

Matthew Nguyen, Rielly K. Orrell, and Gregorio Ivan Urueta (editors)

*Seeds of Faith in a Midwestern Diary (1877–1878, 1881):
The Recollections of Edwin M. Haven as a Young Man*

Shelfmark

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Diary of Edwin M. Haven (1877–1878, 1881).
January 1, 1877, to March 24, 1878, and January 27, 1881.

Introduction

The diary of Edwin Melancthon Haven edited below—and covering the time period between January 1, 1877, and March 24, 1878, as well as January 27, 1881—is held in the University Archives and Special Collections (UA&SC) at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). It is part of the Haven Seed Company Collection, which was purchased by CSUF in 2014 from the Orange County Historical Society (OCHS) for \$5,000. The business records of the Haven Seed Company (1873–1946) and the personal papers of its eponymous family (1849–1980) had been gifted to the OCHS between 1978 and 1981 by Randy Ema of Anaheim on behalf of his stepfather, Archibald B. Haven Jr. (1914–1986), who was Edwin M. Haven’s grandson. The diary presented here, which is in good condition, comes in the form of a maroon-colored leather-bound book measuring 7.5 by 5 inches. Its front features the debossed gold label “Record,” and its fore-edges are marbled in shades of red, white, yellow, and blue. The diary’s entries are hand-written, mostly in faded/diluted ink, with some sections in pencil. Blue page numbers are stamped on the top outside corners of each page. Pages 136 to 184 are left blank, and pages 13, 45, 83, 134, and 135 feature paper clippings of printed text taped to the page. For additional context, see the editions of the Haven family’s 1850–1875 correspondence, as well as Edwin M. Haven’s 1868 diary, in volume 51 (2024) of *The Welebaethan: A Journal of History*, [online](#).

When he started writing this diary, Edwin M. Haven (July 11, 1855–September 17, 1917) was 21 years old and living on a farmstead in Bloomingdale (Van Buren County, Michigan) together with his father (George Washington Haven), mother (Lucia Amanda Haven, née Wilmot), and three younger brothers (John Mason Haven, George “Georgie” Norris Haven, and Ralph Haven). His diary entries follow a relatively consistent formula: they start with the weather; they continue with each day’s main activities (including seasonal farmwork, social encounters, and attendance at church as well as other meetings); and they also record some momentous occasions (ranging from the death of the family dog Ponto and emotional milestones in the lives of relatives, friends, and neighbors, to the Ashtabula River railroad disaster, the presidential inauguration, and the Great Railroad Strike of 1877). Edwin’s growing dedication to seed cultivation is evident throughout and includes references to his correspondence with

experts like J. B. Root (Illinois) and J. J. H. Gregory (Massachusetts). The diary's paper clippings from various period newspapers presumably reflect or complement Edwin's own ideas about courtship and marriage, faith and the hereafter, studying and priorities in life, and good manners. The same applies to the inserted (handwritten) quotes from hymn writers, statesmen, philosophers, and successful entrepreneurs, which represent "some of the best thoughts," as Edwin would say. After August 22, 1877, Edwin wrote less frequent but sometimes longer entries, especially pertaining to his courtship with Ludema "Dema" Delphine Pelong (1859–1934). The two married on February 27, 1878, and the diary closes with an entry penned on January 27, 1881, in which Edwin reflects on his young life and exhibits joy over their first child, Lucia Genevieve Haven (1879–1972).

This diary should be of particular interest to historians of the nineteenth-century U.S. Midwest and the period's Westward Movement, considering that several of its "characters"—including Edwin's own family—would eventually leave Michigan. It is also a treasure trove for cultural anthropologists, sociologists, and religious historians, because it features a range of social interactions (such as Bloomingdale's literature society, temperance clubs, Sunday School, prayer meetings, and amateur entertainment), as well as insights into perceptions of gender, family dynamics, and agency. Last but not least, it has much to offer to botanists, agriculturists, economists, and scholars of historical meteorology.

The diary's original spelling and punctuation have been retained, however, double commas and comma-period combinations in dates have been "reduced" to single periods. The paper clippings of printed text taped to pages 13, 45, 83, 134, and 135 appear in italics. All editorial insertions, including expanded abbreviations, added punctuation, as well as page numbers, appear in square brackets. The text itself has been reformatted, so that each paragraph usually represents the entry or entries for one day, starting with the date itself. Whenever there is an entry that starts on the previous page and continues on the next page after the (repeated) date, this edition sets the (repeated) date off by framing it with bracketed em-dashes: [—]. Identifiable individuals, locations, and technical terms have been referenced in the footnotes, usually when they first appear.

ABOUT THE EDITOR: *Matthew Nguyen of Garden Grove, California, is currently pursuing a B.A. in History at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF).*

ABOUT THE EDITOR: *Rielly K. Orrell of Riverside, California, earned his B.A. in History (2023) at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). He is currently pursuing an M.A. in History at CSUF, where he is a member of the Theta-Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (History Honor Society). He also served as an editor for volume 52 (2025) of "The Welebaethan: A Journal of History."*

ABOUT THE EDITOR: *Gregorio Ivan Urueta of Harbor City, California, earned his B.A. in History and Spanish (2018) from Colorado State University (CSU), his Teaching Credential (2021) at California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), and his M.A. in History with a concentration in Chicano/a Studies (2025) at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). He has a passion for all things automotive and is a karting champion at the local level.*

The primary-source edition published below originated in the "History and Editing" course offered by CSUF's Department of History.

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 January 1, 1877. Monday.
 All of us, Father, Mother,
 John, George, Ralph and I, at home.
 All arose about 6:40 A.M. Breakfast
 at 8:00. I peddled milk as usual,
 in about 1 hour. I split a weeks wood
 read 25 pps in Thomas English his-
 tory, filled out a deed, which father
 gives me 3 acres in village lots.
 Down town in evening. Called at
 T. J. Pangburne; got 250 envelopes
 for 70¢. Father done usual chore
 of milking 4 cows, feeding 5, 2
 calves, 3 horses 4 or 5 pigs, and chick-
 ens etc, mending mittens, etc. John
 and A. S. Goodrich went over to Uncle
 Albert Wilmore from 10 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
 Wea faked some, and usual
 house-work. Arthur Goodrich here
 two different hours. Ralph is feeling
 better today; has been unwell for
 4 days; trouble with his stomach.
 18° 26° 17°. cloudy most of day
 Pleasant and beautiful sleighing

Figure 1: Manuscript, Diary of Edwin M. Haven (1877-1878, 1881), page 2.
 UA&SC, CSUF.

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Tues day 24th
 Sewed & cleaned seed in P.M.
 Ma & Luna washed. Rail Rds
 are having serious times, hands
 are on the strike. Millions of
 Property, Locomotives, Depots &c
 in Omaha have been destroyed.

Wed. 25th
 Ma is 41 today.
 Very warm some cloudy. little
 rain. He chore d. Pro. Brown
 & wife, teachers here at dinner
 from Bangor. John Chan & I
 set celery plants in P.M.
 A Friend from Finland Europe
 3 miles from the Gulf of Bothnia
 (Bothnia. pro) who has been in
 this country 5 years called here
 in P.M. He is at work for a
 Kalamazoo man named
 Martin selling straw berry pte
 He is 23 this fall.

Father at Prayer meeting in
 evening. Canning. Dognone
 de Eto & peers today.

Figure 2: Manuscript, Diary of Edwin M. Haven (1877-1878, 1881), page 103.
 UA&SC, CSUF.

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Feb. 27, 1878.

I got Dena at her father's in afternoon. We were married at 5:20 by Eld. F. E. C. Tance at his residence; Bro. John and Lottie Bowman stood up with us. Mrs. Tance, Miss. Mary Carol Hillis and Melvin Tance were present. All but the boys were here at father's to supper. At prayer meeting in evening. We received many congratulations and "much joy" wishes.

~~Feb. 27~~ Feb. 28.

School boys want a treat to juvenile 15 or 18 at the house at noon. Dena & I at our house in A.M.

Everything has ~~gone~~ passed off well except breaking. We have foggy yesterday. Boys got their permits. Three clear warm still days in succession.

Figure 3: Manuscript, Diary of Edwin M. Haven (1877-1878, 1881), page 125.
UA&SC, CSUF.

Edition: Front Matter

[cover, debossed, gold]
Record

[fly leaf, original hand/ink]

Edwin M[elancthon]. Haven¹ / Bloomingdale / Mich[igan].² / January 1, 1877.

[1] Index

Bible Readings 190 / My Watch 191 / Days Entries 2 to [135] / Some of best Tho[ugh]ts. 185

Edition: January 1877

[2] January 1, 1877. Monday. All of us, Father,³ Mother,⁴ John,⁵ George,⁶ Ralph⁷ and I,⁸ at home. All arose about 6:40 A.M.⁹ Breakfast at 8:00. I peddled milk as usual, in about 1 hour. Split a weeks wood[,] read 20 pps [pages] in Humes English History,¹⁰ filled out a deed, by which father gives me 3 acres in village lots. Down town in evening. Called at T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughmans;¹¹ bo[ugh]'t 250 envelopes for 70¢. Father done usual chores of milking 4 cows, feeding 5, + 2 calves, 3 horses[,] 4 or 5 pigs, and chickens +c[etera].¹² mending mittens, +c[etera]. John and O[sman]. E. Goodrich¹³ went over to Uncle Albert Wilmots¹⁴ from 10 A.M.[.] to 3:00 P.M.¹⁵ Ma baked some, and usual house-work. Arthur Goodrich¹⁶ here two different hours. Ralph is feeling better today; has been unwell for 4 days; trouble with his stomach. 18° 26° 17°. cloudy most of day Pleasant and beautiful sleighing[.] [3]

Tuesday, Jan[uary]. 2, 1877. Father drew out some wood in A.M. Took care of Ralph. Ma + John washed. I called at Mrs. Broadwells¹⁷ from 2 to 4 P.M. Father, ma + George went over to Devere [DeVier] Bishops¹⁸ + E[lias]. W. Joys¹⁹ between 4:30 + 6:30. Clear with snow squalls;

¹ Edwin Melancthon Haven (1855–1917), henceforth referred to as "Edwin."

² Village in Van Buren County, Michigan.

³ George Washington Haven (1831–1906).

⁴ Lucia Amanda Haven, née Wilmot (1836–1899).

⁵ John Mason Haven (1859–1923), Edwin's younger brother.

⁶ George Norris Haven (1871–1933), nicknamed "Georgie," Edwin's younger brother.

⁷ Ralph Haven (1874–1932), Edwin's youngest brother.

⁸ Edwin.

⁹ Morning hours before noon ("ante meridiem").

¹⁰ David Hume, *The History of England*, 6 vols. (Hamilton, Balfour, and Neill, et al. 1754–1762).

¹¹ Tillman Jay Baughman (1855–1938).

¹² Et cetera: "and others," "and other things;" abbreviated phrase used throughout the text.

¹³ Osman E. Goodrich (1844–1920).

¹⁴ Albert John Wilmot (1829–1913), Edwin's maternal uncle.

¹⁵ Afternoon and evening hours ("post meridiem").

¹⁶ Arthur Leonard Goodrich (1871–1943).

¹⁷ Presumably Annie McDonald Broadwell (1838–1896).

¹⁸ George DeVier Bishop (1847–1924).

¹⁹ Elias Wilder Joy (1818–1900).

still. School commenced today. R. Babcock + Ella Whicher²⁰ teachers. made out partial list of Garden Seeds today.

Wednesday Jan[uary]. 3. Ma had sick headache all day. S[imon]. Fields²¹ helped father + John cut stove wood. John readin P.M. I sewed + chored. At Prayer Meeting in evening[,] 18 present[,] an excellent time. John + I at W[alter]. D[unlap]. Groves²² birthday party in even[ing]. At William Whalins.²³ out till 2 A.M. 4. inst[ant].²⁴ He rec[eive]’d a \$20.00 watch²⁵ + a pocket album.²⁶ D[uvis]. Button²⁷ + wife,²⁸ Mrs. Davidson,²⁹ E[ben]. C[olburn]. [4] [—] Wednesday Jan[uary]. 3, 1877. [—] Faunce³⁰ + wife,³¹ O[sman]. E[.] Goodrich + wife,³² A. Redding³³ + Cora Eaton,³⁴ Chas. [Charles] Kingsley³⁵ + Florence Parker. Scott Groves³⁶ + Miss Willehelm, Burdett Melvin³⁷ + Lizzie Neese, Davis Haven,³⁸ Will. Smith, Ja[me]s. Kingsley,³⁹ were there. A very pleasant evening.

Thursday 4. Cold, cloudy. Simon Fields helped cut stove wood. Ma quite poorly with headache. Wrote to Mrs J. B. Root,⁴⁰ + own writing. Father unwell tonight.

Friday Jan[uary]. 5. Father drew a little wood; he, J[ohn]. + Mr. F[ields] cut some. I faced⁴¹ my right mitten at Saxtons⁴² shop. Planed + fitted slats for my bedstead. Ma sewing some. Eld[er]. + Mrs. Faunce here at “Teachers Meeting” in even[ing].- She here visiting in P.M. The Ashtabula R[iver]. R[ailroad]. (S[outh]. Shore) horror.⁴³ 100 killed by burning, falling[.] [5] [—] Friday Jan[uary] 5. 1877. [—] and drowning. P[hilip]. P[aul]. Bliss⁴⁴ + wife.⁴⁵

²⁰ Ella Clara Whitcher (1853–1922).

²¹ Simon Fields (dates unknown), mentioned throughout the text.

²² Presumably Walter Dunlap Groves (1857–1915).

²³ William Whalin (1836–1914).

²⁴ Of the current month.

²⁵ Equivalent to about \$612 in 2025.

²⁶ Small notebook.

²⁷ Presumably Duvis Button Sr. (1845–1927).

²⁸ Catherine Groves Button (1845–1936).

²⁹ Presumably Eliza Groves Davidson (1842–1919).

³⁰ Eben Colburn Faunce (1835–1911).

³¹ Roena A. Love Faunce (1840–1921).

³² Caroline Eliza Goodrich, née Warner (1845–1931).

³³ Presumably Allen C. Redding (1855–1928).

³⁴ Cora Lovina Eaton (1859–1934).

³⁵ Charles Lawrence Kingsley (1857–1942).

³⁶ Presumably Harvey Scott Groves (1847–1928).

³⁷ Burdette Freeland Melvin (1854–1928).

³⁸ Davis Henry Haven (1860–1916), Edwin’s second cousin.

³⁹ James Kingsley (1854–1924).

⁴⁰ Female member of the family owning the “J. B. Root” seed company in Rockford, Illinois.

⁴¹ Repaired, re-covered, patched.

⁴² Business operated by Byron G. Saxton (1834–1900).

⁴³ Catastrophic bridge collapse at the Ashtabula River in Ohio on December 29, 1876.

⁴⁴ Philip Paul Bliss (1838–1876), American composer, killed in the Ashtabula River railroad disaster.

⁴⁵ Lucille Jane Bliss, née Young (1841–1876), killed in the Ashtabula River railroad disaster.

Sat[urday]. Jan[uary] 6[.] Father quite unwell yet. Stomach out of order and diarrhea. We drew out all the green stove wood just cut; 8 or 10 c[or]ds. J[ohn]. + I drew 2 loads, 4 skks [shocks] corn stalks. John with Goodrich in P.M. Father culled spokes. I fin[ished]. bed frame and put straw in tick +c[etera]. +c[etera]. 20° at 6 a.m. 45° at noon. 40° at 5 P.M. Cloudy, still. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller⁴⁶ + Mary Haven⁴⁷ out-a-riding tonight.

Sunday Jan[uary] 7[.] 26° N[orth]. Wind, cloudy. very little snow. I fired⁴⁸ at church⁴⁹ as usual. Ma out to morning service an unusual occurrence. Large attendance. John, father + I out in even[ing]. Commenced dividing my class in Sunday school.⁵⁰ 18 names. Eld[er]. Faunce preached to young Men + Women. Correcting by reproof their faults + [6] [—] Sunday Jan[uary]. 7, 1877. [—] showing them a better way. May I make myself. To my own thinking. Let no man ever have a doubt as to my position. Always remembering "Thou God seeest me."⁵¹ James Rich + wife, Elda, Letta[,] Rolla and—were at church. About the only way I know of to get boys, girls, men and women to do and be better; to put "the oil in their lamps,"⁵²—that into their life—themselves, which will make them ready with their light to go into the "marriage supper of the Lamb,["]⁵³ after their sleep, is this: Make your religion, your light, so like the pattern given, that they will want to light their lamp and follow the Great Light⁵⁴ with you. Be most kind and gentle, ~~easy to~~ yet most firm. Study daily, yes, all the time to know the mind of the [7] [—] Sunday Jan[uary]. 7. 1877. [—] Spirit.⁵⁵ Do good to all men, especially to them who are of the household of faith.⁵⁶ To lead these your friends, You must be one among them, sharing and having wants and feeling akin to theirs. Make their welfare your care, all the time.

Monday Jan[uary]. 8, 1877. Cold 18° Wind. S[outh].W[est]. We butchered 1 hog; "a cold job." Wallace⁵⁷ and Warren Cooley⁵⁸ with wives⁵⁹ a[nd] babies here from 11 A.M. till 4 P.M. Warren C[ooley]. + wife are on a visit from Oconto[,] Wisc[onsin].⁶⁰ Father cleaned the inwards. I helped get dinner. John reading. Father + Ma went up to Mrs. A[nna]. Roots⁶¹ in evening.

⁴⁶ Wilson Blain Fuller (1854–1929).

⁴⁷ Mary Luanna Haven (1858–1938), Edwin's second cousin.

⁴⁸ Heating the building.

