PM have taken cold so much Strong cold wind. No new cases small pox and those having it doing well. The Phisicians report only 3 cases small pox 2 deaths & 9 cases vanished.

30: At work in my garden hoeing. Mr. Hildreth mowing and hoeing, Sister Julia & Anna here dieting yet lest they have been exposed to Small Pox. No rain this week getting dry Hay light. Let a Job yesterday to clear off my flat & side hill back of my lot up the river. Have had a poor day.

July 1: Today commences 2<sup>nd</sup> Month of Summer. Things are cold and backward. My crops will be light not paying me for expense, can hardly breathe if I move can do nothing had a chill in the afternoon and am used up, wish I had no work on my hands to see to, hauled in 3 jags of hay, say a Ton or more.

2: Warmer today but as yesterday hard cold wind. Am hardly able to be up. This is my 57<sup>th</sup> birthday and a hard one at that. Sick bones ache head ache lame all over rheumatism in every joint, sore eyes throat stomach a tight hard cough and so nervous cant keep still but a little while at a time showing this life with me as it has been one of suffering labor & toil making this world anything but pleasant & desirable and yet with what a tenacious grasp we cling to this life while faith & the promises of the Bible shows us so fair a haven just beyond the veil requiring only a word from our Saviour to bid us come home, oh for brighter faith & humbler holier life & grace as my day requires.

3: Bright hot Sunny day. Wm Smith cut my hay with his machine about 8 am cost \$6. Mr. Hildreth worked for me, am not able to do anything. Theodore with the aid of Hose & Rak raked it.

4: July 4<sup>th</sup>. Some roudies ushering in the 4<sup>th</sup> with the ringing of all the ch. Bells & firing the village Cannon & drinking & Swearing. Mr. Jenkins died & was buried last night with the Small Pox the 3<sup>rd</sup> death was a young man & clerk in the P.O. Cocked up my hay as we expected rain which comd to hard to work in about 4 oclock PM & had a splendid shower for about 3 hours doing an incalculable amt of Good for which we may well be thankful tho it wet 8 acres of hay for me. I am all used up not able to do a thing sore lame no breath no strength a hard cough & on the whole apparently of little account.



- 5: Pleasant. Spread out My Hay & got about ½ of it in. Some new cases Small Pox reported.
- 6: Drilling at My Hay tho not a very good hay day a Rain last night a hard shower doing everything an abundance of Good.
- 7: Friday, rather poor hay day so cloudy but we got in most of our hay.
- 8: Saturday pleasant. Mr. Hildreth hoeing for me this forenoon, afternoon got in bal. of hay and picked up for Sunday. Ch. Meeting this PM at which Mr. Child through the Clerk handed in his resignation as Pastor of the ch to take effect in 3 Mo. So few present the matter was adjourned till tomorrow noon.
- 9: Sunday a hot day very few at ch or S School appointed a committee to see Bro. Child & persuade him if possible to withdraw his resignation & continue our Pastor.
- 10: Hot again. Boys cultivating corn & potatoes & Mr. Hildreth hoeing Potatoes.
- 11: Cloudy all day threatening rain. Manureing hoeing & cultivating corn. Mr. Hildreth hoeing Potatoes a.m. & corn P.M.
- 12: Day hot at work in Corn & potatoes with a hired man Mr. Hildreth. No new cases of Small pox but the Excitement keeps up more in the country than village.
- 13: Cool & cloudy prospect rain but blowed over & cleared up. Work hard to keep down the weeds.
- 14: Very hot 90 degrees & over. Worked in garden forenoon, played afternoon. Duane Morris has bought E. Beardslees ½ of Store & good & is now in Co. with John Killmer in Grocery business. Have been hardly able to crawl round for 2 weeks nor quite laid up, have a hard cough in a new place away down my throat, raise hard.
- 15: Still killing weeds in garden & Mr. Hildreth in corn & potatoes, can hire him no more work down after today. A very hot sun.
- (no date): Sunday, attended ch & 7 oclock prayer meeting.
- 17: Monday. Pleasant prospect of rain a little about at work in my garden & Theo hauling manure from Mrs. Spencers. All well.
- 18: Tuesday. Trying to work tho I make a poor stick of it.
- (no date): Wednesday. Appearance strong for rain PM, quite a Shower. Set out some beet plants. Father returned this afternoon. Mrs. Leavitt has been very low but is now improving

slowly. Nothing new, no new cases Small Pox and the Excitement is subsiding and reported patients recovering.

(no date): Thursday. Cool wind but hot sun, fixed pump this forenoon. H.C. Leavitt came today on acct of his Mother, she is better. Sister Julia at M.D. Morris.

21: Friday. Cool but hot sun. Some rain towards night. Theodore finished hauling Manure from Mrs. H.K. Spencers. Self & boys work in garden & hoeing Sorghum. Some rain at night. Lucinda came here today.

22: Showery all day, hot sun but cold air. Sowed My Turnips 1<sup>st</sup> 11 Rows. Theodore off on train to play most of the day.

23: Day opens pleasant & cool, a fine day. Quite a congregation, small pox fright must be subsiding. Mr. Child preached a.m., good. H.C. Leavitt at 6 oclock, very good, is growing.

24: A warm pleasant day, best hay day yet. Planted my round Turnips the bal. in garden, hoed & sowed some more Sorghum & at 4 P.M. went to Mr. D. Morrises with Emma Arthur & James. Theo played most all day tho I wanted him to help me very much. Sold \$4.75 worth Books to play on old Cow Bot of Duane for \$16.00. Lucinda at our house. Father Aldous at home.

25: Another very pleasant and good hay day. Theo got the Cow in forenoon at Duanes, P.M. off at play. No work self & Boys work in Garden a standard place for business. Went to town P.M. Recd a paper from Bro. Warren Botsford at Decatur Mich bringing me the sad intelligence of the death of Bro. Robt. G. Botsford of the erysipelas at A.D. Botsfords in Otsego on the of July. He was 53 years of age & I fear has gone without a hope of life. Mr. Aldous left on a peddling trip this A.M.