⁴⁹ Christian or Disciple Church of Bloomingdale, established in 1858.

⁵⁰ Christian education, usually before or after a Sunday service.

⁵¹ Holy Bible, Old Testament, Genesis 16:13.

⁵² Holy Bible, New Testament, Matthew 25:1–13.

⁵³ Holy Bible, New Testament, Revelation 19:6–9.

⁵⁴ Holy Bible, Old Testament, Isaiah 9:2, and New Testament, Matthew 4:16.

⁵⁵ Holy Bible, New Testament, Romans 8:27.

⁵⁶ Holy Bible, New Testament, Galatians 6:10.

⁵⁷ Wallace Cooley (1841–1909).

⁵⁸ Warren Cooley (1845–1929).

⁵⁹ Wallace's wife: Lutheria Caroline Chloe Cooley, née Powers (1847–1897); Warren's wife: Lucira Jane Cooley, née Powers (1852–1931).

⁶⁰ City in Oconto County, Wisconsin.

⁶¹ Presumably Margaret Anna Merchant Root (1847–1898).

Tuesday, Jan[uary]. 9. 2°; cloudy. S[outh]. E[ast]. wind. John and ma washed. Father tended Ralph and cut up the hog. [8] I ped- [—] Tuesday Jan[uary]. 9, 1877 [—] dled milk. Intended to call at Fannie Rowans school but it was not in session. Stopped at Mr. Buders⁶² 2 h[ou]rs on my way home. Roast beef for dinner. Walked to Bear Lake⁶³ after 1 P.M. visit the school. Miss Willehelm, I think, is teacher. Went home with C. J. Case, supper and visited till 11 P.M. Enjoyed myself well.

Wednesday, Jan[uary]. 10. Got up at 6:30. Remember their attentions. social feelings +c[etera]. Father drew one load of four foot wood for the church from Milton Healeys.⁶⁴ He went to M. D. Cooleys with team in P. M. John read. I split wood[,] cut lard +c[etera]. Father and I at Prayer meeting in evening. Ma worked till 11:00 P.M. John at Baptist⁶⁵ Prayer meeting. They are having an Evangelical week of Prayer. [9]

Thursday Jan[uary]. 11, 1877. 24° to 30° E[ast]. + N[orth]. E[ast]. wind snow, 3 to 5 in[ches]. Done chores as usual. Cleaned up the red mang[el]. beet seed.⁶⁶ John and Goodrich reading in P.M. Anatomy of the Head.⁶⁷ Ma worked till late tonight.

Friday, Jan[uary]. 12. -1° to 6° or 8°. Cloudy; E[ast]. wind. some snow. Chored as usual. John and I picked oats, sticks +c[etera]. out of beet seed. John and Goodrich read in P.M. Father + ma + ~~George~~ Ralph went over to Wallace Cooleys visiting. I had a hard headache in P.M.

Sat[urday], Jan[uary]. 13, 18° clear, S[outh]. E W[est]. wind, sharp + keen. John read. I drew 7 loads wood to wood house from S[outh]. bottoms by the creek bank. Eldora Nichols called here before noon. Father fixing trundle beds.⁶⁸ John drew load sawdust in even[ing]. [10] [—] Sat[urday]. Jan[uary]. 13, 1877. [—] I went down to Prayer meeting in evening; the last of the week ~~to~~ of Prayer. Baths in even[ing].

Sunday, Jan[uary]. 14, 1877. John had a bath before breakfast. I eat as usual before the rest and fired up at the church. Father and John out. Mrs. Ann Powers⁶⁹ + W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller here at dinner. Ma + John at the church in P.M. W[ilson]. B[lain]. at church in even[ing]. Mary H[aven]. who is, we think a splendid lady, there as usual. Emma⁷⁰ not out. Ma out in even[ing] with John. Will Taylor⁷¹ has my gloves. Burdet Melvin, so they say is about to be married to Lizzie Neese; who is 14 yrs old so they say. I gave the following to Wilson tonight. To wit: Choose anything that you [11] [—] Sunday, Jan[uary]. 14, 1877. [—] wish to do or to learn; and then, do to the best of your ability everything great on small that comes to hand, that in any

⁶² Presumably John Buder (1837–1916).

⁶³ Presumably Great Bear Lake, located southwest of Bloomingdale, Michigan.

⁶⁴ Milton Lorenzo Healey (1835–1918).

⁶⁵ Protestant Christian denomination, founded in the seventeenth century, in Bloomingdale by 1853.

⁶⁶ Presumably giant red beet mangelwurzel.

⁶⁷ Presumably Thomas Dwight, *The Anatomy of the Head* (H. O. Houghton, 1876).

⁶⁸ Small bed on wheels, usually stored underneath another bed.

⁶⁹ Nancy Ann "Aunt Ann" Powers, née Hughs (1827–1902).

⁷⁰ Presumably Emma Julia Haven (1856–1953), Edwin's second cousin.

⁷¹ William Henry Taylor (1856–1915).

way whatsoever, constitutes, or relates to it. And in leisure time study it, or devise means of practise.

Monday Jan[uary]. 15, 16° Cl[oud]y N[orth]. E[ast]. wind and snow; increased as day advanced. John took a ride in A.M.; called at Wallace Cooleys[.] the[y] read in P.M. ~~He~~ Father and I drew 4 loads dry wood to woodhouse. Father packed Red Mang[el]. Wurtz[el]. beet seed for J. B. Root.⁷² P.M. I wrote, - composing a letter for Mrs. J. B. Root. Geo[rge]. Ferguson's⁷³ house caught fire by Galespa⁷⁴ building too hot a fire in the kitchen. They were in Paw Paw,⁷⁵ and he was warming the house for their return. Most of the goods were taken out of the house [12] [—] Monday Jan[uary]. 15, 1877. [—] and were damaged a good deal by breaking water and snow. The fire was nearly beyond control. "When its time to turn over its time to turn out." Emperor of Germany, William.⁷⁶

Tuesday Jan[uary] 16, 8° to 31° cloudy still, very little snow. Mary Haven says it is the 46th day in succession that it has snowed more or less. Father looked over papers and chored. John help ma wash. drew up 3 loads wood in P.M. I patched my mitten[.] got out a bush[el]. of beets. Loren [Lorin] Vaughn⁷⁷ is out of "meat" and work. father helped him by giving him a small job. I attended S[unday]. S[chool]. teachers meeting at A[ugustus]. Havens⁷⁸ in even[ing]. These Teachers Meetings are very profitable. A young Mr. Daniels, colored[,] was killed instantly today near [13] [—] Tuesday Jan[uary]. 16, 1877. [—] Bear Lake station by a limb of a tree falling on his head.

Wed[nesday], Jan[uary]. 17, [paper clipping of printed text taped to the page:

Advice to Young Ladies]

and part of it for boys. This ~~is~~ advice is good. And I think mine is too.

[printed text continues: *In marrying make your own match; do not marry a man to get rid of him; or to oblige him, or to save him. The man who would go to destruction without you will quite as likely go with you, and perhaps drag you along. Do not marry in haste, lest you repent at leisure. Do not marry for a home and a living.*] < [printed text continues: *Do not let aunts, fathers or mothers sell you for money or position into bondage, tears and life-long misery, which you must endure.*] >

We may listen to their advice Remembering their age and experience, but we must "do

⁷² "J. B. Root" seed company in Rockford, Illinois.

⁷³ George M. Ferguson (1848–1932).

⁷⁴ Galespa F. Ferguson (1856–1902), George's younger brother.

⁷⁵ Village in Van Buren County, Michigan.

⁷⁶ Wilhelm I (1797–1888), king of Prussia (1861–1888) and German emperor (1871–1888).

⁷⁷ Lorin Vaughn (1807–1880).

⁷⁸ Augustus Haven (1833–1912), Edwin's first cousin once removed.

our own thinking" - must do as we think best or we are on loose rocks and may stumble and fall. A Parents ought to be wise enough to let a their children do as they think best when they are of age, in all matters of their own.

< [printed text continues: *Place not yourself habitually in the hands of any suitor until you have decided the question of marriage; human wills are weak, and people often become bewildered and do not know their error until it is too late.*] > [printed text continues: *Get away from their influence, settle your head, and make up your mind alone. Do not trust your happiness in the keeping of one who has no heart, no head, no health. Shun the man who ever gets intoxicated. Do not rush thoughtlessly into wedded life, contrary to the counsel of friends. Love can wait; that which can not wait is of a very different character.*]⁷⁹

[14] [—] Wednesday, Jan[uary]. 17, 1877. [—] 12° Clear part of day 30°+32° most of day. Finished drawing up the dry wood to woodhouse. John read in A.M. drew wood + he + I got out 1 pit, 15 bu[shels]. carrots. Father got 1 load corn from Stephens Estate.⁸⁰ Ma has a hard headache caused by overwork. Father and I at Prayer Meeting in evening[,] 28 were out.

Thursday Jan[uary]. 18, Cloudy, little rain. 30° to 40° still + smoky. John is 18 y[ea]rs old today. A fine Pudding for dinner with sauce. Father got another load of corn from Stephens Place. I put up two p[ac]k[a]g[e]s Walnuts to mail to Pedersen. Great Generals, like Napoleon⁸¹ and Wellington⁸² were noted, they say, for their attention to details in army life. Little drops of water + c[etera]. [15] [—] Thursday, Jan[uary]. 18, 1877. [—] Mrs. Anna Root left at 5:20 West for Wisc[onsin]. I took T[imothy]. Cooleys⁸³ planes home. Dora Wilmot⁸⁴ our cousin came over, and staid all night. I sewed on fathers shirt in P.M. finished it. John drew sawdust. Read in A.M.

Friday Jan[uary]. 19, 30° to 40° Cloudy S[outh].W[est]. wind. Father started for Kalamazoo⁸⁵ at 6:15 A.M. with empty sleigh; 2 horses. Rain and heavy wind in evening. John and I split

⁷⁹ Original source unidentified; also printed in the *New York Almanac* (1876).

⁸⁰ Possibly the estate of the late William Stephens (1838–1874), whose wife and daughter were still living.

⁸¹ Napoleon I Bonaparte (1769–1821), French emperor (1804–1814).

⁸² Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington (1769–1852), British Army officer and statesman.

⁸³ Timothy Cooley (1823–1894).

⁸⁴ Dora Wilmot (1867–?), Edwin's cousin.

⁸⁵ City in Kalamazoo County, Michigan.

wood in P.M. I sewed a little. Got some cabbage ready for market. I called at Dr. Goodrichs⁸⁶ in evening to talk of religious subjects. He is a Congregationalist.⁸⁷

Sat[urday] Jan[uary]. 20. Heavy wind S[outh]. W[est]. + W[est]. little snow. 16°, 18°, 12° John read. At Goodrichs in even[ing]. Ma ironed, made pies, +c[etera]. Father got home at 3:30 with ½ ton of bran. T[imothy]. Cooley called. I had T[imothy]. [16] [—] Sat[urday]. Jan[uary] 20, 1877. [—] Cooleys sleighs to peddle milk with yesterday and today. I sold some cabbage + chored for ma. Fired up at church in P.M. for S[unday]. S[chool]. Concert rehearsal. Will Taylor gave me my gloves on E[dward]. M[anning]. Eatons⁸⁸ store steps. Babcock took 2½ g[a]ll[on]s milk to B[yrone]. G. Saxton⁸⁹ whose family is sick. he also went after a hired girl for him today. I [+] B[yrone]. G. S[axton?]. Lodge of, Miss Hattie Gertrude Blaine, Elyria B. [Blaine?]

Sunday, Jan[uary]. 21. 1877. Clear and splendid A.M. and evening; some clouds in P.M. Fired up at church at 8 A.M. 6° at sunrise. I rose at 5:20 A.M. Fair attendance at church. John out day and evening. I I I I I⁹⁰ went home with W[ilson]. B[laine]. Fuller to supper. The "Law of Maxims."⁹¹ Miss Mary Loana [Luanna] Haven. Miss Emma Jane [Julia?] Haven. [17]

Monday, Jan[uary]. 22, 1877. Father went over to S[outh]. E[ast]. part of the T[ownship]. after corn; did not get any. I got out 20 h[ea]ds cabbage, split wood +c[etera]. John read. Clear most of day; 16° to 26°. I carelessly left the Cold frames⁹² open tonight. I went down to D[avis]. Buttons in even[ing] enjoyed the visit very much. Hope[,] Em[ma].⁹³ and Mary Killefer⁹⁴ as Mrs. Button said, didn't hurt themselves with remorse a few years ago.

Tuesday, Jan[uary]. 23, Clear, S[outh]. W[est]. wind. 20°. John reading[.] Father and I got 20 bu[shels]. corn at A[ugustus]. H[aven]. 's store at 60¢ per bu[shel]. From Joliet, Ill[inois].⁹⁵ Drew sawdust and got ready to draw ice tomorrow. Uncle Frank⁹⁶ bro[ugh]t the bab[ie]s [?] home.

Wed[nesday], Jan[uary]. 24, John and I cut ice; father drew two loads home. We ate our dinner at J[osiah]. Powers.⁹⁷ Mrs. Powers⁹⁸ warmed our [18] [—] Wednesday, Jan[uary] 24, 1877. [—] coffee at noon. A cold N[orth]. W[est]. wind about 20°. Clear. E. Carpenter and Mr. Van Fleet were both killed yesterday by a dry pine tree they were falling. Father and I at

⁸⁶ Dr. Osman Dewey Goodrich (1808–1887).

⁸⁷ Reformed Christian (Calvinist) Protestant denomination, founded in the seventeenth century.

⁸⁸ Edward Manning Eaton (1831–1890).

⁸⁹ Business operated by Byron G. Saxton (1834–1900).

⁹⁰ Edwin writes the personal pronoun "I" six times here, presumably as a calligraphy exercise.

⁹¹ Accepted principles of law. Possibly William Noy and Clifford Stanley Sims, *Maxims of the Laws of England* (J. Munsell, 1870).

⁹² Covered enclosures, used in gardening to protect plants against inclement weather.

⁹³ Emma Julia Haven.

⁹⁴ Mary Killefer (1848–1919).

⁹⁵ City in Will and Kendall Counties, Illinois.

⁹⁶ Franklin Benjamin Wilmot (1834–1934), Edwin's maternal uncle.

⁹⁷ Josiah Powers (1826–1893).

⁹⁸ Nancy Ann "Aunt Ann" Powers, née Hughs.

Prayer Meeting in evening. Simon Fields went to an Irish wake at Mr. Dorgans,⁹⁹ at Gobles¹⁰⁰ tonight[,] his wife died last Sunday.

Thursday Jan[uary]. 25. S[outh]. E[ast]. wind. Clear 25° to 30°. John + I cut ice. We found the saw we lost yesterday, + got it out of the water. ~~le~~ ate our dinner on the ~~l~~ ice. John spilled the coffee. Saw Alice Rockwell's¹⁰¹ little girl at J[osiah]. Powers yesterday. 2 ½ # [pounds] in clothes when born. Got 3 l[oa]ds ice and enough.

Friday Jan[uary]. 26. Clear, up to 44°. John reading. Father and I, with John in P.M. loaded a car with dry wood [19] [—] Friday, Jan[uary]. 26. 1877. [—] at 73¢ per cord. John and I down to Eld[er]. Faunce's in evening. Georgie¹⁰² at Dr. Goodrich's in P.M.

Sat[urday]. Jan[uary]. 27. Clear, 44°. John read. Ma washed some last Thursday. Father packed the ice. I took care of church;¹⁰³ Rehearsing for a S[unday]. S[chool]. Concert tonight. Ma ironed. Hattie Trim¹⁰⁴ here at supper. Ma and Ralph did not go to the Concert. It passed off very pleasantly and was an excellent thing. Much praise to Eld[er]. Faunce + wife. Mary Haven sung refrain to Johnny or the Crippled Boy.¹⁰⁵

Sunday Jan[uary]. 28. Clear, 44°. I cared for the church as usual. Staid at home in evening; the rest went. T[illman]. J[ay]. B[aughman]. + Fuller. [20]

Monday Jan[uary]. 29, 1877. Clear, 44°. We drew sawdust for ice. John read. The S[unday]. School had a ride in even[in]'g W[illia]m McMeekan¹⁰⁶ + team, A[ugustus]. Haven + team, G[eorge]. W[ashington]. H[aven].¹⁰⁷ + team, Burdet Melvin + team. some 70 out. to Gobles + back. a splendid even[ing]. except. roads, which are soft.

Tuesday. Jan[uary] 30. Clear in P.M. foggy in A.M. 36° to 52°. John read some[,] helped ma wash. Father got one l[oa]d sawdust[,] we broke road in woods some. Father + ma called at Reuben Wards and H. Klapps¹⁰⁸ drove 11 miles. I got out 20 cab[bage]. in A.M. we chored in P.M. John Bowles¹⁰⁹ + wife (Mrs. Phebe Stephens)¹¹⁰ and Manie,¹¹¹ "Rolly" Sherman¹¹² and wife, (Alice Bowles)¹¹³ Came about 6:30 tonight[,] John and I at Lyceum.¹¹⁴ Organized. A[ugustus].

⁹⁹ Unidentified. Possibly Thomas Dorgan (1827–1901) or Cornelius Dorgan (1828–?).

¹⁰⁰ Neighborhood in Bloomington, Michigan.

¹⁰¹ Alice Gertrude Rockwell, née Powers (1858–1915).

¹⁰² Nickname of George Norris Haven, Edwin's younger brother.

¹⁰³ Presumably heating the building.

¹⁰⁴ Harriet E. "Hattie" Trim, née Friedline (1845–1910).

¹⁰⁵ "Johnny; or, The Little Cripple's Song," a.k.a. "We passed poor Johnny's cabin," hymn by George F. Root (1820–1895), the refrain of which starts with "I love him, oh, I love him, My Savior near and dear."

¹⁰⁶ William McMeekan (1836–1889).

¹⁰⁷ George Washington Haven, Edwin's father.

¹⁰⁸ Unidentified. Possibly Henry Klapp (1843–?).

¹⁰⁹ John Fisher Bowles (1851–1934).

¹¹⁰ Presumably Phebe Ann Sherman Bowles Manville (1849–1908), wife of the late William Stephens.

¹¹¹ Unidentified. Possibly Marion Leeta Stevens Wilbur Horton (1868–1942).

¹¹² Royal H. Sherman (1856–1934).

¹¹³ Alice J. Sherman, née Bowles (1857–1887).

¹¹⁴ Building used for adult education (e.g., lectures and club gatherings), sometimes a school building.

Haven, President. E[dwin]. M[elancthon]. Haven Vice d[itt]o [President][.] W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller Sec[retary]. C. E. McArthur Treas[urer] [21]

Wed[nesday]. Jan[uary]. 31. 1877. Some rain last night. 36° to clear after 10 A.M. S[outh]. W[est]. wind. John read. Mr. Bowles + company here till 12 M[idday]. I got out 30 cabbage + 1 bu[shel] beets. +c[etera]. Help clean out evergreen trimmings at the church.¹¹⁵ T[imothy]. Cooley[.] E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce and wife there. Father putting a new valve leather into iron pump. Father and I at Prayer Metting in evening. A[ugustus]. Haven came in at the window arrived there early.

Edition: February 1877

Thursday Feb[ruary] 1, 1877. Warm + clear. 44°. John read. Uncle Frank Wilmot, wife¹¹⁶ and Claytie¹¹⁷ here. He finished pump. Father trimmed some grapevines John and I drew 4 small loads old straw from E[lias]. Sias'¹¹⁸ farm and put on cabbage. Sleighing is about used up. Mrs. Anna Root is in Wisconsin with her mother. [22]

Friday, Feb[ruary]. 2, 1877. Clear; cloudy after 1 P.M. 44° to 34°. John read some. I got out some cabbage, celery and salsify.¹¹⁹ Wrote some. Cut Johns hair. Our folks went down to and called on Mr. Button + Eld[er]. Faunce in P.M. Father at S[unday]. S[chool]. teachers meeting in evening at T[imothy]. Cooley's. Wilson Fuller and I studied the negative of Resolved: That Mans character is formed by circumstances. Peddled milk with wagon today. for first time since sleighing commenced.

Sat[urday]. Feb[ruary]. 3. 34° to 44°. Clear + fine. John read in A.M. Father took 1 bu[shel] apples to Mr. Allard, I sold some cabbage +c[etera] good trade now. We got in most of the stack of corn stalks. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller + I studied some in P.M. drew up briefs +c[etera]. [23]

Sunday Feb[ruary]. 4. 1877. 38° Cloudy, with little fog. John, father and I at church as usual. John and I out in evening. Fannie out today; first time since her sickness. But very few church members out in evening, 40 or 50 of all. Fuller with Mary all day. T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman and Emma have the front room all the time and Fuller don't like it very well. Does Davis Haven drink?¹²⁰ It seems as if Anna Root had been gone two months; but—it is only two weeks. I want my wife to be a real help to me. I want a chance to learn and grow higher and broader.

Monday Feb[ruary]. 5. "It is worth while to learn to to say "no"; but it is not worth while to snap it out dog-fashion."¹²¹ [24] [—] Monday Feb[ruary]. 5. 1877. [—] 38° Cloudy some fine rain in A.M. John and I out after some white wood timber. Father and I rolled out the four

¹¹⁵ Removing the Christmas season decorations.

¹¹⁶ Adelaide Wilmot, née Burt (1839–1899).

¹¹⁷ Clayton C. Wilmot (1873–1949).

¹¹⁸ Elias Sias (1833–1911).

¹¹⁹ Edible root.

¹²⁰ Reference to the community's temperance endeavors.

¹²¹ In a cruel, aggressive way.

basswood¹²² logs. John read. Ma about tired out. I at N[ewcomb]. T[homas]. Dyers¹²³ in even[ing]. Called at Mrs. Roots a few minutes was introduced to Miss Rebeckah Fry.¹²⁴

Tuesday Feb[ruary]. 6. 33° at morn[ing]. Cloudy. N[orth]. wind. 40 P.M. Clear in P.M. John and ma washed. I got out some cabbage. Father chored. John at Goodrichs' in P.M. Father looked over some accounts + we wrote to Heovey + Co. [?] Sold cabbage + salsify.

Wednesday Feb[ruary] 7. 44° Clear. John read. Father + I cut a whitewood tree.¹²⁵ got 3 logs of it skidded out. 62 feet of log. Father + I at Prayer meeting in even[ing]. [25]

Thursday, Feb[ruary]. 8. 1877. Clear 44°. freezes up tight each night. We got out 3 whitewood + and one oak log. Cut the oak and two whitewood. Snow mostly off in open fields + on + slopes in the woods. Cut whitewood bolts.

Friday, Feb[ruary] 9.: We finished cutting whitewood bolts and cut one whitewood log. Clear and beautiful. I drew five loads in manure from W. F. Smiths farm in P.M. A[ugustus]. Haven said to me yesterday morning "You are pretty regular in your habits." Drew house plans, our folks did and are, all the time lately. John and I at Bloomingdale Literary Society¹²⁶ in evening. A[ugustus]. Haven, Pres[ident]. Resolved: That mans character is formed by circumstances" was discussed. the affirmative gained [26] [—] Friday, Feb[ruary]. 9. 1877. [—] the question; the School house was full.

Saturday, Feb[ruary]. 10. Clear and fine. 28° to 50°. Father tried out rough tallow¹²⁷ and chored. John read. I drew my bolts to Congers mill;¹²⁸ and 6 loads manure from "D. Joy's Livery + feed Stable"¹²⁹ I called at R. Babcocks in even[in]'g; got church oil + c[etera].

Sunday Feb[ruary]. 11. Clear, some cloudy after noon. Father, John + I at church. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller here at dinner. He went down to see Mary Haven[.] I went as far as T[imothy]. Cooleys woods. Em[ma]. says she has had four offers of marriage James K[illefer]. E[dwin]. M[elanchton]. H[aven], W[ilson]. B[lain]. F[uller] and Charley¹³⁰ [27]

Monday, Feb[ruary]. 12. 1877. Clear and some 44°. Father chored; we drew manure from D[avid]. F[rank]. Elkertons.¹³¹ John read. Simon Fields split wood for W[illiam]. Killefer.¹³² John at Alex[ander]. Denna's¹³³ in evening.

¹²² Species of tree native to eastern North America.

¹²³ Newcomb Thomas Dyer (1831–1912).

¹²⁴ Rebecca Fry (1850–1926).

¹²⁵ Presumably a spruce tree.

¹²⁶ Social and cultural club for the discussion of literature.

¹²⁷ Rendered animal fat.

¹²⁸ Presumably a business operated by Uzziah Conger (1816–1902).

¹²⁹ Presumably a business operated by David Joy (1847–1921).

¹³⁰ Presumably Charles Lawrence Kingsley. Rather than accepting one of these four suitors, Emma Julia Haven married Tillman Jay Baughman on Saturday, April 7, 1877 (see entry below).

¹³¹ David Frank Elkerton (1845–1918).

¹³² William Lavier Killefer Sr. (1846–1928).

¹³³ Alexander Denna (1828–1899).

Tuesday [February] 13. 12° to 40°. Clear. Jackson Loomis¹³⁴ building on lot 10 Bl[oc]k A, our addition burned about 2 A.M. cause of fire unknown; no insurance. The building was occupied by B[yron]. G. Saxton, Shoemaker, who lost everything. no insurance[.] R. S. Dean + Co Publishers Tidings; saved press and 1/3 of type. insured \$300 in "Manhattan." Mrs. M. A. Relyra, Milliner;¹³⁵ who lost everything. insured for \$700⁰⁰[.] John read. † father + I drew manure from Elkertons. Ma + John washed. Father + I at bus- [28] [—] Tuesday, Feb[ruary]. 13. 1877. [—] iness meeting¹³⁶ in evening.

Wednesday, Feb[ruary]. 14. Clear 44°. Father went over to Uncle Franks in A.M. we drew manure from Congers +c[etera]. John read in A.M. Simon Fields split 4 c[or]ds wood yesterday. John + I at the meeting[.] address by Mess[ieu]rs Foster + Childers members of Kalamazoo Reform Club.¹³⁷ They organized a Bloom[ingdale]. Reform Club[.]¹³⁸ each male, no females being admitted, wearing a red ribbon¹³⁹ in a buttonhole of west or east. over 50 members. Valentine.¹⁴⁰

Thursday, Feb[ruary]. 15[.] Clear, ~~and~~ a few clouds in P.M. Father and I drew manure from Br[o]adwells,¹⁴¹ John loaded in P.M. We have W. F. Smiths wagon to use now, Wed[nesday]. Thurs[day]. Fri[day]. + ½ Sat. [29] [—] Thurs[day]. Feb[ruary]. 15. 1877. [—] Father fixed cold frames, ashes +c[etera] +c[etera]. John and I out to B[loom]ingdale[.]-. Reform Club meeting in even[ing]. The ladies formed a club. This evening. a blue ribbon¹⁴² badge.

Friday, Feb[ruary]. 16. Clear; heavy N[orth].W[est]. wind all day 34°. to 40°. I drew manure all day. John loaded in A.M. father in P.M. John at W[il]son. B[lain]. Fullers school in P.M. last day. Galespa Fergeson [Ferguson] with Emma + Mary Haven over too. John at Bloom[ingdale]-. Literary Society in even[ing].

Sat[urday]. Feb[ruary]. 17. Clear; W[est]. wind. 20 to 30°[.] John loaded + I drew manure in A.M. Father making out church papers +c[etera]. I wrote + posted books in P.M. John studied. Nellie¹⁴³ + Lila Dyer¹⁴⁴ came yesterday morning from Coloma.¹⁴⁵ Father at "Teachers Meeting at E[ben]. C[ol]burn. Faunces' in [30] [—] Sat[urday]. Feb[ruary]. 17. 1877. [—] evening. I got through choring at 9 P.M. Called at C[yrus]. N. Remingtons¹⁴⁶ at 6 P.M. to hear Will¹⁴⁷ +

¹³⁴ Andrew Jackson Loomis (1847–1930).

¹³⁵ Presumably E. A. Releya.

¹³⁶ Presumably a church or social club business meeting.

¹³⁷ Temperance organization.

¹³⁸ Temperance organization.

¹³⁹ Red Ribbon reform club (temperance) movement, created by Henry A. Reynolds in 1874.

¹⁴⁰ February 14, Valentine's Day.

¹⁴¹ Presumably a business operated by William Holland Broadwell (1838–1915).

¹⁴² Blue Ribbon reform club (temperance) movement, created by Francis Murphy (1836–1907).

¹⁴³ Nellie A. Dyer (1857–1913).

¹⁴⁴ Leila A. Dyer (1859–1907).

¹⁴⁵ City in Berrien County, Michigan.

¹⁴⁶ Cyrus N. Remington (1830–1907).

¹⁴⁷ William Remington (1857–1934).

Ellen¹⁴⁸ play on violins + dulcimer,¹⁴⁹ respectively. Music! O, Music! Enchanted power to soothe mens sorrows, and take away care. A gift; a power; and more; a captivating and enchanting power. And you, in whom this power doth dwell, see that you use it well.

Sunday, Feb[ruary]. 18. 30° to 48° Clear and "A most beautiful day." For two or three sundays I have eaten breakfast with the family. Put shades on lamps this morning. Good attendance.¹⁵⁰ R. C. Harmon was elected deacon today, unanimously. D[uvis]. Button was a few weeks ago. C. J. Case + wife and their [their] schoolma'am at [31] [—] Sunday, Feb[ruary]. 18. 1877. [—] church today; also Mrs. + Fannie Rowan. Evening Ma, John + I out. T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman + Em[ma]. W[ilson]. B[lain]. F[uller]. + Mary. Davis and Fannie. The "Red Ribbon Boys" and The "Blue Ribbon Ladies."¹⁵¹

Monday. Feb[ruary] 19. Clear. Some above 32°. Windy. John read. We got out our horse manure, and 16 bu[shels]. carrots; part of a pit of 40 bu[shels]. I spread some manure and father plowed a little. Got ~~some~~ 1 p[ac]k[age] onion setts of John Ward¹⁵² in even[ing].

Tues. Feb[ruary] 20. Clear; froze the earth 4 or 5 in[ches]. deep last night. Cold wind. Father spread manure on onion ground. He plowed in P.M[.] and I hoed into the furrow. John helped ma wash. [32]

Wednesday, Feb[ruary]. 21. 1877. Clear and warmer; but little frost in the ground. Father got our papers and watched for Bill Satins; got an order, as he wanted to. John read. Ma and babies down to Mrs. M. Fergusons¹⁵³ in P.M. I set some onion sets +c[etera]. At prayer meeting in evening in evening, an excellent time; Subject, Love.

Thurs[day], Feb[ruary]. 22. Above 32°. Clear; mostly anyhow. Father and I drew manure from W. F. Smiths. John read. E[ast]. wind. Drew some 4 loads manure onto Mrs. Nerdysons garden. Drew one load from Depot grounds. I went over to W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fullers at night. was sick going over. staid all night. [33]

Friday, February 23. 1877. Father and I fixed E[lias]. Sias' cellar some. Goodrich drew wood. John read. Father and I drew manure in P.M. John and I at Bloomingdale Reform Club weekly meeting in evening.

Sat[urday]. Feb[ruary]. 24. Snowed last night; just whiteened the ground. mostly clear. We drew manure from McKoons[.]¹⁵⁴ John read in A.M[.] I wrote in P.M. +c[etera]. John and I at B[loomingdale]-. Literary Society in evening. a good time.

Sunday, Feb[ruary]. 25. Clear, some clouds. 30° to 38°. Father and George, John and I at church. Not a large attendance. see bottom p[age]. 35. Here is the ~~add~~ advice of John

¹⁴⁸ Ellen Josephine Remington (1856–1929).

¹⁴⁹ Stringed instrument, part of the zither family.

¹⁵⁰ At church.

¹⁵¹ Bloomingdale's male and female temperance organizations.

¹⁵² Presumably John C. Ward (1813–1882).

¹⁵³ Minerva J. Ferguson, née McLellan (1827–1906), a.k.a. Mrs. Marshall Ferguson.

¹⁵⁴ Wells Mckoon (c.1844–1904).

McDonough¹⁵⁵ the New Orleans millionaire. "Remember always that labor is one of the conditions of our existence. [34] [—] Sunday, Feb[ruary]. 25. 1877. [—] Time is gold throw not one minute away, but place each one to account. Do unto all men as you would be done by. Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today. Never get another to do what you can do yourself. Never covet what is not your own. Never think any matter so trifling as not to deserve notice. Never give out that which does not first come in. Never spend but to produce. Let the greatest order regulate the transactions of your life. Study, in your own course of life to do the greatest amount of good. Deprive yourself of nothing necessary to your comfort, but live in honorable simplicity and frugality. Labor then to the last moment of your existence." [35] [—] Sunday. Feb[ruary]. 25. 1877. [—] McDonough and Astor¹⁵⁶ though very poor in early life, never were heard to complain of hard times. "He is a smart ~~man~~ and wise man who gets everything out of daily experience which there is in it. If you do not believe it just observe—very few men profit by their daily experience. The common occurrences in the way of their business are overlooked and the lessons which to an observing ~~eye~~ and thoughtful ~~eye~~ mind are oracles of wisdom are as little heeded as the freeze of midday, by the mass. The businessman must be learning all the time in order to win the goal—to make money." Editor[,] Agricultural dept. Detroit Tribune Feb[ruary]. 22, 1877.¹⁵⁷ Father, John and I out in evening[,] some 100 young people out. Clear. [36]

Monday, Feb[ruary]. 26. 1877. Clear and beautiful. up to 50°. Freezes quite hard each night. John read in A.M. We drew manure from McKoons. I went over to J[osiah]. J. Millers¹⁵⁸ in evening. John [at] business meeting of Reform Club. Saw an address card or tag from Lillinfeld + Bro[ther]. Kal[alamzoo].¹⁵⁹ at McKoons stable addressed to "G. V. Strong." This is John O[rin]. Strongs¹⁶⁰ wife Gertie, to whom comes all the Liquor, cigars, +c[etera]. for his Saloon.

Tuesday, Feb[ruary]. 27. Another clear and beautiful day. John help ma wash. Father + I drew manure from Mary Brooms place, Pat Griffins +c[etera]. Shotwells[.]¹⁶¹ John at W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fullers tonight. The S[unday]. S[chool]. teachers met here tonight. [37]

Wed[nesday], Feb[ruary]. 28. 1877. Clear and fine, 44°[.] John and I drew manure from Shotwells. W. F. Smith drew my basswood logs. Our folks, T[imothy]. Cooleys wife¹⁶² and Hattie and E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce + wife at J[osiah]. J. Millers visiting and at ~~a~~ a "Sugaring off."¹⁶³ Father and I at. Prayer meeting in even[ing]. "Patience" is the word an excellent meeting; 13. out. Rev[elation]. 2; 2 1 to 5 or 6.¹⁶⁴

¹⁵⁵ John McDonough (1779–1850), American entrepreneur.

¹⁵⁶ John Jacob Astor (1763–1848), German-born American businessman.

¹⁵⁷ Presumably the source of the quotes in this day's entry.

¹⁵⁸ Presumably Josiah J. Miller (1826–1904).