Note: the date in July of Robert Botsford's death is blank.

Note: A newspaper clipping with a short obituary of Robert Botsford is attached to the next page of Henry Sheldon's diary. The date of July 1871 is handwritten on the clipping. The obituary is as follows:

### **DIED.**

At Otsego at the residence of his brother, of Erysipelas, ROBERT G. BOTSFORD, in the 53d year of his age. Mr. Botsford was one of the first settlers of this village, coming here in the year 1851.

26: Trimd Willows about my garden all forenoon. Duane & Mare came just before dinner, stayed till after supper, had a good visit with Maria. D. in his store. Some rain all forenoon, PM have done nothing. Theo off at play P.M.

27: Worked garden & Rain P.M. quite hard. Was about town some.

28: Nothing new, times hard & business dull so says business men. I only know I am out of money & little prospects of earning any. Theo off all forenoon, came round & we got started for the field to weed sorghum, at 3 oclock PM Arthur & James went Fishing, caught 8 or 10 Bull heads & came and help us in the field feeling proud of so good luck fishing.

29: No rain, cool air hot sun Rain nearby from the East but none hear. Self boys & Emma went to lot to pick peas & weed sorghum. Theo got telegram from Road Master to come on train as brake man at noon frt, so he has gone again, hope he will give satisfaction and do well. We trust him in the hands of our God to shield him from danger & harm & keep him from evil and bring to his truth & love. Bot feed shoes for Emma & Arthur, Lucinda still with us, Father Aldous retd today, are all well & not unmindful of Him who has sustained & us to the present amid so many dangers.

Note: The word "frt" may be abbreviation for freight. A word appears to be missing after the phrase "sustained &."

29: Sunday. A cool pleasant day. All at church but Theodore who being on the Train Spends Sunday in Watertown. Sermon by Mr. Child usually good. Have felt better than usual today.

Note: Sunday was July 30.

30: Monday. Pleasant & hot. Picked Peas & weed Sorghum. Worked about my garden as best could.

Note: Monday was July 31. The Sentence beginning with "Picked Peas" is crossed out.

31: Tuesday. Cool & Cloudy. News of the death of (Ras.) Goodrich at Potsdam, found ded at the foot of Hotel stairs this morning all we have heard yet, born & brot up in this Town, Moved to Gloversville. Was a rough profane intemperate fellow and suddenly removed from time to judgment. Repaired Pig pen this A.M.

Note: Tuesday was August 1.

August 1: Tuesday. Cold night, very heavy dew, pleasant hoeing in Garden & making Shed in yard. Theodore on train. Pd Hildreth bal on work to date including claim for work not done 4.25. Pleasant hot.

2: Pleasant & hot. Boys hoeing sorghum, I am about puttering.

3: A very hot day gardening PM attended ch & Soc Meeting adjourned till next week Saturday.

4: A hot day, appearance of rain passes off. Went to C. Conants with Mr. Mix, Fishing, fished all day, each of us caught a pickerel, his the largest & I the tenderest.

(no date): Saturday. Still hot & pleasant. Fussed in garden forenoon resting, went to Covenant Meeting PM but few out, when can we say a full attendance.

6: A full house at ch & S School. Sermon by Rev. Mr. Peddy from Phila Pa.

7: Pleasant & hot. Mr. Hildreth cutting Oats on Mrs. Spencers lot part forenoon, had my Pony to go to Hailesboro P.M.

8: Hildreth cut bal. of oats AM & went after wood PM. Mr. Fullingtons man mowing Oats this PM. I am at home doing nothing. Rain a little at 11 to 12 m hot.

9: Mr. Hildreth Moved bal of oats & bound bal cradled. Let Corporation get gravel at what they pay Gleason pr Load. Bro. Saml Blandin died this morning in his 78<sup>th</sup> year without sickness or suffering, he was taken away, his End was peace & he has gone to be with Christ which is far better.

10: Cold night, hot sun today. Mr. Hildreth raking Oats forenoon, helping Fullington haul this PM, got my grain in & no rain on it, it is very dry & getting dryer.

(no date): Friday. Miss Hellen Beggell died at Watertown this morning where she went a few weeks since to rest & recruit up but she has gone to the rest that remains to the people of God & what is the loss of church society & friends is her gain. A hot pleasant day, a circus and animal show here today. Most everybody out.

12: Cooler but pleasant, no rain, everything getting dry. Miss Beggells funeral this forenoon. May the exercises which were good and appropriate prove a benefit to Saint & Sinner.

13: A comfortable & pleasant day. Good meeting & S. School. Saw Volney & Wallace Blandin, the Boys were here to the funeral of their Father. Had the nose bleed from 2 to 11 o'clock PM.

14: Cool night hot sunny day. Had nose Bleed again from 2 to 11 Sunday P.M.

15: Day hot & sultry 90 odd heat. Do no work today only fuss about chores. Man graining dining room today. Lucinda here. Mr. Aldous here.

16: A little rain last night & this A.M. Theodore lays off & is home resting today. Mr. Aldous left this AM to Peddle his way to Red Wood & Canada Lenora. Recd 2 mo. Rent of House in Vineland less \$3. repairs corn \$1.70 PO order 15 = 4.85 out of 17.2 Mo rent P.O. order \$29.15.

Note: 4.85 is at end of one line. On the next line is 29.15. In between the two lines is 34.00.

17: Another hot dry day. Pd of D. Newell bal. for Work last Spring Hauling Potatoes 700

2 days plowing 700 – 1400

Pd Books 6 Cash today 8. = 1400.

Went to Hailesboro Mill to Mr. Wings & Stipes. Sold no books, got Bran & Meal Fosgate 4.24 pd cash, and home tired completely out cant work.

Note: There are no decimal points in these figures but it may be that the amounts are \$7.00, \$14.00, \$6, \$8.00, and \$4.24.