¹⁵⁹ Lilienfeld Brothers, a business in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

¹⁶⁰ Presumably John Orin Strong (1840–1900).

¹⁶¹ Unidentified. Possibly Albert Edwin Shotwell (1840–1915).

¹⁶² Eliza H. Ward Cooley, née Allen (1844–1922).

¹⁶³ Boiling down (maple) syrup until it is thick enough to crystallize.

¹⁶⁴ Holy Bible, New Testament, Revelation 2:1–6 (message to the church in Ephesus).

Edition: March 1877

Thurs[day], March. 1. 1877. Clear and fine. Out folks went over to Uncle Alls [Albert's]. Some cloudy in P.M. John and I drew lumber from Broadwells mill. I drew manure from Shattucks¹⁶⁵ stable onto W[illia]m. Killefers garden[.] John read.

Friday, March. 2. Little snow, and some rain. Father chored. I wrote to [J. J. H.] Gregory,¹⁶⁶ Mass[achusetts]. took all day. John read. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller called at 11:30 A.M. [38] [—] Friday, March 2. 1877. [—] John at B[loomingdale]-. Reform Club in even[in]'g.

Sat[urday]. March 3. 1877. 32° above and below. Snow steadily most of A.M. froze at night. John and I went over to Mr. J[osiah]. J. Millers at 12 M[idday]. They invited us Wed[nesday]. 28 all to come. Melvin¹⁶⁷ + Willis Faunce¹⁶⁸ there too. Father chored. John + I at B[loomingdale]-. Literary Society in even[ing]. A small attendance[.] Cloudy all day. Sold all our milk and bo[ugh]t 5 q[uarts].

Sunday Mar[ch]. 4. Clear withe heavy flying clouds. W[est]. wind. Father John + I at meeting. No even[in]'g service. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller here in P.M. John + I at Baptist service in even[ing]. [39]

Monday, March 5. 1877. Clear with heavy clouds. Heavy N[orth].W[est]. wind. Some use sleighs and some wagons. His Excellency Rutherford B[radford] Bradley Hayes,¹⁶⁹ was inaugurated today as President of the United States. He took the Oath of Office. Hon[orable]. William A[lmon]. Wheeler of N[ew]. Y[ork]. Vice President¹⁷⁰ The Republicans¹⁷¹ floated the National Flag, but the Democrats¹⁷² did not; in this village. Father took charge of the funeral of Mrs. Prize's youngest boy, Harley Powers, at 11 A.M. John and I out. Father at T[imothy]. Cooleys +c[etera] in P.M. John and I got out wood on John Cro[w]foots.¹⁷³ S. Smith called in evening on tree, fruit +c[etera], business. Wallace Cooleys little girl died this P.M. Allie[.] (Alice) Rockwell's little girl baby died last night or this A.M. [40]

Tuesday March, 6. 1877. "I know it won't" hurt me if I let it alone. I looked over seeds, sorted them +c[etera]. made out a list of what I wanted this summer, from J. B. Root and J. J. H. Gregory. John read some[.] his neck is swelled up today, Father and ma went down to Wallace Cooleys; their little girl died yesterday. A cold day; N[orth]. wind, cloudy.

Wednesday, March 7. Cold, raw E[ast]. wind. cloudy in P.M. clear A.M. Father took charge of the funeral. Ma + I there. I went to school in P.M. Will, Lane, Lee Anderson, Davis Haven,

¹⁶⁵ Presumably Delos Shattuck (dates unknown).

¹⁶⁶ James John Howard Gregory (1827–1910), founder of a seed company in Massachusetts (1854).

¹⁶⁷ Melvin Daniel Faunce (1867–1925).

¹⁶⁸ Willis Faunce (1862–1898).

¹⁶⁹ Rutherford Birchard Hayes (1822–1893), 19th president of the United States (1877–1881).

¹⁷⁰ William Almon Wheeler (1819–1887), 19th vice president of the United States (1877–1881).

¹⁷¹ Political party.

¹⁷² Political party.

¹⁷³ John Crowfoot (1839–1915).

Chas. Kingsley, Clara Glass[, Clara Howard,¹⁷⁴ Cora Eaton, Alzada [Alzada] Ames,¹⁷⁵ Marie Fisk,¹⁷⁶ and Mary Hav[e]n, were present. [41] [—] Wednesday, March, 7. 1877. [—] John and I at S[unday]. S[chool]. Institute in evening at church, Geo[rge]. Donaldson preached; A[fri]can. M[ethodist]. E[piscopal].¹⁷⁷ man.

Thurs[day]. March. 8. Cold N[orth].E[ast]. snowstorm from morn[ing] 'till night. The S[unday]. S[chool]. Institute in session at the church. John and I attended. Chas. Kingsley here at dinner. Father chored. Allen Miller¹⁷⁸ and brother-in-law Mr.- Yooder staid here tonight.

Friday, March 9. 16°. to 24°; Cold N[orth].W[est]. wind; some snow. John read. I sorted papers[, write +c[etera].; Father done chores. A foot more or less snow on ground. Called at A[ugustus]. H[aven]. 's store and saw him about the Baptists using our Church for a Concert to raise money to buy a Town Bell. Ex[ample]. They charging all an admission fee. The "Town Bell to be hung in the Baptist church tower. [42] [—] Friday, March 9. 1877. [—] Called at T[imothy]. Cooleys a few minutes at 6 P.M.; a pleasant chat. At A[ugustus]. Haven's a little time in evening; 'twas very pleasant.

Sat[urday]. March 10. Cold N[orth]. W[est]. wind 14° to 26°. clear in P.M. John read in A.M. We drew out 13 l[oa]ds wood from Cro[w]foots. The Baptists commenced practicing at 3 P.M. for concert, at church[.] I lit¹⁷⁹ the house +c[etera]. Sung 2 h[ou]rs 30 min[utes]. L. A. Pattison, leader. E[dward]. M[anning]. Eaton + wife Miss Hopkins,¹⁸⁰ Geo[rge]. Lane[, I[n]graham]. E[benezer]. Eaton¹⁸¹ + class were singers. Song by P[hilip]. P[aul]. Bliss "The Half was never Told." "Eternity." the last two respectively of P Mr.s B[liss]'s compositions. Mary H[aven]'s mottoe, "There's no Place like Home."¹⁸² was really beautiful; and she made it too. "Auld Lang Syne."¹⁸³ [43]

Sunday, March 11. 1877. 40°, (more or less). Snowed hard at early morn[ing]. Cloudy, but pleasant riding;- is good sleighing. Father, John and I at morning service. Dema¹⁸⁴ came home with us after service. Some fifty members present. Ma at evening service.; father took care of children[.] Mary Haven not out at all today. Davis wass S[unday]. S[chool]. Sec[retary]. J[osiah]. J. Miller and family except his wife;¹⁸⁵ J[ay]. D[eer].¹⁸⁶ and Abel¹⁸⁷ went over to Hattie Trims in P.M., and they came over to evening service with them. Eld[er]. and Mrs. Faunce at Wallace

¹⁷⁴ Clara A. Howard (1859–1924).

¹⁷⁵ Presumably Alzada Ames (1860–1930).

¹⁷⁶ Presumably Maria L. Maud Fisk (1859–1883).

¹⁷⁷ African Methodist Episcopal Church, Protestant Christian denomination, founded in 1816.

¹⁷⁸ Allen H. Miller (1854–1942).

¹⁷⁹ Lighting the building.

¹⁸⁰ Harriet Hopkins Eaton (1838–1921).

¹⁸¹ Ingraham Ebenezer Eaton (1821–1885).

¹⁸² Presumably "Home Sweet Home," a song by John Howard Payne (1791–1852), which contains the phrase.

¹⁸³ Old Scottish song.

¹⁸⁴ Ludema Delphine Pelong (1859–1934), Edwin's future wife, her first mention in this diary.

¹⁸⁵ Catherine Miller, née Darr (1835–1922).

¹⁸⁶ Jay Deer Miller (1876–1890).

¹⁸⁷ Abel Leander Miller (1860–1919).

Cooleys in P.M. Mrs Cooley has not set up any till today since Allie was buried, (Wed[nesday]). I swept the church this morning; Bob Hik helped some. Starvation stares us in the face. If a man die, shall he live again? Job 14:14.¹⁸⁸ [44]

Monday, March 12. 1877. 32° to 35° cloudy little snow. I got out 4 bu[shels]. Beets +c[etera]. chored. Father drew some wood. + Dema here visiting. She and I at B[loomington]-. Literary Society in even[ing].

Tuesday 13. Clear and fine 44°. 16° at 6 A.M. We drew the balance of Cro[w]foots wood that is cut and a lot Loren Vaughn cut. Dema at Mrs Adams. Father at Teachers meeting at E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunces' in even[ing]. I at N[ewcomb]. T[homas]. Dyers. C. Joy¹⁸⁹ there. and all the girls. N[ewcomb]. T[homas]. Dyer is 1 day older than father.

Wed[nesday]. M[ar]ch. 14. Cloudy, little rain + snow last night. 24° to 30° N[orth].W[est]. wind. Father, John + Dr. Goodrich went to Allegan.¹⁹⁰ Dema went home. I wrote out (five). seed orders [45] [—] Wed[nesday], March, 14. 1877. [—] T[imothy]. Cooley called. No prayer meeting. [paper clipping of printed text taped to the page:

Original.

OVER THE RIVER.

*Over the river, we long to behold,
And meet the dear ones that are gone,
Where nothing but love prevails, we are told,
And angels are singing their song.
Over the river out vision espies,
A form on its beautiful shore;
It's mother! waiting and anxious, her eyes
Are watching for us to come o'er.
Over the river the Savior hath gone,
A mansion, He saith, to prepare;
It's hope and desire that cherish us on,
The glories of heaven to share.
Over the river we venture to glide,
Immortal we'll rise from our graves;
The promise is sure, we're stemming the tide,
And Christ is commanding the waves.
Over the river! the echo we hear—
'Tis the shout of the heavenly band:
If faithful, in glory we will soon appear
With the Lord in that beautiful land.
Over the river! death Mother, at last—*

¹⁸⁸ Holy Bible, Old Testament, Job 14:14 (part of Job's response).

¹⁸⁹ Presumably Charles F. Joy (1856–1947).

¹⁹⁰ City in Allegan County, Michigan.

*A seat in the arbor of gold;
Fondly the hands of each other we clasp,
And the beauties of heaven behold.*¹⁹¹
A. G. FOSTER]

Mrs. Faunce is quite sick. Father got home at 8:30 P.M. took again to mill. Pay Car today.

Thursday[,] March 15. Father chored[.] We drew out balance of wood Mr. Vaughn cut. Ma has a hard headache[.] Sold Turnips from sleigh. Clear, misty 30 24° to 38°. [46]

Friday, March 16. 1877. Cloudy snow most of day. 24° to 34° at 1 P.M. N[orth]. E[ast]. wind. Allard "borrowed" some 8 or 9 c[or]ds of wood yesterday + this morning. Father chored. John and I got out cabbage + carrots. Wrote and studied. John at B[loomington]-. Reform Club meeting. Is Sec[retary]. Resolved: That a general education is as necessary to a farmer as a professional man.

Sat[urday]. March 17. Clear and fine 0° at sunrise. 28° to 32°. still. Father went to Allegan after feed. I drew 2 l[oa]ds sawdust + c[etera]. done small work all day. Ma baked and swept. Peddled milk with horse in evening. John+ I at Lyceum. Alex[ander]. Dana [Denna] got badly used in the discussion. [47]

Sunday, March. 18. Clear and fine. Snowed hard in morning. Father J[ohn]. and I at church. John took care of the children in evening and the rest went. Eld[er]. Van Fossen preached. No service at school house in even[ing]. Mrs. Faunce not able to be out today. Emma + Mary Haven + Galespa Ferguson went to Dowagiac¹⁹² yesterday[.]

Monday 19. Cloudy, snow + N[orth]. E[ast]. wind. Clear in P.M. We drew 7 logs into mill. I bo[ugh]t 10 he [?] corn at Bear Lake \$6⁰⁰; got wagon wheels of Dyer. The rules of health according to Plutarch:¹⁹³ "Keep your head cool and your feet warm. Instead of ~~taking~~ employing medicine for every indisposition, rather fast a day, and while you attend [48] [—] Monday, March 19. 1877. [—] to the body never neglect the mind." All at home in evening.

Tuesday, March 20. Clear æ in evening. clouded up; thunder at 2 P.M. heavy N[orth]. E[ast]. Snow storm rest of P.M. John helps ma wash. Father drew out two logs. I studied + wrote. All at home in evening. Seeds come from Root + ferry. Antimetabole¹⁹⁴ is for example: An honorable action may be attended with labor, but the labor is soon past, and the honor is immortal.

Wednesday, 21. Clear after 10A.M. We drew out some wood. Cut a basswood tree and a whitewood limb. 4 logs. T[imothy]. Cooley took Hattie out to Waverly.¹⁹⁵ Father and I at Prayer

¹⁹¹ Christian hymn or poem.

¹⁹² City in Cass County, Michigan.

¹⁹³ Plutarch (c.45–c.125 C.E.), Greek philosopher and historian.

¹⁹⁴ Rhetorical device, repetition of words in successive clauses but in transposed order.

¹⁹⁵ Unincorporated community in Eaton County, Michigan.

meeting in evening. Bro[ther]. Bowman [49] [—] Wed[nesday]. March 21. 1877. [—] from Factoryville¹⁹⁶ here with a load of household goods.

Thurs[day]. March 22. Clear, strong S[outh]. W[est]. wind. 30° to 52°. Finished drawing up dry wood. put 2. c[or]ds green maple¹⁹⁷ in a car for J[ohn]. Cro[w]foot. Drew up my 5/8 in[ches] whitewood bolt boards for boxes. To Parents. (see Scrap-book.) Got out 1 whitewood + 2 basswood logs. John at school in P.M. All in at home in evening.

Friday March 23. Froze some. Thawed a great deal yesterday. Clear most of day. thaw—a little. We talked ~~a great deal~~ about business, John read. I piled manure for a hotbed.¹⁹⁸ T[imothy]. Cooley called for seeds in P.M. Mrs. Relylas¹⁹⁹ loss by fire and cause + c[etera] per T[imothy]. Cooley. Saxton moved the McGregor shop down on 1 of our R[ail]. R[oad]. lots. [50]

Saturday, March 24. Cloudy; snow from N[orth]. E[ast]. all day. 24° to 30°. We wrote to D. M. Ferry + Co²⁰⁰ and Detroit Seed Co. for stock seeds; both alike. Done some other writing. Bath in P.M. At School Exhibition rehearsal in evening; out till 11:30. in Union Hall. Mary Haven was there, Emma Waite,²⁰¹ Clara Howard, Marie Fisk[,] Will, Lane[,] Lee Anderson + others. R. Babcock and Ella Whicher teachers.

Sunday March 25. Clear in P.M. and even[ing]; light clouds in A.M. Father, John + I at morning service. Mother John + I at evening service. A[ugustus]. Haven + wife²⁰² at Bangor.²⁰³ Some dependent on daily labor for their living are seeing close times just now. [51] [—] Sunday March 25. 1877. [—] A prayer meeting; to commence with warm weather at some private place. Ask B[urdette]. Melvin[,] E[ibert]. Melvin,²⁰⁴ G. Adams, E[lias]. Sias, C[yrus]. Powers.²⁰⁵ Each must say something if they can think or get anything; Always. Object: Are we not as much men as are any others? And are we not as capable? A self-made man you can depend on. You can get all the education you ever need and not spend a fortune going through college. Do you believe it is in you to do and be more than common men? I know it is; by doing right when you are tempted to do wrong; and, by hard study. [52] [—] Sunday March 25. 1877. [—] Mikes M. Miller, J. Rowan, M[ary]. Haven, Leila Dyer, and C[lara]. Glass and Mrs. A[nna]. Root.

Monday March 26. Clear and fine. The roads are nearly spoiled for sleighs. John read; he and Goodrich went over ~~it~~ into Dist[ri]ct. No. 11 [?] in P.M. Father drew some wood from Crowfoots, I worked at church till noon, 2 ½ h[ou]rs. Wrote and got out cabbage and made

¹⁹⁶ Region in St. Joseph County, Michigan.

¹⁹⁷ Presumably green mountain sugar maple wood.

¹⁹⁸ Raised garden bed layered with manure and to create heat and protect seedlings.

¹⁹⁹ See above, entry for February 13, 1877: Mrs. Relyra [Releya], Milliner.

²⁰⁰ Seed company in Detroit, Michigan, founded in 1856.

²⁰¹ Emma L. Waite (1859–1933).

²⁰² Emily Haven, née McLallen (1833–1907).

²⁰³ City in Van Buren County, Michigan.

²⁰⁴ Elbert Austin Melvin (1858–1931).

²⁰⁵ Elden Cyrus Powers (1859–1927).

a hotbed after 4 P.M. John at School Exhibition in evening. "Literary success." see Youths Camp. M[ar]ch 29. 1877[,] page 101.²⁰⁶

Tuesday M[ar]ch, 27. Clear, some windy, froze quite hard. Finished that hotbed. Father drew the wood, he dumped by "new piece" yesterday, up in front of the house. [53] [—] Tuesday March 27. 1877. [—] He and I at "Teachers Meeting" in evening at T[imothy]. Cooleys. Laura Streator²⁰⁷ there visiting. Mrs. C[oooley]. had most of her teeth out today. ~~Wednesday~~ I sawed wood in A.M. Eld[er]. Faunce here; he and father talking and discussing ways and means of how to let the church for "The Mistleto(e) Bough"²⁰⁸ performance. R. Babcock "borrowed" the chandeliers from the church for his school exhibition last night. Mrs. A[ugustus]. Haven dont think the church a suitable place for the Mistletoe Bough +c[etera]; neither do I.