18: No rain plenty Grass Hoppers, cooler strong West wind, hot to blow up rain. Mr. Sparks finished graining Dining room.

19: Am feeling to bad to work any today or even go to town, hurt some in the barn door which blew against me yesterday. Nose inclined to bleed all day, expect a spell of it before it stops.

20: Day cool & pleasant, no rain yet. Attended ch but feel bad all over. Wm Ells & Wife & Mrs. Sparks were Baptised today, Mr. & Mrs. E have been Congregationalists for years & belonged to that church till it went down some 10 or 12 years since. They have since attended the Baptist Meetings. My nose commenced bleeding at supper about 3 oclock bled quite steady till after 12 at night bleeding some over a quart.

21: Nose bled a spell this AM and stoped leaving me clear down at the bottom to labor hard and careful 3 mo to get more blood so is my life –

E.M. Betts commenced work for Me today for 2 months at \$18. pr month. Put down front walk, hauled sawed &c. Rained Sunday night 2 small showers. We hardly know which is doing the most damage Drouth or Grass Hoppers.

22: Hot & drying. Brn Leavitt Walling & Myself met today to assess debts of the church on slips & members with a view of paying. Man at work in Garden, cleaning cistern.

23: Hot & dry. Fixing walk & hauling sand to fill road to barn. Bot feed of Fosgate. Pd Sparks on Painting Dining room \$11.00 Am very weak from loss of blood, cough worse & raise more, do nothing.

24: Poney balked, man broke harness& could not use her, result of new driver. Hot no rain. Man. Soc. Meeting to look after debts they have suffered to grow on their hands for 4 years past, have pd nothing nor improved anything. Am about same as sick abed. Voted in Soc Meeting to pay Wm Sudds \$75. pr year to lead & instruct the choir in Church and Sunday School. Appointed W.H. Walling, F.M. Holbrook & Myself Committee to collect arrears.

(no date): Hotter & sicker. My Man thinning carrots & Turnips. I doing nothing.

26: Day Cloudy strong appearance of rain. My Man Cutting over on Mrs. Spencers place. Rain at night. Feel hard up as ever.

27: Rain all last night & most rain had this Summer, Warm, refreshing & good. I think everybody grateful but few at ch SS all in 3 classes.

28: Mrs. Putnam left for the West today. Fixed fence on Mrs. Spencers lot, dug some early Rose Potatoes & passed away the day feeling bad. District School com.today.

29: Man in garden at work, spread out & put up in Cock again my rowen at 4 PM a hard rain doing much good, a hard SW Wind all day. Turned My 3 cows into Mrs. Spencers Meadow, have excellent feed.

30: Has been cloudy & a little rainy all day. My Man at work in Strawberry bed. Bought a bbl Flour yesterday \$6.25. Have given up trying to work till I get better.

31: A hard night for me misery. Cold & cloudy today. Lucinda gone to Mr. Childs today My Man to Came to Meeting.

September 1: A pleasant day, almost a frost last night. Man at work in Strawberries. I am getting harness repaired & sold 2 books, got fore shoes set on Poney, am sick & better be abed. Wrote to Brown & Loughran to send me some Peaches & Grapes from Vineland.

2: A light frost, no damage, pleasant. Hauled in My rowen. Man dug some early rose Potatoes a fair yield but price 4/-B low. Rev. Mr. Hammond called today, wants to preach for us tomorrow. Bro. Child failed to get us a supply for tomorrow so we expect him Bro. Hammond to supply us. Covenant Meeting today. Miss Edith Haile united with Church by letter from Cornish Mass. Have had to get some of Pettitts Eye Salve to cure my eyes & some stuff to make me sleep.

3: Pleasant warm day. All at church but me, dont know why I am so weak & my cough keeps so hard unless from the loss of blood. My Medicine quieted me so I slept more than usual but am very tired. Sermon by Mr. Hammond S.S. & Communion Evening all met at the Presn House.

4: Warm & pleasant, appearance of rain going off. Commenced diging my Early Rose Potatoes on Mrs. Spencers lot. Settled board acct with Father Aldous since we retd from V – to 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 71.

5: Still warm & getting dry. Not able to do anything. Man digging bal. E Rose potatoes.

6: Hot dry & windy. Union Sunday School picnic Bapt. Pres. & Metht. In V. Morris grove, said to have a good time, we all went up tho I was to sick to enjoy it – am in pain through my chest

cough hard & so weak I can hardly crawl round. All got home at 3 PM safe & sound. My Man Betts Cutting up Corn on Mrs. Spencers lot.

7: Rained some last night but cold dry NE Wind today expect frost any time. Mr. Betts Cutting Corn, lay abed & coughed & spit all forenoon, afternoon chored about. Went up to lot & up to Chanceys & home at chore time. Fair at Watertown, many gone out – is to be a Balloon assension.

8: Some frost last night but not hard, clear and pleasant. Man cutting corn. I feel better this A.M. some.

9: Day pleasant. Not out to do anything today, harder up than ever, cant tell why. Mr. Betts finished cutting corn tonight so the frost will not injure the fodder.

10: Day pleasant. All to ch. but me. Commenced taking Vinegar Bitters this AM, expect little or no benefit from it but feel anxious to try something. A Young Man from Watertown preached for the Bapt yesterday, said to have done well and good prospects for the future in his Masters service.

11: A cool pleasant morning. Feel no better. Wife washing, Man mowing, Sowed corn. Emma helping Ma at home, boys at school. P.M. Self & Wife went up to Chn Browns, got some Crab Apples, saw his Nice Barn &c.

12: Man hoed in garden & worked over my heap of Compost the forenoon. P.M. got Burts Barn ready & commenced thrashing Oats & Peas, hot dry & dusty.

13: A Cold Cloudy day Wind North. I have been with a Man Selling fruit Trees on the road to Somerville today but found it cold tiresome work. Betts Threshing Peas & Oats & putting up sewed corn. Am some better just now. Recd a letter from Alvy Botsford, Mother still with him. Sabrina lives at Leavenworth, Kansas & Julia Botsford is with her. George has left Charles, gone no one knows where. I fear his associations & training in the Army during the war has spoiled him.