Wednesday, March 28. Clear thawed some. Raw N[orth]. W[est]. wind. Father split wood for Mrs. Anna Root. I sowed lettuce and cabbage seed in hotbed. John read. We piled wood (maple) [54] [—] Wed[nesday]. M[ar]ch. 28. 1877. [—] in front of house. John out till 12:30 ~~le~~ at sugar party at David boys. for benefit of Reform Club; 10¢ admission. Father + I at Union Prayer Meeting,²⁰⁹ at schoolhouse.

Thursday March 29. Clear, still and warm. A Most beautiful spring day. The ground is mostly covered yet with snow. Have used wagon three mornings to peddle with. A few use sleighs today yet. Roads are mostly bare. Father split and drew dry wood for Anna Root. John read[,] Father and mother at the rehearsing of Mistletoe Bough. Cut all the small trees +c[etera] on my lot.

Friday 30. Clear and fine, Clouded up ~~at~~ in P.M. rain + sleet in evening, [55] [—] Friday M[ar]ch 30. 1877. [—] Father helped some at church. I peddled milk as usual +c[etera]. John read. I lit house and cared for it in evening. Father[,] John and I at the entertainment at the church of "The Mistleto(e) Bough." from 7:50 to 9:30 P.M. A good piece well executed. John took Alzaida Ames.

Saturday M[ar]ch. 31. Cloudy; rain till 9:30A.M. Cleared off with a beautiful afternoon. Father helped Clean out the church; at T[imothy]. Cooleys +c[etera] E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce called. John read and chored as usual. Ma patched and cared for the family as usual. John at Literary society in Evening. I at Mrs. Roots in ~~P.M.~~ afternoon. Spent two hours and a half pleasantly in song and chat. The Bishop of Manchester's²¹⁰ definition of a perfectly educated man. "One who goes into the world know- [continues next day] [56]

²⁰⁶ Suggesting that the school exhibition received a favorable write-up in a local publication.

²⁰⁷ Laura E. Streator (1857–1931).

²⁰⁸ Presumably a play based on "The Mistletoe Bough," a novella by Anthony Trollope (1815–1882).

²⁰⁹ Gathering of members from various Christian denominations for the sake of prayer.

²¹⁰ James Fraser (1818–1885), bishop of Manchester (1870–1885).

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Saturday April 1, 1877 [—] ing when he knows a thing, and knowing how knowledge is to be obtained."²¹¹ Warm and fine. A short hail storm at 1 P.M. broke a few glass in hotbeds. Clouds + cooler rest of day. All at church. Father + John out in evening. A Union Temperance Meeting.²¹² Eld[er]. S. Smith addressed the audience. Mrs. Root not out today.

Monday April 2. 1877. Clear; cool N[orth]. wind. John drew sawdust and he + father got out rest of carrots. Aunt Sarah²¹³ + Uncle Albert here visiting. Election day. I have the Mumps;²¹⁴ left side[,] chored.

Tuesday Apr[il]. 3. Clear and pleasant still[.] Hattie Trim here visiting[,] staid till 5:30 P.M. Father + [57] [—] Tuesday Apr[il]. 3. [—] John piled the maple wood in front of the house. John helped ma wash. I put up seeds in p[ac]k[e]ts for John Bayer. John took Hattie home.

Wed[nesday]. Apr[il]. 4. Warm + Cloudy; rain at 5 P.M. Ma went down to Wallace Cooleys + Mr. E. Dines. bro[ugh]t Mrs. D[ine]. and Annie home; they stay all night. Father drew wood to Congers + lumber from Broadwells. John read and chored. I chored. Am having mumps quite light. Set glass in sash on hot-bed. Sent seeds to John Hayes.²¹⁵

Thursday Apr[il]. 5. Clear and some wind. John peddled milk and read. Father and I piled wood at at Congers. Bo[ugh]t me a hand saw for \$1.15 at Matthews [58] [—] Thursday Apr[il]. 5. [—] I made some plant boxes[,] small[.] Mrs. Dine her[e] till 11:40 A.M. Baptist Prayer meeting. T[illman]. J[ay]. B[oughman]. took his intended²¹⁶ over to his father in the evening.

Friday Apr[il]. 6. Clear and more mild. John and I piled basswood lumber. I peddled milk this morning. ~~oe~~ Transplanted E[arly]. J[ersey]. W[akefield]. cabbage plants.²¹⁷ Father drove various things. John at Reform Club meeting in evening.

Saturday Apr[il]. 7. Clear, some wind. John got sawdust out of cellar way, laid up fence + c[etera]. Father at McMeekans and he bo[ugh]t an Extension table a stand for me and a hand sled. cost respectively 9⁰⁰ 3.00 + 1.00 [59] [—] Saturday Apr[il]. 7. 1877. [—] I spread the manure on my garden. Will Bush worked for me. Tillman J[ay]. Baughman and Emma J[ulia]. Haven were married at the ~~brides~~ residence of the brides father at 7 P.M. by Eld[er]. Faunce.

Sunday Apr[il]. 8. Light ~~cum~~ nimbus clouds.²¹⁸ Heavy E[ast]. wind all day. Father John and I at church. Mr. + Mrs. T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman were present. We were out in evening. A letter

²¹¹ For the full quote, see, "'Express' Telegrams," *Marlborough Express* 10, no. 690 (March 6, 1875): 5, [online](#).

²¹² Gathering of members from various temperance clubs.

²¹³ Sarah Lee Wilmot (1832–1924).

²¹⁴ Contagious viral disease.

²¹⁵ John M. Hayes (1852–1919), Edwin's cousin.

²¹⁶ Emma Julia Haven.

²¹⁷ "Early Wakefield" Cabbage plants introduced from England to New "Jersey" in the 1840s.

²¹⁸ Rain clouds.

from Fannie Rowan. Bible readings in evening before ~~evening~~ service. subject Prayers. The duty, blessings, +c[etera] of [prayers].

Monday Apr[il]. 9. Clear; heavy E[ast]. wind all day. Will Bush cut elders, spread manure +c[etera]. John plowed. [60] [—] Monday Apr[il]. 9. 1877. [—] I poked manure into the furrow +c[etera]. Father chored. Last one and part of the second swarm of our bees. T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman + wife at his fathers last night. Miss Belle Bagley²¹⁹ at E[ugene]. D[avis]. Congers²²⁰ now. ~~"Oh! Dont notice it."~~ "Oh, dont notice it!"

Tuesday Apr[il]. 10. John plowed dragged + drew four loads manure. Will Bush + I set out about 22 bu[shels]. carrots +c[etera]. Father helped ma wash. Wallace Cooley brought up some 17 # [pounds] syrup; fresh maple. Clear, East wind.

Wednesday 11. Clear and fine. John plowed a little. Will + I set Egyptian beets.²²¹ John drew some manure. [61] [—] Wednesday Apr[il]. 11. 1877. [—] Father tended his bees + chored. Got some cabbage out of the trenches and set them out for seed. Am making a gate. "Union" Prayer meeting at Schoolhouse. T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman and wife are away on their wedding tour, in the South part of this county and other places, perhaps.²²²

Thursday, 12. Clear a[nd] fine. We drew my gate over and Will and I set it just at night. Father and John got out seed cabbages; Will + I set them; 900 in all.

Friday 13. Clear and fine. Father took out the potatoes. He and Will planted in P.M. Will picked up and burned in A.M. [62] [—] Friday, Apr[il], 13. 1877. [—] John drew manure and plowed W[est]. part of garden and E[ast]. Cabbage plat [plot] N[orth]. of cherry trees. Reform Club Meeting in evening. I finished my gate + fence[.]

Saturday, Apr[il]. 14. A most beautiful day. Clear and warm. Will and John drew straw, for manure from E[lia]. Sias' farm. Father chored I sowed seeds, onion, spinach[,] lettuce, +c[etera]. John + I set 400 E[arly]. J[ersey]. W[akefield]. coldframe cabbage plants. I peddled milk in even[ing]. called at N[ewcomb]. T[homas]. Dyers; all were at home[.] They leave for Bangor Monday.

Sunday, Apr[il]. 15. Another beautiful day; cool in morning. Father, John and I at church as usual. [63] [—] Sunday, Apr[il] 15. 1877. [—] George and I took a walk to the woods for flowers in P.M. Ma is quite unwell. I called at Mrs. Rowans in P.M. at 4 o'clock.- Miss Fannie's company in even[ing] a pleasant time.

Monday. 16. Pleasant; quite warm. W[est]. breeze. Will and John moved fence onto my S[outh]. line. Father and I stuck stakes, laid fence +c[etera]. Got 200 Plant circulars²²³ printed. Father at Church Business meeting in evening.

²¹⁹ Florence Belle Bagley (1856–1940).

²²⁰ Eugene Davis Conger (1846–1926).

²²¹ Type of beet vegetable.

²²² A line connects this entry to the next day's entry (pertaining to the gate).

²²³ Advertisement for plants.

Tuesday, Apr[il]. 17. Cloudy, most of day. John and Elbert Melvin went to Allegan; our double rig. John got some teeth filled. Will laid up fence and split rails. Father set ex[tra]. choice cabbage for seed and some cabbage plants +c[etera]. I sowed [64] seeds in hotbed and cold frame[.] Ja[c]kie²²⁴ transplanted cabbage, lettuce +c[etera]

Wednesday, Apr[il]. 18. Rain(ed); softly and warm, in A.M. Heavy clouds all day. I wrote. Sowed seeds and set cabbage plants in P.M. Father making a stone boat.²²⁵ John helped ma wash. Mary Dunham²²⁶ expects to come here next Monday and work for her board²²⁷ while going to school. Father and I at Prayer Meeting in evening; five were there. "Be ye also patient."²²⁸ Fanny's bible.²²⁹ A rule for your life my friend[.] Part I. Be sure you are right. Part II. Be sure you do that which is most expedient. [65] [—] Wednesday, Apr[il]. 18. 1877. [—] Do the first; and you may do the second. Some do the ~~first~~ second only; making it their rule, and losing sight of right. "By faith are ye saved;" (thr[o]u[gh]' Grace).²³⁰

Thurs[day]. Apr[il] 19. Heavy rain last night. Heavy nimbus clouds all day with a little mist. Opened seed cabbage heads. John and I drew from across the creek, rails enough to finish our line fence[.] Father went down to Elder Faunces' in evening.

Friday Apr[il]. 20. Clear and cool; splendid. Father sent seed potatoes to Grandfather.²³¹ Father, J[ohn]. and Will Bush picked up stone on [66] Stephens Estate. I put out 290 Grape cuttings and chored. John at Reform Club meeting in evening. I guess Fannie Rowan went to Paw Paw today with Jackson Loomis' load; to P[aw]. P[aw]. or somewhere else. (I know. it). Spoke with Mr. and Mrs. T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman at "Union Drug Store" tonight.

Saturday Apr[il] 21. Clear and quiet. A light frost last night. John and Will picked up stone and trash. Father chored; killed 3 rats and 25 mice. Jackie Buder and I planted out (about) 500 Asparagus roots and "canned"²³² tomato plants +c[etera]. Made a new frame. Am quite tired tonight. It is hard work to drive your craft up stream. [67]

Sunday Apr[il]. 22. 1877. Soft and pleasant; an almost perfect day. We all went to church and S[unday]. S[chool]. Bro[ther]. Bowman and wife united²³³ with the church today. a small congregation. Father[,] John and I out in evening. Bible readings[,] subject Love, or Charity. A Business' Mens Prayer Meeting at Schoolhouse at 6:30 P.M.

²²⁴ Presumably Jackie Buder, a.k.a. John Jacob Buder (1864–1947).

²²⁵ Sled to move heavy objects.

²²⁶ Presumably Mary Dunham (1859–1897), working in the Haven household for several months.

²²⁷ Food, meals.

²²⁸ Holy Bible, New Testament, James 5:8.

²²⁹ Emma Leslie, *Fanny's Bible Text* (Religious Tract Society, 1873).

²³⁰ Arminian Protestant rendition of Holy Bible, New Testament, Ephesians 2:8.

²³¹ John Haven (1795–1883), Edwin's paternal grandfather; his maternal grandfather had died in 1855.

²³² Preserved.

²³³ Joined, became members.

Monday Apr[il]. 23. Clear and quite warm 76° at 6 P.M. John drew manure. ~~plowed and~~ dragged and planted onion and carrot ground. Father with Mr. Bowman to Grand Junction²³⁴ after Geo[rge]. Blyth;²³⁵ took all day. I cultivated, both ways, onion and carrot ground. drilled²³⁶ some onion seed. [68] [—] Monday Apr[il]. 23. 1877. [—] Mary Dunham came here in evening to work for board while attending school. ~~Our~~

Tuesday Apr[il]. 24. Cooler; strong S[outh]. W[est]. wind. some clouds. I finished drilling onion seed. Father and John drew manure from allards. Ma and Mary washed. Drake and T[imothy]. Cooley are plowing up T[imothy]. C[oo]ley's pasture. The "Gravel Train" is at work ballasting up the road. One "wood train" is loading wood and another is hauling out. Planted beans + E[gyptian]. Beet seed.

Wednesday Apr[il]. 25. Warm + ~~el~~ clear. S[outh]. W[est]. wind. Father + John drew manure from Mrs. M. Brown's farm onto my lot. I planted E. Minn. + ~~E~~ Russells prolific sweetcorn.²³⁷ Burned + ditched a little. Father + I at Prayer Meeting in evening [69]

Thursday Apr[il]. 26. 1877. Clear and fine. I set out 2 q[uar]ts onion setts. and sowed spinach 7 oz. [ounces] Drew manure from our farm. I help load in P.M. Leave cabbage plants at E[dson]. Root's²³⁸ store for sale. 8¢ per doz[en].

Friday 27. Cloudy. Father plowed a very little. he and John drew manure from Br[o]adwells. I set 200 to 300 E[arly]. cab[bage]. plants and 1 q[uar]t. onion setts. Rain at 3 P.M. Mrs. A[ugustus]. Haven with Mr. Frederick Goss²³⁹ and wife²⁴⁰ of Bangor t[ownshi]p. here from 8 P.M. till T. Goodrich called.

Saturday 28. Rained most of day. Ja[c]kie Buder transp[lan]ted. tomato and cabbage. He and I cleaned off churchyard in P.M. Father wrote chored +c[etera]. Ma and Mary washed. Father + J[ohn] drew up some side-walk plank. Hair cut in even[ing]. [70]

Sunday Apr[il], 29. Cold and cloudy; a very little rain and snow. N[orth]. wind. John at Baptist service in the morning. Father and I at church. Union Temperance service at church in evening. Father and John out. I visited with Miss F[annie]. Rowan.

Monday Apr[il]. 30. Cold cloudy little snow in squalls from N[orth]. W[est] wind. I spread manure chored +c[etera]. Father got his fruit trees per S. Smith of Van Buren Co[unty]²⁴¹ Nurseries. He and I commenced a new pine ~~side~~ walk in front of the house. Ma, John and

²³⁴ Unincorporated settlement in Van Buren County, Michigan.

²³⁵ Presumably George William (Blyth) Blythe (1837–c.1899).

²³⁶ Planted.

²³⁷ Variety of maize with high sugar content.

²³⁸ Presumably Edson Adelbert Root (1838–1897).

²³⁹ Frederick Goss (1835–?).

²⁴⁰ Mary A. Goss, née Murch (1840–1913).

²⁴¹ County in southwestern Michigan.

Ralph went over to Uncle Franks barn raising²⁴² in the afternoon. Mary skimmed milk and got supper. [71]

Edition: May 1877

Tuesday May 1, 1877. Cleared up from the N[orth]. W[est]. clear at 1:30 P.M. Cold wind. John drew manure from J[oseph]. Van Brunts²⁴³ and one load from T[imothy]. Loehrs.²⁴⁴ Father on business down town and ditched some. I finished the walk at front door. Mary ironed. A[ugustus]. Haven has the "Pitcher" house moved onto T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughmans store lot for his (T[illman]. J[ay].s) residence.

Wed[nesday], May 2. Father killed Ponto²⁴⁵ this morn[ing]; he was badly hurt. Clear and some warmer. Mary at school regularly. Father ditching on block "B." John drew manure from T[imothy]. Loehrs[.] I cleaned up the rubbish from the walk at front door. Sidney Sias²⁴⁶ called in A.M. and here at dinner. Ma at Dr. Alice B. Stock[-]hams'²⁴⁷ free conversational lecture at the church at 2 P.M. Father + I at Prayer Meeting on evening. [72]

Thursday May 3. 1877. Clear and beautiful; warmer John drew the ashes from Mrs Br[o]adwells. Father cleaned grass ~~of~~ out of asparagus and pieplant²⁴⁸ beds +c[etera]. I set 2 doz[en]. pieplant on my lot, and spread manure. Sowed flower and tomato seeds in A.M. Mrs. Devere [DeVier] Bishop²⁴⁹ called in A.M.

Friday May 4. Clear and pleasant. John plowed for father in A.M. and for me in P.M. Father about planting some potatoes at noon. I sowed some lettuce[,] cucumber +c[etera]. Mrs. M. Ferguson and Ann Powers here visiting in P.M. Ma and Mrs. A[nna]. Root called at Warren Havens²⁵⁰ and D[uvie]. Buttons in evening. Mary went home this afternoon ~~w~~ sick with the mumps. [73]

Saturday May 5. Some smoky; masses of cumulus clouds.²⁵¹ S[outh]. E[ast]. wind. John plowed +c[etera] for me. I sowed beet[,] parsnip[,] lettuce. 60 hills melons. ~~P~~ father planted some potatoes[.] Ma washed John helped some[.] Commenced peddling milk at 5:30 P.M. instead of 7:30 A.M. ~~P~~ Our dog Ponto which father killed Wed[nesday]. 2 inst[ant].²⁵² was nearly 7 y[ea]rs old. We got it of Alonzo Rich. A son of William Killefers'. "Ezra."²⁵³

²⁴² Collective barn building.