14: A hard frost last night, the 1<sup>st</sup> to Kill. Have considerable late Corn Tomatoes &c in My Garden for it to kill or damage, froze ice ¼ in thick.

(no date): No frost last night, cloudy & cold. Commenced raining at 4 PM cold. A Co Convention Rep at Spencers this PM. E.N. Merriam up to it, called on me. Cleaned up Oats & peas, had 18 Bushes worth 80. Sold 1 Mow of hay to Rast. Coal for \$17. pr Ton in the barn.

16: Rain last night & some today. Man got load Shavings hauled some dirt in Depot Road & shoveled over compost heaps. Have been weak cold & chilly all day. Mr. Aldous returned this PM. Lucinda came from Mr. Childs here today. Pd hired Man on work \$10. tonight. Tomorrow

is the Lords day. May it be a day of peaceful rest & profit to his people as they engage in the delightful worship of God. Heard yesterday by Ely N. Merriam of the death of Cousin James Sheldon of Martinsburgh, have not seen him for many years, have heard of him as to much given to strong drink & a hater of things holy & sacred but God has called for him & he has gone.

17: Cold & cloudy. Sermon by Mr. Child again. I attended Ch & SS. A Mr. Johnson presented the claims of the Education Soc or Hamilton Instn.

18: A cold pleasant day, hard frost last night. My Man threshing Oats. I chored & got a load of lumber forenoon, PM went with fruit tree agt up Road to Haywoods across to W.G. Smith & home on Rock Island Road.

19: Some misty today. A hard thunder shower passed round us in the Night. Some rain here. Bot some (refuse) Boards & (Scanthen) 1.50 & 1.75 3.25. Betts threshing Oats yet, Mr. Phelps helpd ½ day. Mr. Aldous went to the Burgh. Recd Cash \$24.85 for gravel from my lot down the river for the corporation roads. Pd Barney & Brown \$60. on Straw Cutter.

20: Betts threshing & cleaning Oats. John Desharm helping clean up & put away straw, had 23 bush.

21: Pleasant. Betts Diging potatoes on Mrs. Spencers lot. Theodore left the Cars & Came home today noon.

22: Cold but pleasant, hard frost every night. Stoddard building me a corn Crib. Betts husking Corn. Theodore various chores. Sister Lucia here this PM, goes to Marias. Recd 2 Crates of Grapes from Brown & Loughran Vineland.

23: Cloudy Almost rain strong Wind last night & today. Nose bled from 7 to 12 last night, no sleep. Mr. Stoddard finished corn crib at 3 PM. Betts husking on Spencer lot today. Recd P.O. Money Order yesterday from Wm G. Smith for rent in Vineland to Sept 8, House Empty from that day. I have chored about all day, finished Corn Crib, Stoddard chgd \$4.00 for work.

24: Pleasant as Indian Summer. Mr. Child changd with Mr. Conklin Pres Pastor.

25: Pleasant this day & mild, took Apple tree Man to Smiths Mills. Betts husking corn Spencer lot, Theo about.

26: Squally but not much rain. Town Fair Commences today but little Show, our Baptist Soc. run the dining Saloon this year. Betts Husking yet on corn at Spencer lot. Theodore gone to Watertown to get his pay. I am sorting Corn & choreing, took Mother & Mrs. H.K. Spencer a few Grapes & set about town P.M. Father Aldous returned today. Lucinda here.



27: Showery today but not much rain till 4 PM. Went over to Fair, Member ticket 10( ). Emma 2/. Theodore helping in Dining Hall on fairground. Sorted Some Corn & chored about. J.R. Mills here. Mr. Eldridge retd this forenoon to dinner. Mr. Wilbers grapes arrived at Depot today. Felt bad today. Betts finished husking corn on Spencer lot today.

28: Lousy cold & damp, last day of fair. I attended 2 hours to Judge James address. Wife worked in fair Kitchen, the Soc will not make much. My hired Man lost today attended the fair. Theodore worked in Depot for Gates to go to fair.

29: Milder cloudy wet & damp. Wife helping straiten out Dining Hall victuals left over. Betts hauling Corn from Manure to lot Sand to road & Coal from Depot, shall buy 3 Tons, have one ton on hand.

30: A Pleasant sunny day. Betts husking corn up to the field comd there today. Theodore hauling Manure from Barn yard to lot forenoon. Covenant Meeting this PM, no fire so cold I dare not Stay. Mr. Aldous & Lucinda here. Looked for an overcoat for Theodore, sold a few sweet potatoes and some of Elder Wilbers Grapes.

October 1: Sunday a comfortable day. All attended ch. Bro. Child our pastor for a week longer gave us some good advice from the Prophet Ezekiel about hearing the gospel preached. Communion PM S School at noon did not attend prayer meeting in Evening Mr. Child preached at 7 PM at Scotch School house. Lucelia Mills here visiting.

2: Pleasant tho threatening rain. Betts & Theo. working in Corn up to lot got along very well. Self & Arthur Sold Mr. Wilbers Grapes this forenoon, have 11 More to sell, a hard job so late & grapes to ripe & badly jamed.

3: Rainy & misty from 8 oclock AM all day. Man husking corn in shed. John Gilroy came up after Mother today. Attended Mr. Childs auction this PM of his Household furniture, few sales (Adg) till Saturday.

4: Cool West wind, pleasant. Boys diging potatoes up to the lot poor yield good size all dug 26 Bushels today Garnet chillies. Wrote Poughkeepsie Plow Co. for a 1 Horse plow & \$5.00 cash sent.

Note: Garnet chili is a type of potato.