²⁴³ Presumably Joseph Van Brunt (1825–?).

²⁴⁴ Timothy Loehr (1831–1896).

²⁴⁵ Family dog.

²⁴⁶ Sidney S. Sias (1858–1936).

²⁴⁷ Dr. Alice Bunker Stockham (1833–1912), physician and women's rights activist.

²⁴⁸ Rhubarb.

²⁴⁹ Betsey Abigail Trim Bishop (1852–1917).

²⁵⁰ Warren Haven (1844–1886), Edwin's first cousin once removed.

²⁵¹ Fair weather clouds.

²⁵² Of the current month.

²⁵³ Presumably Ponto's sire.

Sunday May 6. Clear, strong E[ast]. wind. All at church. I at Bro[ther]. Bowmans in P.M. Father, John and I at church in evening. Eld[er]. Faunce in his discourse today said "A minister once preached the same sermon over several times and when spoken to about it said 'when you learn this lesson I will preach you another,'" [74]

Monday May 7. 1877. Clear. I ~~set~~ transp[lanting]. tomato + cab[bage]. plants. John plowed. Mary came tonight. Father making soap.

Tuesday 8. Clear. frosty nights[.] Father got soap made. I spread manure + transp[lanting] cab[bage]. + cauliflower. John plowed Galespa Ferguson had our milk wagon (new).

Wed[nesday]. 9. Clear. white frost. I cultivated seed onions + carrots + Early cabbage. Went down to John Wards in P.M. got green onions, Georgie went with me. Father ~~plowed~~ and John plowed. Father at meeting in evening. [75]

Thursday May 10. Clear; white frost. I hoed out E[arly]. Cabbage[,] planted sweet corn + c[etera]. John had his finger lanced²⁵⁴ and went over to Uncle Alberts. I shot a rat. A felon²⁵⁵ on J[ohn]'s finger. Father hoed onions + c[etera]. Allard bo[ugh]'t hay of him. Mary studying adverbs. A[ugustus]. Havens store is being moved.

Friday 11. Clear, mostly. John ~~got~~ came home at 9:30. I planted sweet corn + turned.²⁵⁶ Father got two swarms bees of J[ohn]. Cro[w]foot. I spread manure washed onions + c[etera]. A[ugustus]. H[aven]'s store moves slowly uphill. John at B[loomington]. R[eform]. Club meeting.

Sat[urday], 12. Clear and warmer. I sowed cabbage seed[,] poked manure into farrow + c[etera]. [76] [—] Sat[urday], 12. [—] John tended his finger; he can't do much. Mary washed Ma helped + c[etera]. Father plowed. Mrs. Dapoint~~d~~ [Lapoint?]²⁵⁷ called. Mary went home in evening. Wells McKoon runs quite a disagreeable "Restaurant." C[yrus]. N. R[emington]. says they are up a good deal nights. The Bushes are frequenters. We miss Ponto a great deal.

Sunday, May 13. Warm; gusty air; a beautiful day. All at church but John. Ma went down to Wallace Cooleys in P.M. John and I at Union temperance Meeting at church. C. G. Townsend read scriptures; Mrs. Alice B. Stockham lectured. 2 h[ou]r. session. I lit church. Had a severe headache after 2 P.M. [77]

Monday 14. 1877. Clear and warm 56° to 80°. We dragged marked + planted some corn Goodrich helped in P.M. Mr. Hamlin + father burning. John went to factory + chored. Two trains each way today for first this spring.

Tuesday May 15. Rain last night, clear after 8 A.M. a part of time some cumulus clouds. I dragged and marked out cornground. Father plowed Goodrich's garden and corn ground

²⁵⁴ Drained.

²⁵⁵ Infected sore.

²⁵⁶ Rotated crops or turned over soil.

²⁵⁷ Presumably Jane B. Lapoint, née Martin (1817–1885), Ludema's grandmother.

+c[etera]. Ma commenced house cleaning. Mary ironed. A[ugustus]. Havens store is moved + leveled up. The warehouse is also partly moved.

Wed[nesday]. May 16. Warm; rain in A.M. Clear. Johns finger, middle on left hand is quite painful. [78] [—] Wed[nesday]. May 16. 1877. [—] Father plowed in S[outh]. W[est]. cor[ner]. of Garden; I cut and turned t[o]m[at]oes [?] John got some green onions at J[ohn]. Wards. Father + I at Prayer Meeting in evening[,] an excellent time[.]

Thursday, 17. Warm, 80°. clear rain last nite [night] father plowed some. I sold plants; transplanted some[,] chored + peddled milk. Ma cleaning our (the boys) room + hall.

Friday, May 18. Warm and cloudy most of time 88° in P.M. Father plowed + dragged. I help Mr. Hamlin saw +c[etera]. C. Ugah,—Allard and Bert Hamlin planted corn + beans in P.M. Used ice to cool milk tonight. [79]

Saturday May 19. Warm 80° to 90° a few clouds. Ja[c]kie and I set tomato plants +c[etera]. Father plowed some + looked after hired men. Miss L[udema]. Pelong here in A.M. John took her home in P.M. Ma and Mary washed.

Sunday May 20. Warm and clear. showers after noon. Father at morning service. I at Sunday school. Simon[,]²⁵⁸ Maggie²⁵⁹ and Mary Miller²⁶⁰ here at dinner. John and I went over to Collins' Schoolhouse to Sunday school at 4 P.M. A shower till 5:30[.] I staid in R. C. Harmons stable. Miss L[udema]. Pelong came home with us. Ma at church with us in evening.

Monday May 21. Some clouds in P.M. with showers from 2 to 4 P.M. Mary Dunham left (this morning) to work for Devere [DeVier] Bishop[.] Dema left for Alamo.²⁶¹ [80] [—] Monday May 21. [—] I planted +c[etera]. Father plowed carrot ground. M. E. Sherwood and Bert Hamlin splitting rails. H. Nowlin helped me "pick up" my meadow + hoe. John chored. Borrowed A[ustin]. Melvins²⁶² Oliver Plow.²⁶³

Tuesday 22. 56° in morn[ing]. Cloudy some rain. Sold plants peddled milk +c[etera] John helped all of us. Ma feels quite poorly. T[imothy]. Cooley + wife called in even[ing].

Wed[nesday]. May 23.²⁶⁴ Cold wind N[orth]. W[est]. clear. John and I planted Marblehead Butman + Turban squash seed.²⁶⁵ Goodrich weeded onions in garden. I sowed carrot seed in P.M. Hattie Trim here. Ma + Mrs. Goodrich called at B. J. Roots.²⁶⁶ Father cleaning off his new piece. Father at meeting in Evening. [81]

²⁵⁸ Simon P. Miller (1858–1924).

²⁵⁹ Margaret "Maggie" Miller (1856–1951).

²⁶⁰ Mary Ellen Miller (1867–1953).

²⁶¹ Township in Kalamazoo County, Michigan.

²⁶² Presumably Austin Melvin (1828–1904).

²⁶³ Cast iron plow manufactured by Oliver Chilled Plow Works in South Bend, Indiana.

²⁶⁴ This day's entry in pencil.

²⁶⁵ Squash seed distributed by James John Howard Gregory in Marblehead, Massachusetts.

²⁶⁶ Station agent (dates unknown) in Bloomingdale, Michigan.

Thursday May 24. 1877.²⁶⁷ Clear 40° to 58°. N[orth]. W[est]. wind. I built fires among the Early tomato plants to keep from frost; some frost on grass by them. Father and four men with two teams logged off his new piece[.] John + I set tomato plants and hoed +c[etera]. Ma ironed. Mrs. Coy²⁶⁸ here in P.M.

Friday May 25. Cool + clear. John set cauliflower, flowers +c[etera]. I hoed out the ½ acre onions and sowed cabbage seed. Goodrich helped. Father and H. Nowlin picking up; Father hurt his right knee in falling off a tree top. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller came home.²⁶⁹

Sat[urday]. May 26. Cool and clear. John and I went to Allegan. Bo[ugh]t meal +c[etera]. and got Sweet Potato [82] [—] Sat[urday] May 26. 1877. [—] Plants of Mr. H. Dewey. Mr. and Mrs. J[osiah]. J. Miller called in evening. Had lots of orders to fill.²⁷⁰

Sunday May 27. Clear and cool. Father[,] John and I at morning service; All at Sunday S[chool]. Wallace Cooley + wife + boy²⁷¹ here in P.M. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller called. Bro.[ther] Christopher Hayden²⁷² preached at 4:30 P.M. sing after. No evening service. H[erbert]. F[letcher]. Harding²⁷³ ~~to~~ was married today at Eld[er]. R. S. Deans residence by him at 10:00 A.M.²⁷⁴

Monday 28. Clear and warm 80°. Father and men burning. I set sweet potato plants. John and I plowed some in P.M. Dema came in on 9:40 train[,] commenced work for a few days.

Tuesday 29. Clear and warm to 84°. I plowed, dragged + cultivated in A.M. hoed in P.M. Lettuce +c[etera]. Father John + men fencing²⁷⁵ [83] [—] Tuesday 29. [—] new piece. Ma + Dema cleaning house. Bro[ther]. Christopher Hayden of S[outh]. E[ast]. part of this Co[unty]. here in P.M. and all night.

Wed[nesday], May 30. [paper clipping of printed text taped to the page:

GENIUS.—Alexander Hamilton²⁷⁶ said to an intimate friend: "Men give me some credit for genius. All the genius I have lies just in this. When I have a subject in hand I study it profoundly. Day and night it is before me. I explore it in all its bearings. My mind becomes pervaded with it. Then the effort which I make the people are pleased to call the fruit

²⁶⁷ This day's entry in pencil.

²⁶⁸ Presumably Nancy Coy, née Martin (1842–1913).

²⁶⁹ Presumably from taking classes at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana.

²⁷⁰ This sentence in pencil.

²⁷¹ Leonard Hamilton Cooley (1873–1944).

²⁷² Presumably Christopher Hayden (1804–1883).

²⁷³ Presumably Herbert Fletcher Harding (1855–1900).

²⁷⁴ This sentence in pencil.

²⁷⁵ Building fences.

²⁷⁶ Alexander Hamilton (1755/1757–1804), American statesman.

of genius. It is the fruit of labor and thought. Mr. Webster²⁷⁷ once replied to a gentleman who pressed him to speak on a subject of great importance: "The subject interests me deeply but I have not time. There on the table is a pile of unanswered letters, sir," pointing to a huge pile of letters, "to which I must reply before the close of the session (which was then three days off). I have no time to master the subject, so as to do it justice."

"But Mr. Webster, a few words from you would do much to awaken the public attention to it."

"If there is so much weight in my words as you represent, it is because I do not allow myself to speak on any subject until my mind is imbued with it."

Demosthenes²⁷⁸ was once urged to speak on a sudden and great emergency. "I am not prepared," said he, and obstinately refused.]

cut from Det[roit]. Free Press. (an old one).²⁷⁹ Pretty warm clear. Father and John making fence on new piece[.] I planted Sweet and popcorn.²⁸⁰ and hunted papers for ma. Chan. Smith²⁸¹ here in morn[ing] and even[ing]. at work. [paper clipping of printed text taped to the page:

*It is good to be kin to the noble and great,
It is good to be heir to a vast estate;
But 't is better yet, I think—do n't you?—
To be able to "paddle your own canoe."]* [84]

Thursday, May 31. 1877. Clear and warm 84°. I planted popcorn and hoed E. Minn. Sweet corn. Father plowing on new piece. Ma and Dema cleaned and finished first room.

Edition: June 1877

Friday June 1. Warm + clear; thin cl[ou]ds from 9 to 3 P.M. Father and John "digging" up new piece to plant corn. I hoed. Chan. Smith here A.M. + even[ing].

²⁷⁷ Presumably Noah Webster (1758–1843), American educator.

²⁷⁸ Demosthenes (384–322 B.C.E.), Greek statesman and orator.

²⁷⁹ Also published February 17, 1869, in the *Connersville Examiner* in Connersville, Indiana.

²⁸⁰ Type of flint corn.

²⁸¹ Unidentified. Possibly Chauncey Smith (1833–1895).

Sat[urday]. June 2. Almost or quite perfectly clear. S[outh]. W[est]. breeze. 86°. Earl Matthews²⁸² + Chan. Smith worked for me[,] we set plants, hoed, put Paris Green²⁸³ on potatoes. fished +c[etera], +c[etera], John dragged on new piece. father worked there in A.M.

Sunday 3. Mostly clear cooler 76° (warmest). all at church. [85] [—] Sunday June 3. 1877. [—] Bro[ther]. C[hristopher]. Hayden preached. Bro[ther]. A. H. See led singing[,] Miss A[lzaida]. Ames played organ. Mrs. E[ugene]. D[avis]. Conger and Miss M[ary]. L[uanna]. Haven+ A[lzaida]. Ames Soprano. A. H. S[ee]. Bass[,] also G[eorge]. W[ashington]. H[aven]. (I[,] tenor). Eld[er]. Faunce + wife at Glenwood. Union Temperance meeting in even[ing]. C. A. Engles addressed the audience. 1 ¾ h[ou]rs session.

Monday June 4. I sowed cabbage and turnip seed and lettuce. Clear in A.M. Cloudy in P.M. Father plowing on new piece. John picked up. Dema washed[,] she stays with Mary Cooley²⁸⁴ in tonight. I went up on top of our house and chimney and worked around at noon.

Tuesday 5. Cloudy 64° to 76°. Some rain last night. Father + John worked on new [86] [—] Tuesday June 5. [—] piece. I hoed onions some[,] Chan. weeded. Ma took Dema home[,] Mr. W[illiam]m. Rowan²⁸⁵ ~~got~~ was quite seriously hurt; he thinks fatally: He fell in a boat while fishing on muskrat lake²⁸⁶ with Cyrus Powers.

Wed[nesday]. June 6. Clear and warm. Chan. and I weeded onions[,] Father + John working on new piece. Father at meeting in evening[,] N. Vaughn called on business.

Thursday June 7. Partially cloudy. some wind. Father, John, J[ohn]. Crowfoot + Lewis Vaughn²⁸⁷ finished planting corn on new piece. Chan. + I weeded onions. Dusted cab[bage]. pl[an]ts with lime, ashes + plaster. Mr. Geo[rge]. Hopkins²⁸⁸ started for New York state today. [87]

Friday June 7. 8. 1877. Cloudy Some rain in P.M; S[outh]. W[est]. We hoed onions. Cultivated garden +c[etera]. Father made "Supers"²⁸⁹ for his Langstroth beehives.²⁹⁰ He set celery pl[an]ts[,] lettuce +c[etera]. John at Club meeting in evening.²⁹¹

Saturday June 9. Cool + Cloudy; light rain all day; soaked everything. Father working at beehives +c[etera]. I sold plants put on liquid manure +c[etera]. +c[etera]. John + I read some. Chan. pulled onions[,] radishes +c[etera].

²⁸² Earl Matthews (1863–1934).

²⁸³ Insecticide.

²⁸⁴ Unidentified. Possibly Maria Frances Healy, née Cooley (1837–1933).

²⁸⁵ William Rowan (1812–1890).

²⁸⁶ Located northeast of Bloomington, Michigan.

²⁸⁷ Lewis Warren Vaughn (1830–1907).

²⁸⁸ Presumably George Hopkins (1804–1889).

²⁸⁹ Boxes stacked on top of beehives to store honey.

²⁹⁰ Vertical modular beehives, designed by American apiarist Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth (1810–1895).

²⁹¹ Presumably the Bloomington Reform Club.

Sunday June 10. Clear and beautiful. quite cool in A.M. Father John + I at church. I went down to Eld[er]. Faunces after church. at a sing in even[ing]. service at 7:30. I am so tired all the time. [88]

Monday June 11. Cloudy, Rainy in P.M. hoed onions + weeded. father cultivated. + tended his bees. set winnig. pl[an]ts + red. [read?] +c[etera].

Tuesday 12. Cool + clear for most part. W[est]. wind. I swept E[ast]. ½ church. Got some teeth filled in P.M. Father cultivated corn. Chan[,] John + Dr. Goodrich ~~hoed ou~~ weeded onions. I hoed the balance. Ma washed some.

Wed 13. Cloudy most of day. John cultivated corn. Father plowind [plowing?] clover sod W[est]. of pear trees. Dr. G[oodrich]. + I weed some onions in a.M. I worked on my lot in P.M. Father at Prayer meeting in evening. [89]

Thursday June 14. 1877. Rain in morning. Chan. Made a playhouse +c[etera] for George + Ralph. Cultivated and hoed in my garden. Father plowed clover sod. Kate Rogers here in P.M. stays here tonight.

Friday 15. 86° Breezy. A very close air. Heavy cumulus clouds all day. Rain in evening. Jus. [?] cultivated[,] Father dragged. +c[etera]. Got Cro[w]foots honey extractor in even[ing]. Ma[,] Ralph + Georgie went over. Chan. + I hoed in garden. I hoed out carrots in P.M.

Sat[urday]. June 16. Cleared off at 10:30 A.M. A beautiful day. John with our team took Dr. Goodrich and family to Allegan. Father extracted honey (33 # [pounds]) +c[etera]. I set flower plants + put ashes on onions. Jake²⁹² + Chan worked. [90]

Sunday June 17. 1877. Clear, cool and still; a most beautiful day. All at church. John came home at about 6 P.M. Father, J[ohn]. + I at Union temperance service in even[ing]. Rev. R. S. Dean addressed the audience; done well.