5: Pleasant hot day & a hard west wind. Theodore & Edwin my hired Man diging potatoes. I finished disposing of Elder Wilbers Grapes, has been a loss to Me & him to, to many grapes in Town, his to ripe to ship so far, were badly jammed & damaged, took Me all of 2 days to sell the 32 – 4 Boxes.

Took Lucinda to M.R. Austins today. Wrote to Brown & Loughran at Vineland for 3 bbls Sweet Potatoes, sent Draft \$10., mailed on ½ past 4 train this P.M.

Worked myself out of breath & strength many times today & suffered Much in consequence. Mr. Eldridge apple tree peddler who has boarded some with us for 2 weeks past Settled up & left this AM, took pay in apple trees to be delivered this Month.

6: Warm no rain tho strong symptoms. Theo & Betts digging potatoes average about 26 Bushels pr day. I chore pick up & fix about the House.

7: A Cold day, wind North & strong. Betts & Hildreth digging potatoes AM. Theo gathering Corn about the field (Spencers. Went to Ch Meeting PM, was none. Mr. Childs Auction HH. Goods. Sent to Mr. Wilbert cash \$817 due for grapes sold. Wife at Hany Thompsons visiting. Father Aldous retd this PM. Betts worked till 4 PM then went to Ox Bow with My Horse & Buggy. I am now 10 PM suffering severely with pain in my thumb & fingers broke nail into the quick, have taken cold from picking up potatoes.

Note: Spencers has beginning parenthesis but not closing parenthesis in original. There does not appear to be a period in \$817, but \$8.17 may be intended.

8: Pleasant. Attended Ch. Mr. Child preached his last Sermon and leaves after a 3¾ years pastorate, has not found the ch willing to come up to his help in the work of the Lord and his wifes health failing he thinks best to seek a More Southern climate & has accepted a Call from the Ch in Pautuxet R.I. near Providence, he leaves regretted by all in & out of the Ch and beloved by all Societies. May the blessing of God attend him.

9: Monday. A very warm windy day, smoky & yet no rain tho threatening daily. Boys digging potatoes dug today 31 Bushels. No sale for them & worth only 40 to 50 cts pr bush. Lucinda came back last night. Father Aldous started off today. Helpd Mr. Child pack some & chored about, feeling to hard up to breathe. Boys digging with dung forks. Settled up with C.D. Smith for books had to canvass for subscribers.

10: A very warm day, Mercury about 74 degrees, Strong west wind almost a gale all day and rising tonight. A heavy fire reported on R Road near Canton falls. Cars stopd. We also have news of a heavy fire in Chicago. Boys getting in Corn is in fine order & I think I shall be able to keep it fit to feed.

11: High strong wind all last night a little rain and this AM wind N.E. & cold, shall have storm. R. R. track on fire so cars do not run regular. The sad news reaches us that Chicago is burning and much of its best & business portion is already destroyed. All hands husking corn today. Comd raining at 7 PM today. Mr. Child & family left this morning. Nancy & Betsey started this P.M. for Evans. Wife Bought her a new Shall \$4.75 from her own Earnings.

Note: In the inside margin next to the above paragraph is written "Chicago fire." Henry's wife's "new Shall" may be a new shawl.

12: Cold & Rainy today, rained all last night quite hard. Boys husking corn in Barn & Shed.

13: Cold N Wind. Theo & Ed digging potatoes today.

14: Cold NW Wind today. Comd Raining at 4PM slightly. Ed & Theo finished digging potatoes this forenoon. Edwin quit work at noon today, would have to work 8 days more to make his 2 Months but I let him off to go to Waldoes to learn Harness Makers trade. My breath is so short I can hardly keep about.

15: Very windy but little rain, Warm. A Bro. Fort Sent by Bro. Child from Caznova preached for us today Sermon very good, is Candidating for Pastorship.

16: Wind abated, no rain today. Betts left for Waldos this AM, worked 1-18/26 months. Theodore hauled some Stalks & Some Manure. My Red Fattening Cow refused to Eat her Mess this AM, gave her 1 lb Salts at noon and at dusk she died loss 38. to \$40. E. Cole got hay sold him from Mrs. Spencers barn, dont hold out what I supposed it would.

17: No rain today, Cold North Wind. Buryed Cow, pd 55c for Skinning. Sold My smallest Pig Jas. Sparks for \$6.00 Wt called 150 lb. Theo dug Beets this PM on Spencer lot & attended to the Depot.

18: Cold rain last night, Hail & Rain this forenoon. Cold & Cloudy & NW Wind. Dug Beets (Spencers and Repaired fence up to the lot this PM. Cole pd me for 2840lb hay at \$17. pr Ton. I pd Mrs. Spencer on rent \$25.00. Got 16 fence posts of Bowman left by Brayton to sell 1/ ea. Have taken one Bottle Vinegar bitters, dont perceive that I am the better for it neither.

Note: Spencers had beginning parenthesis mark but not ending parenthesis mark.

19: Cold & some rainy. Husking some & fixing fence some up to lot considerable blown down, got Cloth & Trim for Over Coat Theodore.

20: Cold & windy. Husked some, sold some sweet Potatoes &c, our family alone today.

21: Pleasant but cold West wind. Husked corn forenoon, PM Secured some stalks repaired some fence blown down dug a few Beets. Wife put some slab wood into the wood house. Poney eat so much had belly ache this PM. Mr. Aldous retd tonight. Fires raging fearfully all over many parts of the west. Get reliable news of the death of Wm Aldous, Wife & Children Dilia & Charley perished in the fire at Peshtigo, Wis., left here the fore part of the month, had been there only 4 days when they perished with many others.

22: Am feeling quite well for me. Day mild & pleasant but very Smoky reminding us of a heavy fire somewhere nearer us than Chicago or Michigan. All attended church today, heard a good Sermon Morning & Evening from Bro. Candidating for pastordship, think he will receive a Call from the ch. Sunday School Dea. Thayer our Teacher sick not out, had to act as such myself. May infinite wisdom guide us in choosing us a Pastor & May it be for his glory, the good of the ch. & the salvation of Souls.

23: Went up to a lot & picked up a load Scattering corn of which VanBurens horses had eaten most of it. My wagon reach came in to, took till noon to get a new one. Theo repairing fence blown down up to lot, dug beets, went to town & felt sick & in much pain all day. Seems discouraging to think of getting better.

24: Cold NE Wind dry & clear. Went to Town, whiled away forenoon. Theo hauling Manure on garden forenoon. Peddled out a bbl Sweet potatoes afternoon. I topd some Beets & visited with Bro. our contemplated pastor. All gone to a concert by some children from the Howard Mission or home for the friendless from NY.

Note: Blank follows the abbreviation Bro.

25: Air cold & chilling N.E. Wind pleasant. Mr. Aldous at home. Theo haulng Manure from Jason Smiths & our barn & doing various chores for winter. Wife & Emma at Prayer Meeting.

26: Very mild & pleasant all day, a good rain most all night. Handed over My Corn in crib so damp inclined to mold. Theo hauling dirt banking under piazza cellar frosty last winter, both played this afternoon & the team stood still. Peddled out 100 lb Sweet potatoes this PM, have sold myself short & must order more. Wife sent a package to go for Suffering from the fires west, believe it is to go to Peshtigo where Wm Aldous & family were burned together or with Several hundred others. Am not able to work and have not cash to hire. The Lord is good & I shall yet praise him.

27: Day pleasant but cool. Theodore hauling sand to bank & fill up. Chancy & Cordelia here visiting. All usually well – ordered from Vineland 3 bbls more Sweet Potatoes. Much is being said about & done for the Sufferers at Chicago Michigan Wisconsin Minisota &c. Never so great a calamity to this people from fire before the Lord has done it and the Nation should see the lesson repent & turn to Him in whose hands are all things.

28: Cold cloudy & some rain last night & today. Theo hauling Manure from Jason Smiths to lot up the river. Bot 17 Bushels apples of Sprague 4/- 850. Bot \$10. Worth Apple trees Derby VT.

29: A cool pleasant day. All went to church, disappointed in a preacher Mr. Dunsford did not come sick. Bro. Holbrook read one of Spurgeons Sermons a home thrust we all needed. Meeting PM to vote on giving him a call, vote unanimous. Voted to instruct coms to write to Bro. Putnam at Hamilton. At prayer meeting in Evening the 1<sup>st</sup> time for some mths.

30: A hard frost cold & chilly all day. Have felt bad. Excitement in town about some Boys fighting & Girls Stealing.

31: A Mild day but chilly to Me, have felt bad all day. Theo hauled 1 Load Manure to lot & 2 loads lumber from Mill, about ½ a forenoons work in all day.

November 1: Rain last night & some all forenoon today. Theodore fooling about the Depot. I have finished husking My corn today, think I shall have about 50 Bushels shelld corn worth now 6/ pr bushel. Shelled has cost me over a dollar pr bushl to raise it. Have no news, feel down in the mouth & am quite discouraged. Can do just nothing myself, have no money to hire and nothing pays and yet our expenses go on daily. Have agreed to pay \$20. if they will wipe out the ch debt of about \$400. which they have been running behind to make for the last 3 years tho justice would not demand a cent of it from me as I have paid all I am able or more at Vineland & pay \$21. Slip rent the present year here but the debt must be paid that we may begin the year square should we get a new Minister.

2: Have Cought some cold and as usual such times am Sick all over chilly & some fever a sort of dumb ague, have laid by the Stove most of the day. Cold & chilly out.

3: Am no better, had an ague Sweat last night, do not look as yellow but a more pale white weak & poor. Theodore set out 8 of my 12 Fruit Trees & we dug some beets & carrots.

4: Day very cold wind North. Set out balance of Trees. Set by stove & PM went to Covenant Meeting but few present but the Lord was with us and we had a Spiritual refreshing from his presence. Elder Moxly expected to preach for us tomorrow. Wife Theodore & the little boys diging Beets & Carrots tho cold lest they should be froze in. Recd one of the 3 bbls of Sweet Potatoes sent me from Vineland.

5: Pleasant but cold Wind all the time N or NE. Bro. Moxley did give us a feast of fat things, wish My Memory would retain it & My heart bettered.

6: A very cold Night has been freezing all the time since Saturday and is cold but clearing up. Finished diging My Carrots, had about 30 Bushels, they will do My Cows good this winter. Recd the other 2 bbls Sweet potatoes tonight. Freight 1<sup>st</sup> Bbl 30/ other 2, 282 = 5.88. 1.16 More than on the former 3 bls.

7: State Election today, the Tamany ring which rules the Democratic party in the state have got into trouble for want of more funds to steal and many honest if honest can be applied to a present day Democrat have left the party & honest men hope to carry the state. A pleasant cold day.

8: Snow fell about 2 inches on 3 to 4 inches frozen ground last night, hope it will take the frost out of the ground and we may have some pleasant weather yet this fall. It is said the republicans have carried the state. Peddled out a bbl Sweet potatoes today at 6½ lb.

9: Thawed a little yesterday More than today ground still nearly covered with Snow & frozen. Peddled out another bbl Sweet potatoes this forenoon. Mr. Aldous Started out yesterday. Theo gone off on the cars this PM instead of doing what I set him at. I am to weak & short Breath to do even my chores, am doubtful what this long cold winter with my debility and complicated diseases will do with me. Mr. Ormiston's goods are being sold at Auction to close his estate showing us how soon time closes all earthly business with us all saying be ye also ready.

10: Snowing at times all day & thawing. Have been feeling to unwell to do anything today. Nothing important occurring, receiving many blessings from our heavenly Father.