Monday 18. Warm cloudy and little rain from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. John cultivating; father planting fodder corn. Hoeing parsnip[.]. I bro[ugh]t Luna Dine home this morning. Loren [Lorin] Von [Vaughn] Jr.²⁹³ worked (or played.)

Tuesday 19. Clear early; somewhat cloudy. I and my three boys set 800 celery plants. weeded parsnips +c[etera]. Peeled basswood bark[.] John plowing W[est]. of my lot. Father chored +c[etera]. [91] [—] Tuesday 19. [—] I took care of Ralph + George[,] the rest went to church festival; out till 12 M[idday].

Wed[nesday]. 20. Clear. Some clouds in P.M. Hoed out seed cabbage staked some. hoed corn +c[etera]. I hoed some carrots. father sowed millet. John dragged[.] Bro[ther]. C[hristopher]. Hayden here tonight. Mrs. Dine here at dinner. They cleaned the church today.

²⁹² Presumably Jackie Buder, a.k.a. John Jacob Buder (1864–1947).

²⁹³ Lorin Lewis Vaughn (Jr.) (1867–1959).

Thursday 21. Clear + cool. Strong breeze N[orth]. Quite a heavy rain last night[,] 2 in[ches]. of water. Chan. + I drew manure from D. Joys.²⁹⁴ Father + John extracted honey 47 ½ # [pounds] in 5 da[y]s. Jake weeded carrots.

Friday June 22. Clear and a very pleasant day. Father, ma, Ralph + Georgie went to Allegan. John + Chan. [92] [—] Friday 22. [—] hoed on new piece. I hoed in garden. +c[etera]. Luna at school in P.M. till recess. Our folks broke the hind wagon spring. Went to the Grange²⁹⁵ store to trade.

Sat[urday]. June 23. Clear and cool. some cirrus cl'[ou]ds.²⁹⁶ Father fixed wagon spring to use lightly. I hoed onions[,] carrots +c[etera]. Chan.[,] Jake + Loren worked. Luna ironed. Shaved + naped [napped?] in P.M.

Sunday June 24. All at church. a heavy shower at noon. Hattie Whicher²⁹⁷ here at dinner. Sing at 6 P.M. + service at 7:30. Bro[ther]. See tore out the S[outh]. W[est]. cor[ner]. seats in the church for a place for singers.

Monday. 25. Hoed + weeded onions[,] Rain in P.M. [93] [—] Monday June 25. [—] Ma + Luna washed. A Bible Union²⁹⁸ man here in P.M. with Eld[er]. Faunce.

Tuesday 26[.] Rainy in morning, Clear in P.M. We put hen manure on onions. John + Willis drew manure in P.M. Jake + Chan hoed + weeded onions. I had teeth filled at Andrus' office. Father watching bees +c[etera]. ~~Wed~~ A letter from Dr. Hayes.²⁹⁹ Ma sick with headache.

Wed[nesday], 27[.] Clear and beautiful. We cleaned up our barny and father hoed on new piece; he watched bees in P.M. Boys weeded onions. John drew from D. Joys. Ma down to Mrs. Faunces in P.M. Lottie Bowman here in evening. had one tooth filled. [94]

Thurs[day]. June 28. 1877. Clear and warm. John cultivating corn weeding +c[etera]. I set 430 (about) late cabbage. Ma sewed some. Father hoed some. Went over to Crowfoots with D[uvis]. Button. Luna at Mr. Whichers³⁰⁰ in even[ing].

Friday June 29. Clear and warm. boys spread manure + weeded[.] I am nearly sick today. Mrs. Eldred + daughter Carrie here visiting[.] father hoed on new piece. John at temperance meeting in evening.

Sat[urday]. 30. Breezy. Clear + warm. John cultivated on new pi[e]ce. Father extracted honey +c[etera]. Boys + I hoed in my garden. sold beans + cabbage. At sing in even[ing]. [95]

²⁹⁴ Presumably David Joy (1847–1921).

²⁹⁵ Farm.

²⁹⁶ Wispy high clouds.

²⁹⁷ Hattie Estelle Whitcher (1863–1918).

²⁹⁸ Presumably the American Bible Union, a Baptist organization founded in 1850.

²⁹⁹ Presumably Dr. Plymmon Sanford Hayes (1850–1894), Edwin's cousin (see this diary's back pastedown), or, less likely, Dr. Justin Hayes (1825–1892), Edwin's uncle.

³⁰⁰ Presumably William Harrison Whitcher (1823–1907).

Edition: July 1877

Sunday July 1. 1877. Heavy S[outh]. W[est]. wind. Father, John + I at church. We sing in the "corner." Mrs. E[ugene]. D[avis]. Conger, Alzaida Ames, Mary Haven, Alice Haven, A. H. See-~~d~~[.] A[ndrew]. J[ackson]. Loomis, Mrs. Faunce organist[,] and I. Temperance meeting in evening.

Monday 2. Rain in morn[ing] some cl[ou]ds rest of day. Set some turnip plants among ~~arrets~~ parsnips[.] John cultivating on new Piece. Ma + Luna washed[.] Father now has 6 swarms of bees, Hearbaugh moved in orchard.

Tuesday July 3. We hoed and weeded parsnips + c[etera]. watched cab[bage]. seed. Warm + clear. I got a lot of beans of A[ustin]. Melvin. Mrs. Dine here sewing for Luna. [96]

Wed[nesday], July 4. 1877. A Shower at 9 A.M. to 10:30. then clear and warm. John went do So[uth]. Haven³⁰¹ ~~with the~~ on the train. A large crowd there. We had a quiet day with a still more quiet town. I watched cab[bage]. seed. Father raked hay in P.M. Ma + Luna went down to Mr. Dines.

Thurs[day] July 5. Very Warm 92° some cl[ou]ds + thunder all day. Father drew in hay from South Lot + orchard. I set turnip pl[an]ts + c[etera] drilled turnip seed for Saxton[.] ma canning cherries[.] A heavy wind and shower at 4 P.M.

Friday July 6. Clear and beautiful. John and the boys help me set about 1400 cab[bage]. pl[an]ts. [97] [—] Friday July 6. [—] Lewis Von [Vaughn] + C. Hearbaugh helping father haying. Cut R[ail]. R[oad]. lot today. J[ohn]. Crowfoot plowing S[outh]. Field for buckwheat.

Sat[urday]. July 7. Warm + Clear. Boys picked cherries. Ma canning + drying. We hoed and cultivating in garden.

Sunday 8. Clear + warm. At church as usual. A Ma out in evening. 10:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M. Services.

Monday 9. Cloudy till 10 A.M. Clear. I plowed cabbage bed. We hoed garden some. John in onions. Chan weeded + hoed some. [98]

Tuesday July 10. Clear and beautiful. Father Extracted honey. in all from two swarms + their increase 196 # [pounds]. John hoeing onions. Mrs. Dine + Hattie Trim picked cherries. Ma washed. we weeding + c[etera].

Wed[nesday]. July 11. Clear + cool; a beautiful day. Hoed corn + carrots. John weeding onions. Father cultivating + c[etera]. Luna ironed. I am 22 today. Had a headache. The midst of wheat cutting.

³⁰¹ City on Lake Michigan in Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan.

Thurs[day]. 12. Clear + cool night + morning Warm. Willis + I cut thistles. in streets. John hoed corn. Father cultivated. Eld[er] Faunce + wife picked a lot of cherries[,] were here at dinner. [99] [—] Thurs[day]. July 12. [—] H[enry]. Hitchcock³⁰² lost a boy³⁰³ today

Friday July 13. A fine pleasant day. Father went to Kalamazoo; drove out ~~from~~ between 6 and 10:30 A.M. Got new wagon spring. +c[etera]. Came home about 7:30. John mowed. Watched cab[bage]. seed and hoed. Two boys.

Sat[urday], July 14. Clear and warm. I worked at books most of day[,] dividing sales. Father took 8 h[ea]d cab[bage]. to Kal[amazoo]. yesterday 8¢. Chan. hoeing. Father getting an Extractor³⁰⁴ made. John took Luna home in even[ing].

Sunday. July 15. Clear and pretty warm. 90°. All at church but John. John and I at temperance meeting an excellent one. Mrs. Wirt³⁰⁵ spoke of our town as [100] [—] Sunday 15. [—] one where almost Sabbath quiet and (excellent) order prevailed at all times[.] Would be pleased to make our village her home. (E[ugene]. D[avis]. Congers mother in law).³⁰⁶ S. Smith made an excellent speech; also C. G. Townsend and E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce.

Monday 16. A heavy wind and rain (very) at 5 to 5:30 A.M. Chan. + I put up fence on my front. We strai[gh]tened up corn + hoed. Father + I at School[,] had meeting[,] out till 11:30 P.M.

Tuesday. 17[.] ~~Somewhat lovely.~~ clear. Chan hoed cabbage, +c[etera] I gathered cab[bage]. seed. Hattie Trim + Ja[c]kie picked cherries. Father[,] J[ohn]. Crowfoot + John haying.

Wed[nesday]. 18. Clear and warm. I cultivated in my garden[.] Chan hoed and planted [101] [—] Wed[nesday]. July 18. [—] E[arly]. J[ersey]. W[akefield]. cab[bage]. seed. Father +c[etera] haying.

Thursday. 19. Cloudy[,] heavy masses of clouds all day. sprinkles of rain. Cool 70°. Hoed late cab[bage]. +c[etera]. Father mowing + tending bees. Last of cherries today.

Friday 20. Cloudy + cool. We hoed cabbage, beets +c[etera]. Father + John haying; mowed +c[etera] Ma sewing. I cleaned machine. Nellie Fisk³⁰⁷ here in P.M. Union Temperance Meeting—"Ice Cream + Music" in evening. Father, ma and Luna attended.

Sat[urday]. 21. Clear and warmer. (J. E.) Bowman[,] Lewis Vaughn in P.M. John Crowfoot, father[,] John and I got in all the hay [102] [—] Sat[urday], July 21. 1877. [—] from the creek lot. I used the hay fork. Ralph not well today[.] No sing at church. Up till 11 P.M. writing.

³⁰² Henry S. Hitchcock (1839–1912).

³⁰³ Clayton Henry Hitchcock (1866–1877).

³⁰⁴ Presumably a honey extractor.

³⁰⁵ Sarah Corbin Wirt, née Potter (1820–1895).

³⁰⁶ Sarah Corbin Wirt.

³⁰⁷ Ellen Jane "Nellie" Fisk (1866–1943).

Sunday 22. Clear and warm. All but John + Ralph at service. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller here in P.M. we went down to A[ugustus]. Havens. At sing in evening, 6 oclock. [right margin] Della Edgerton³⁰⁸ is 16 today 5 [should be 7 as in "July"] 22[.]

Monday 23. Clear and ~~he~~ quite warm. We cut a load of cabbage. John + I took it to Allegan. Sold at \$5.00. Father got honey ready to send to Grandfather³⁰⁹ +c[etera] +c[etera]. Chan had an ice cream Party. [right margin] Frank Smith³¹⁰ is 16 today,- [July] 23[.]

Tuesday, 24. Clear and hot. I put a barrel in to a spring[,] we hoed. John hoed carrots. Father tended bees. +++c[etera]. Shipped bbl. [barrel] car to Kal[amazoo]. [103] [—] Tuesday 24. [—] Sewed + cleaned seeds in P.M. Ma + Luna washed. Rail R[oa]ds are having serious times,- hands are on the strike. Millions of Property, Locomotives, Depots +c[etera] in Penn[sylvani]a have been destroyed.³¹¹

Wed 25. Ma is 41 today. Very warm[,] some cloudy. Little rain. We chored. Bro[ther]. Brown + wife, teachers here at dinner from Bangor, John[,] Chan + I set celery plants in P.M. A Finn from Finland[,] Europe[,] 3 miles from the Gulf of Bothnia (Botnia. pro[bably].)³¹² who has been in this country 5 years called here in P.M. He is at work for a Kalamazoo man named Martin selling strawberry pl[an]ts[.] He is 23 this fall. Father at Prayer Meeting in evening, Canning Doyenne de Eete pears³¹³ today. [104]

Thurs[day], July 26. 1877[.] Warm. some clouds some rain at intervals all day. sowed winter radish seed. Cultivated in garden Crowfoot mowed on mine. John hoed onions. Father chored. Got truck ready for Bangor tomorrow.

Friday July 27. Some cloudy; very warm. Father + I took a load of cabbage onions, beets +c[etera] +c[etera]. to Bangor. Home at 5:30. John + J[ohn]. Crowfoot mowing. Chan. hoed +c[etera].

Sat[urday] 28. Clear + warm. ~~th~~ Shower from 4 to 6 P.M. we hoed +c[etera]. Father haying; drew one load. Selling tomatoes at 2¢ [?] per doz[en] corn 10¢[.] At sing in even[ing]. John took Luna home. [tan paper inserted at spine] Mrs. Bowmans Prayer meeting talk [105]

Sunday July 29. 1877. Clear and warm[,] a beautiful day. Father, John + I at church[,] Miss L[udema]. Pelong back here at work. Fuller here in P.M. John and I at Union temperance meeting in even[ing]. addressed by Rev. Donaldson. (M[ethodist]. E[piscopal]. Minister)³¹⁴ We sung. B. J. Root + I tenor.

³⁰⁸ Lena Della Edgerton (1860–1943).

³⁰⁹ John Haven, Edwin's paternal grandfather; his maternal grandfather had died in 1855.

³¹⁰ Frank A. Smith (1861–1938).

³¹¹ Great Railroad Strike (July 14–September 4, 1877), resulting in over 100 casualties.

³¹² Part of the Baltic Sea, located between Sweden and Finland.

³¹³ Doyenne d'été (summer) pear.

³¹⁴ Earlier referenced as African Methodist Episcopal; see above, entry for March 7, 1877.

Monday 30. Clear + warm. Hoed out Saxtons turnips. gathered cab[bage]. seed. Father haying. Bro[ther] Bowman here. at C[yrus]. N. Remingtons cabinet shop in P.M. getting building specifications or bill of stuff + specifications.

Tuesday 31. Clear + very warm. 91°. Father[,] John[,] Bro[ther]. Brown and Frank mowed + spread in A.M. [106] We gathered cab[bage] seeds. Mr. Dewey of Allegan here at noon + fed horse. Bro[ugh]t 150 celery pl[an]ts.

Edition: August 1877

Wed[nesday]. Aug[ust], 1. Cloudy; 86° to 90°. Father + John finished haying[.] Gathered cab[bage] seed + hoed. Father at Prayer meeting in even[ing]. M. C. Smith + Luna [Lena?] Edgerton³¹⁵ last Friday.

Thurs[day]. Aug[ust]. 2. Clear, breezy. A light shower last night; no wind. John went berrying³¹⁶ and cultivated. Father mowed some fence corners +c[etera]. and grubbed up popple sprouts. I gathered some cab[bage]. seed; studying ways and means of building and best ways or style of d [building]. [107]

Friday Aug[ust]. 3. Clear and warm. cool ev[eni]ng[.] Father drew two loads fencing from Lanes mill.³¹⁷ Ma + Dema went over to her fathers³¹⁸ and ma called at Uncle Alls [Albert's]. I went over to Uncle A[lbert].s in P.M. went across the lake to R. C. Harmons at 8 P.M; Duck Lake.³¹⁹ Head [had] a pleasant time. Uncle Franks folks here in P.M. John peddled milk.

Saturday. Aug[ust] 4. Clear + cool breezy. I came home. in A.M. Chan worked; cut seed +c[etera] in A.M. I counted tickets, shelled³²⁰ cab[bage]. seed +c[etera]. Ma sewing.

Sunday, Aug[ust]. 5. Clear and beautiful; comfortable[.] Ma, Georgie, John[,] Dema + I at church. Father out in evening. John went home with W[ilson]. B[lain]. F[uller]. Mrs. Shoemaker [108] [—] Sunday Aug[ust] 5. 1877[.] [—] Mrs. McArthurs mother,³²¹ died at 4:30 P.M.

Monday Aug[ust]. 6. Clear and fine. smoky. Chan. + I cut cab[bage]. seed +c[etera]. hoed. Father + John cult[ivated] + hoeing new piece. Dema washed[.] Mr. F. ~~GoS~~ Goss + brother of Bangor called in morning. James Kingsley shot a Melvins bull³²² which was trying to gore John Decker.³²³ Uncle Frank called in even[ing].

³¹⁵ Presumably Lena Della Edgerton (1860–1943).

³¹⁶ Gathering (wild) berries.

³¹⁷ Presumably a business operated by Samuel Lane (1835–?).

³¹⁸ John Pelong (1836–1916).

³¹⁹ Unclear. Name of various lakes in Michigan.

³²⁰ Removed outer leaves.

³²¹ Eliza B. Shoemaker (?–1877).

³²² Presumably an animal belonging to Austin Melvin.

³²³ Presumably John Decker (1844–1920).

Tuesday Aug[ust] 7. Some cloudy. Mist part of day. Mrs. Faunce here till after dinner. Dema ironed. Chan. Smith moved his ~~sh~~ shop today or tomorrow. Chans hoed cab[bage]. + set pl[an]ts in P.M. after 4. [109]

Wed[nesday]. Aug[ust] 8. 1877. Clear. W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller rode on the milk wagon with me. Chan hoed cab[bage]. ~~seed~~. Father and Dema at Prayer meeting in even[ing].