11: Day between freezing & thawing, has snowed at times all day is now about 5 inches heavy damp snow. Worked in barn forenoon cleaning up & cutting Corn Stalks with Theodore helping afternoon went down to Meeting regular church) house not open suppose sexton forgot it & gone, pd Treas. of Soc \$5. on Slip rent. Bought me a vest pattern & trimmings for winter, took them to Mrs. Hannum to be made. Rev. Mr. Putnam is here who we expect to preach to us tomorrow. Father A returned tonight. I am keeping 2 cows & one horse, have sold 5 Tons hay. Winter is setting in early if this is our winter. All my Turnips & some of My Beets are under the snow.

12: A regular Cold winter day pleasant Mercury 8 degrees above. Preaching forenoon & Evening by Rev. Mr. Putnam from Hamilton College with a view to a Settlement when he closes his studies in May, the ch would give him a call could he come now. Had a meeting at noon to raise funds to pay debts, also a collection of about \$10 towards supplies.

13: Milder thawing not doing much.

14: Cold & Rainy most of the day. Mr. & Mrs. Willcox & Mrs. Klock came here on evening train.

15: Cold & Most of the day rainy, rain all last night. Dr. Parmily surgical operation on Father Aldous Breach. Visited today with Mr. Willcox & wife & Mrs. Klock, they left in the rain on the 4:34 train for 3 Mile Bay, am delighted that they could come & make even a short visit.

16: N Wind Cold Snowed & thawed all day. I have done nothing but chores & P.M. go to town. Mother & Theodore have dug turnip & Beets out of the ground & Snow most of the day & have quite a piece of each yet under the snow, sorry wife goes out to dig exposing herself to cold & sickness. Mrs. Klock says I must try Sages Catarrh Remedy. Recd a letter from Julia yesterday, is well & contented.

17: Have done but little today. Theodore at Depot all forenoon. Went to Mill PM., Sold Sweet potatoes to Jas VanBuren & Turnips to Merritt, pd VanNamees acct. 265 recd 12/- of him for 3 weeks pasturing. Bot a pile of Manure of VanNamee for which I am to pay \$3.00.

18: A Cold raw day. Theodore harvested Turnips. Henry Rogers fixing Stancheons in cow stable just Made of end granary in Barn. Bot stuff of Mrs. Spencer to pay \$3.00.

19: Day cold. Tho sick went to ch, A.J. Holbrook read a sermon of Spurgeons good Col & S School.

20: H. Rogers finishing Stable forenoon. Some rainy all day. Spaulding fixing Sheds comd at 9½ ended at 5 PM. So we are trying to fix for Winter which is already upon us, have had quite good Sleighing tho ground Most bare today. Father Aldous up about most of the day. Chancys team & Gib. Plowing on lot up river today.

21: Has been another rainy day only a part workable outdoors picking up for winter. Cut tops from last of Turnips & got into cellar. Theo dug some cow beets in rain but drove off. Mother to Sociable this PM. Arthur at home, suppose got mumps. Wrote to Poughkeepsie Plow Co & Sent bal. \$4. for Plow.

22: Cold raw day thawing some. Doing just nothing.

23: Clear & pleasant but a cold NW Wind. Attended this PM a Surprise Visit at Mrs. Hors, about 24 old settlers mostly a good visit, had Tea carried in, Eat & went home.

24: Cold & frozen high wind last night, today wind got South Snow AM Rain PM Wind. Fussing about house & Barn. District School closes today with a performance this Evening. Seminary term closed yesterday. Am hard up today, visited to hard yesterday.

25: Thawing. Shall get the last of my Beets dug today, wood all under shed, manure drawn and quite a number of little jobs done up towards getting ready for winter but much I ought to have done to my land will have to go by till spring.

26: A little froze and a little frozen rain all day. Rev. Mr. Hatch preached for us the AM & Eve, he is laid by from diseased lungs & throat but will supply us till Jany, church voted unanimously to call Bro. Putnam & get temporary supplies till he graduates in May next. We also had another ch meeting at noon and finished raising the sum necessary to pay the church debts so as to begin the year square with the world so far as it can be done with dollars & cents, it looks like clearing the way for a spiritual advancement.

27: Has been a cold raw NE wind & freezing all day. Mulchd some of My Strawberry plants, covd grape vines & done some other fixing for winter.

28: Another cold night & day. Mercury 4 degrees below zero a.m. Wind Strong & Cold North East. Set in house all forenoon, went to town PM. Bot cloth for Theo Pants & some shirting & C Flannel, got home all tired out. Recd Oharras Corn Sheller cost 1.10 Ex 75 = 1.85.

29: Still cold & colder. Mercury 4 degrees below zero.

30: Weather Cold & freezing, no Snow. Thanksgiving Sermon by Rev. Mr. Huett Meth in Methodist House Bap Meth & Pres met together. No Turkey this year to poor but truly grateful to our kind Heavenly for his mercies have been great and abounding to me & mine.

Note: Meth abbreviation for Methodist.

December 1: No letting up in the cold nor am I doing ought. James Aldous & his Mother came here, has a law Suit with J.P. Smith to recover use of Meat Shop which they Claim expired the 15<sup>th</sup>.

2: Wind veering to the N West, hope for Warmer Weather. Lucelia Mills & her Beau here. Church meeting this PM.

Note: The last sentence above is inserted in small writing between the line ending with "Beau here," and the entry for December 3. It is not clear to which date the entry about the Church meeting refers.

3: Milder Wind SWest. Bro Hatch preached for us Communion PM Preaching in the evening a good day.

4: Milder, Thawing, Wind South. Doing chores, pd to Brown \$10. on Sub. To ch. arrears. Also \$6 to ch. Treas. bal. of years slip rent all \$21.00.

5: Cold Strong west wind all last night & weather about zero today Strong wind. Have shelled a little corn & done my chores with the help of my Boys doing most of them. A colored man who came home from the War with Jim Spencer died yesterday and a Mr. Quackenbush with typhoid fever, others quite sick. Pd last qr my slip rent to Treasurer Holbrook \$6.00.

6: Weather cold but a little snow last night. Mrs. Barnes Mrs. Cuttings mother died this a.m. Peddled books today awhile, sold none positively.

7: Another Cold day 2 to 4 inches Snow, some Sleights & Some Waggons about. Gray Started for Boston today with a carload of cattle. Our district School commenced the 6<sup>th</sup>, children all attend school.



8: Snow fell about 5 inches last night thawing a little till 3 P.M. then turned cold & west Wind Strong. Johnny Desharm has killed my pig today, shall weigh her tomorrow, has taken me all day to wait for & upon him. Got out my cutter & took my 1<sup>st</sup> ride this winter today.

9: Not a very cold day but freezing up. Wife worked at Pig, I doing nothing.

10: A cold Stormy day, Snow & Wind. Bro. Hatch preached to a small congregation sunday school did not go out Evening.

11: Stormy cold & unpleasant. Made out to go to mill with feed, often get so short of wind I can hardly breath, dont know what it will come to.

12: A clear comfortable pleasant day. At town in forenoon. Went to Haywoods & Leavetts PM visited with old Mr. & Mrs. Leavitt, he very deaf & She very feble, they are the only ones left of our old neighbors, time has made its mark and another generation are passing down the hill of life, soon it will be said of us also they are dead.

13: Cold wind North, has Snowed all day. Took the children to school, got the Pony Shot forenoon, shelled a little corn, tried to shovel a little snow & chore but my breath failed me at every attempt.

14: Pleasant but to cold. Did not go only to Barn, am sick.

15: Still cold. Mr. Aldous left today for Harrisville &c. Sold Brayton a Bible yesterday \$12 in fence Posts.

16: Cold & Snowing. A poor day for Me.

17: Another cold day, very good sleighing. Rev. Mr. Hatch came on 4 oclock PM Train to stay with us & Preach today & evening, a feeble man.

18: Cold & more snow. Have done nothing today.

19: Cold & More Snow, a hard NE Storm all day.

20: Pleasant part of day. Sold 2 books Made \$200. Have a new Milk cow today so the children will not cry for milk I hope. Visited Mr. Hor yesterday, they think his bowels are mortified and that he can live only a few days at the longest.

Note: \$200 may be \$2.00.

21: The Coldest Night and day ever known. Mercury congealed at 38 to 39½ & (Spirits) said around 40 degrees cold. Wife watched at Mr. Hors last night, dare not come home, so cold. I

kept a fire in Parlor (Wood) & Dining room Coal all night, cant try to do anything, my breath so bad did not go out only to feed my animals today. Mr. Hor lives.

Note: The word "Wood" is in parentheses in diary entry.

22: A mild pleasant day, almost a thawing.

23: A strong SW Wind all night, this A.M. thawing fast. Mercury 50 degrees up. Pd My Taxes yesterday \$24.18, money never tighter with me. Strong SW Wind all day at 3 to 4 Sharp lightning heavy thunder and rain and at 10 oclock now raining & blowing. The Schools closed last night for the hollow days. Mr. Hor still alive at 3 PM today. The coming change of Weather & Storm has made me more than Sick.

24: To much pain about me to go to ch today, all went but me. Day pleasant & mild, no Sleighing. Mr. Hor died at 2 oclock this Sunday Morning. Nature resisted the enemy & his strong constitution only yielded when disease had destroyed all power of vitality, we mourn his loss but rejoice in his better condition for he had a good hope in his Saviour Jesus, and at 82 years of age has fulfilled Mans appointed time of 3 score years & 10 & gone to be with christ which is far better, who would not desire to die the death of the righteous. Mr. Hatch preached today again.

25: Christmas however hard the times all must yield to the time honored custom of presents & merry making with children, all the churches & S Schools have their Trees & exhibitions tonight. Bapts a ship laden with Santa Claus a general good time all seam to be pleased & we hope & pray that it may be profitable to many souls. The day has been mild & pleasant, now down to freezing. Think the weather has much to do with my bad feelings. The children all had presents.

26: Win N.E. again & froze up. Mr. Hors funeral at 12 m. A Sermon by Mr. Barnes from Ogdensburgh Bapts.

27: Day cold Wind Strong from the west. Self & boys fixing up for snow, cold or wind. Put the wagons into winter quarters afternoon Wife went to Dea Chas. Smiths visiting. I went to the Village to Mothers & to Tea at (Ss) & both of us to Prayer Meeting in evening. The Lord was with us & we all felt to good to be there. Father Aldous returned from a Peddling trip this PM.

28: Very cold wind s west a little snow. Sparks came & got our little new calf to kill, was a week old, we all wanted to raise it for another cow but were not able to bear the expense. We have to live as close as possible for our money is all gone, I am earning nothing & have already made some debts looking only the higher wisdom and help than myself to pay them & live through. Self & wife ventured out up to Chancys this PM a little snow & a good deal of sand tho we went with the cutter – all are now abed but me. I cant sleep if I go, am so rheumatic & nervous, had a hard painful night last night & sleep but little any night, I desire patience & strength.

29: Cold still but not very bad on the whole.

30: Pleasant & milder. Nothing new with us.

31: Thawed last night, very slippery & icy bad to get about. Preaching by Bro. Hatch a good man & preacher. Will not come again unless called again.

I will not attempt to Philosophize over the year & its events the past year, tho we must see and acknowledge it has been a year of Gods Power manifest in judgment. The French nation has been despoiled and is at the mercy & feet of Prussia, no more a power in the earth, famine carried of its thousands in some parts of the East, great disasters at sea, loss of many lives and Much Property. Fires more severe West than the world ever saw before – Chicago many whole Towns & villages in northern Michigan Wisconsin Minnesota & west generally great loss of life as well as property. It is a happy thought that God reigns & tho he moves in a mysterious way, his wondrous & works to perform, he is accomplishing his ends for the spread & reception of His truth in the earth and the salvation of Men. The lives of our family & connections have been spared and Measurable health & lifes comforts have been ours to enjoy for all of which we humbly & gratefully bless God & joyfully & hopefully trust him for the future. Jesus our Saviour our all, what is this world or life without him?