Thurs[day], Aug[ust] 9. Clear and Breezy N[orth]. W[est]. John drew manure from Broadwells. Jake poked dirt away from onions. Father with Eld[er]. Faunce on church business. Cut cab[bage]. seed + c[etera]

Friday Aug[ust] 10. Clear and warm. John + Jake worked in onions[,] finished. Father ma + two little boys started for Ganges³²⁴ ~~cape~~ Allegan, Co[unty]. at 10 A.M. I fixed dry house[,] do not feel well. Chan. drew ashes. Dema washed. [110]

Sat[urday]. Aug[ust] 11. 1877. Clear and warm. John tended fathers chores. Chan.- drew / l[oad]ed ashes. I gathered cabbage seed. Sent vegetables by boys in evening. Father + ma ~~arrive~~ came home at 7:00 P.M. had a pleasant time. I got up this morning at 4:40. Dema at 5:00 John ditto. I had a headache in P.M. John + W[ilson]. B[lain]. F[uller]. called at E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunces in P.M.

Sunday Aug[ust]. 12. Warm 76° to 80° some clouds. Fog clouds in morning till 8. Father[,] Dema + I at morning service. Eld[er]. Faunce was sick + could [not?] be present. Good attendance. Mrs. E[zra]. Whaley³²⁵ present. W[ilson] B[lain]. Fuller present and at our house to supper (or dinner). He + John at E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce's in P.M. [111] T[illman]. J[ay]. Baughman has traded or sold his drugs to W[illia]m. Killefer and is going to try farming.

Monday Aug[ust] 13. Little rain in P.M. Dema washed. Father turned the pople bush [?] in even[ing]. Chan set cab[bage]. plants.

Tuesday 14. Rain at 11 A.M. Chan fin[ished], setting [Early Jersey] Wakefield pl[an]ts. John and I drew lumber from Broadwells. Father chored[,] does not feel well.

Wed[nesday]. 15. A heavy shower at 3:00 P.M. I drew lumber from depot for A[lbert]. Taylor.³²⁶ [112] [—] Wed[nesday]. Aug[ust] 15. [—] Father + John sorted and stuck up lumber + c[etera]. An excursion from Augusta³²⁷ to So[uth] Haven in P.M.

Thurs[day] Aug[ust]. 16. Clear and beautiful almost a perfect day. John and I went to the Picnic. Union of Bloomingdale[,] Pine Grove[,]³²⁸ Almena³²⁹ + Waverly S[unday]. S[chool]. at

³²⁴ Township in Allegan County, Michigan.

³²⁵ Elizabeth Whaley, née Strong (1828–1885), married to Ezra M. Whaley (1824–1896).

³²⁶ Presumably Albert Taylor (1848–1891).

³²⁷ Village in Kalamazoo County, Michigan.

³²⁸ Township of Van Buren County, Michigan.

³²⁹ Township of Van Buren County, Michigan.

Pine Grove Sta[tion]. An Excellent Picnic. Will Loomis³³⁰ took Dema. Father sold the Codling apples³³¹ 3 ttn. [tons?]

Friday Aug[ust]. 17. Clear and fine. John + I went to Allegan. took a grist³³² + cabbage. started at 5:30 home at 5:45. P.M. Father not feeling very well. Picked 5 bu[shels]. tomatoes after supper. I peddled milk. [113]

Sat[urday]. Aug[ust]. 18. Clear and warm. a little dusty. Bro[ther]. Brown of Bangor staid here last night. Chan + I with Dr. Goodrich started for Allegan at ~~6~~ 7 A.M. drove down in 3 ¼ h[ou]rs. home 3 ½[.] John peddled milk.

Sunday Aug[ust]. 19. Clear and warm. All but father + little boys at church. John[,] Dema + I out in even[ing]. A. H. See absent also Mrs. Conger[,]³³³ B. J. Root[.] A sneak melon today[.] W[ater]. Melon[,] partly ripe.

Monday 20. Clear 89°. W[ill]. Bush + John cleaned out the carrots. I figured + c[etera]. Father dont feel well. Dema washed. Ma looked after work. Chan hoed. [114]

Tuesday Aug[ust] 21. 1877. Cloudy in P.M. Clear A.M. Gathered last of cab[bage]. seed. picked cucumbers[,] tomatoes + c[etera]. Will + John picked up, chop[p]ed + burned in creek lot. Father done chores. Got my cash ac[counts] strai[gh]t ~~exed~~ this A.M. + took a bath. Dora came down this P.M.

Wed[nesday]. 22. Cloudy; drizzling rain all P.M. C[yrus]. N. Remington and H[erbert]. F[letcher]. Harding commenced work on my seed house. John + Will worked on the road—Chestnut St[reet].³³⁴ Father chored. Dema ironed[.] Dora Wilmot here visiting.

After this date I shall not pretend to keep a perfect diary as I have since ten years ago last Jan[uary] 1. After looking at it carefully for some time I have decided to do this and shall now record such things [115] as I deem proper or expedient. It ~~is~~ has been a task requiring too much time too perform regularly and correctly for the benefits of the present, or I think of the future. I[t] has been an excellent training. I am busy gathering seeds[,] building + c[etera].

Sunday Aug[ust]. 26. Clear and beautiful. Georgie is six years old today. Union Temperance meeting tonight. T[imothy]. Cooley talked most excellently. "His youth[,] a temp[erance]. Lecture." ~~Dema rode out with Alex Powers.~~

Tues. 28. My house is up and boarded. Dema is here[,] does well; tries to learn which so few do. [116]

Friday Aug[ust]. ~~30~~. 31. Clear, a beautiful day. Picked up around odds + end[.] Dema is as near "the Woman I want" as anyone I have found. She lacks some refinement and education;

³³⁰ Presumably William Alexander Loomis (1859–1886).

³³¹ Type of cooking apple.

³³² Ground grain.

³³³ Frances Guyon Conger, née Wirt (1849–1938).

³³⁴ Street in the central part of Bloomingdale, Van Buren County, Michigan.

but tries to learn; She has a healthy body, a mind at ease. A cheerful disposition, and full of mirth. She was eighteen last March 14.

Edition: September 1877

~~August~~—3 Sept[ember] 1. 1877. John starts for Bangor at 9:35 A.M. to attend the Regular Annual Meeting of the S[outh]. W[est]. Dist[ri]ct of the Mich[igan]. C. M. A.³³⁵ Dema goes home this P.M. We are all well. C[yrus]. N. Remington said; That when I was made the[y] had a lot of scraps of old maids left from which they made me. Some call care and forethought "old maidishness." [117]

Sunday, Sept[ember]. 2. 1877. Showers at early morn[ing]. mostly clear. Shower at 8:30 P.M. We all went to church. Eld[er] Baer[,]³³⁶ Dunkard-Church of God³³⁷ +c[etera] preached; several members of that church from S[outh]. part of the T[ownshi]p. were present. morning service two h[ou]rs long. 1:20. I borrowed Cong[e]rs buggy went after Dema at about 6 P.M. Had a splendid ride. Coming home she agreed to be Mrs. E[dwin]. M[elancthon]. H[aven].³³⁸ We take each other as we are; understanding each others tho[ugh]'ts[,] b[ut] intentions and aims to be very similar, and that each always wishes to do right.

Monday 3. Clear + beautiful[.] John came this morning [118] he staid at Bro[ther]. D[uv]is. Buttons since midnight.

Friday Sept[ember]. 7. 1877. Clear + Cool, beautiful. John + Will picking up on Sæ Creek bottoms. Ma sewing. Dema + I took a short drive last even[ing].

Sept[ember] 9. 1877.³³⁹—Sunday. Some clouds. A beautiful day. ~~Dema~~ All but John at church. Eld[er]. Faunce, with Willis went to Bangor to preach the funeral sermon of a young lady member of the church. The elders conducted the service here. After dinner Dema + I rode over to her folks home. No one there but her mother³⁴⁰ with the baby. At church in even[ing], Eld[er]. Prescott³⁴¹ of Gobles addressed the U[n]ion. Temperance service [119] an excellent address. Text³⁴² Gal[atians]. 3:1-1.³⁴³ ["Stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ hath made you free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."] "It requires much greater courage to stand fast than to press forward in battle, or to retreat." Prescott.³⁴⁴ I now have someone to talk to. We now may lay our plans for future years learn such principles + rules as are necessary for our well being + comfort. I now can grow. "Little by little ourselves to learn" (E)

³³⁵ Presumably a "Christian Men's Association" or the Y.M.C.A. ("Young Men's Christian Association").

³³⁶ Moses Tousaint Baer (1829–1904).

³³⁷ An Anabaptist-Pietist religious movement, founded in eighteenth-century Germany.

³³⁸ Signifying Edwin's and Ludema's engagement.

³³⁹ This day's entry in pencil.

³⁴⁰ Mary Genevieve Pelong, née Lapoint (1837–1892).

³⁴¹ Presumably George W. Prescott (1829–1884).

³⁴² Ink being used again.

³⁴³ The correct reference here is Holy Bible, New Testament, Galatians 5:1.

³⁴⁴ Elder Prescott of Gobles at the Union Temperance Service.

Sunday Sept[ember] 16. 1877.³⁴⁵ "In many families the ~~g~~ aggravating domestic bickering [120] is succeeded by smothering kisses of reconciliation." "He has the fewest faults the manliest virtues and the least tact of any man I ever saw, knew or heard of."³⁴⁶ "This is philosophy; to make remote things tangible, common things. Extensively useful[,] useful things extensively common, and to leave the least necessary to the last." W[alter]. S[avage]. Landor.³⁴⁷

[Sunday Sept[ember]. 30. 1877.] My³⁴⁸ days are full of pleasant yet hard work. Each moment sees something done if only a lesson which is a failure; my every action I perform as best I can; without excessive forethought—and if a failure should result, 'tis but a lesson [121] for another time. I now board at home[,] Paying \$1⁵⁰ therefor. Things pass quite pleasantly. I am saving all I can and investing in such things as I must have to commence life with my partner—my first close confidant. I have seen the folly of half doing; or without a forethought as to the results + € consequences. God made us in His own image and likeness; not as beasts + birds which eat live, and die. Therefore be wise; a future life awaits[,] let us enjoy it. My commencement in life has been very quiet. I have ~~tried to~~ selected a the principles of [122] God so far as in me is. "Help me, O Father to do what I know is right and let alone what I know is wrong. Leaving doubtful things alone as evil until known to be right." E[dwin]. M[elancthon]. H[aven]. Sunday Sept[ember]. 30. 1877.

Edition: October 1877

Thursday Oct 4. 1877. For a week or more it has been quite warm 80° to 90° in middle of the day, clear and dry. A scarcity of well water. There has been not frost. Rain last night wet 3 to 4 in[ches], or more of earth. colder 54° at 9 A.M. Father + ma went to Co[unty]. fair.³⁴⁹ A[ugustus]. H[aven]. + wife and several others started for Chicago Exposition.³⁵⁰ [123] yesterday. M. Lane³⁵¹ + wife[,] ³⁵² E[dward]. M[anning]. E. Eaton + wife + others.

Edition: January 1878

Jan[uary]. 1. 1878. I have been full of business since Sept[ember] 1. Father can hardly ~~help~~ let me alone wants to help me (?). by advice + c[etera]. A few weeks ago we came to an issue and I said I would leave or do anything else, almost, but preferred to stay. Dema has been home since Dec[ember]. 15. My taxes were paid a ~~week or~~ two ago.—\$3.18. John at store today. Father[,] ma[,] Ralph + George at Uncle Timothy Cooleys. today. Father picked a

³⁴⁵ This day's entry in pencil.

³⁴⁶ Mary Andrews Denison, *That Husband of Mine* (Le and Shepard, 1877), 18.

³⁴⁷ *The Works and Life of Walter Savage Landor* (Chapman and Hall, 1876), 80 (Diogenes, in an imaginary dialogue with Plato).

³⁴⁸ Ink being used again.

³⁴⁹ Annual agricultural fair in Van Buren County, Michigan, documented since 1851.

³⁵⁰ Inter-State Industrial Exposition of Chicago (1877), an annual event between 1873 and 1890 to showcase the city's recovery after the Great Chicago Fire (1871).

³⁵¹ Presumably Samuel Lane (1835–?).

³⁵² Presumably Louisa Elizabeth Lane, née Posten (1842–?).

dandelion blossom today. has seen several more. Weather has been warm with- [124] out frost since 15. ult[imo].³⁵³ And but little since the 5.

Jan. 8. 1878[.] Weather has turned cold and about 1 f[oo]t snow fallen. sleighing is fair. Got my stuff whitewood planed for casings, yesterday, and father commenced getting out R[ail]. R[oad]. wood. [125]

Edition: February 1878

Feb[ruary] 27. 1878. I got Dema at her fathers in afternoon. We were married at 5:20 by Eld[er]. F E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce at his residence, bro[ther]. John and Lottie Bowman stood up with us. Mrs. Faunce, Miss Mary Haven[.] Willis and Melvin Faunce were present. All but the boys were here[.] at fathers to supper. At Prayer meeting in evening. We received many congratulations and "much joy" wishes.

~~Feb[ruary] 27~~ Feb[ruary]. 28. School boys want a treat to peanuts[.] 15 or 18 at the house at noon. Dema + I at our house in A.M. Everything has ~~gone~~ passed off well except breaking Mr. Shaws³⁵⁴ buggy yesterday. Boys got their peanuts. Three clear warm still days in succession. [126]

Edition: March 1878

Sunday March 24. 1878. my wife and I. We have been to meeting today. Old Mrs. Nowlin and Richard Powers³⁵⁵ united with the church. My brother John M[ason]. Haven and Willis Faunce were baptized at P 2 P.M. A protracted meeting has been held here Eld[er]. J. H. J. H.(?) Gordonier of Vandalia[.]³⁵⁶ Cass Co[unty].³⁵⁷ doing the preaching. It was commenced Monday evening March 4th. The Baptists had closed a protracted meeting a few days ~~on~~ before[.] the M[ethodist]. E[piscopal]. minister E. A. Tanner doing most of the preaching; 25 to 40 converts were added to them. ~~Bap.~~ Some $\frac{3}{4}$ went to Baptist C[hurch]. A[frikan]. M[ethodist]. E[piscopal]. Church was organized a few weeks ago with some 30 members. 6 or 8 persons were added to the church ~~by baptism~~ [127] called "Disciple" by baptism before ours meeting commenced; ~~D~~ during the meeting and immediately before + afterward some 40 were added[.] The church is ~~in~~ in the best working order it ever has been before, unless 7 or 8 y[ea]rs ago. (8 y[ea]rs this spring). Eld[er]. E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce is our pastor. [horizontal line]

Wilson B[lain]. Fuller has been home this last week visiting[.] he has been teaching school in Flowerfield S[aint]. Jo[seph]. Co[unty].³⁵⁸ had not been home for some 4 months. He is studying for truth and is learning that a Christian life is a higher life of noble[.] just and

³⁵³ Of the last month.

³⁵⁴ Presumably Sarah Lenora Shaw, née Marshall (1838–1910).

³⁵⁵ Richard Orson Powers (1854–1936).

³⁵⁶ Village in Cass County, Michigan.

³⁵⁷ County in southwestern Michigan.

³⁵⁸ Township in St. Joseph County, Michigan.

generous actions. He keeps Miss Mary Haven's company; they were here at supper last Tuesday (19) evening. [128]

The meeting closed Wed[nesday]. evening 20 inst[ant].³⁵⁹ All whom I heard express an opinion said Elder G[ordonier]. was as clear + plain a speaker, telling the plain unvarnished truth to his hearers without harrowing death bed scenes and "angels leaning over the battlements of heaven"³⁶⁰ + c[etera] as they ever heard, He only held up a "Higher Life" which Christ had made it possible for us to obtain. many understood the teachings of the Bible better than they did before.

Ludema Delphine Pelong was my wifes full maiden name. We were married Feb[ruary]. 27. by E[ben]. C[olburn]. Faunce at his residence in this village[.]³⁶¹ Present John M[ason]. Haven + [129] Miss Lottee Bowman groomsman + bridesmaid. Miss Mary Haven[,] Mrs. Faunce + Willis and Melvin. Time 5:20 P.M. I got Dema at her fathers home this afternoon[.] at prayer meeting in evening[.]

March 20. (?) A[ugustus]. Haven said to W[ilson]. B[lain]. Fuller of our marriage "It is the most sensible match I have heard of for some time[.] he did not try to get some one grand and accomplished, but contented himself with a good girl." We staid at fathers until Tuesday March 5. when we moved our few goods over home.—ma lending us some dishes a + c[etera] which enabled us to commence house keeping. [130] Feb[ruary] 27.³⁶² The mud was very deep; roads were almost impassable.

March 24. We have been keeping house nearly 3 weeks and are quite contented. Mrs. T[imothy]. Cooley + Hattie called ~~yester-day~~ day before yester[day]. A number have called; Mrs. A[ugustus] Haven + Mary among them. Wilson goes to Kalamazoo tomorrow to read Law again[.]³⁶³ Expects to be admitted to the bar in autumn. [horizontal line]

Edition: January 27, 1881

Well three years have nearly passed—(Jan 27-1881) and we still live where we commenced keeping house. Our little blossom Lucia Genevieve³⁶⁴ is as bright[,] rosy and healthy as (almost perhaps quite) you could wish. We have [131] had no sickness but from natural causes and colds. and have perhaps enjoyed ourselves better than most married people do. Mr. John Pelong[,] Dema's father[,] has moved onto the John Killefer³⁶⁵ farm—100 acres. I am helping him and Eugene³⁶⁶ cut wood and pile brush. I have sold my retail Seed and Plant Business and now shall grow at Wholesale only—at least for the present. So far during my

³⁵⁹ Of the current month.

³⁶⁰ Phrase coined by Seventh-Day Adventist Ellen G. White in *The Great Controversy: Between Christ and His Angels and Satan and His Angels* (James White, 1858).

³⁶¹ Bloomingdale in Van Buren County, Michigan.

³⁶² Edwin's and Ludema's wedding day.

³⁶³ Possibly at Kalamazoo College, established in 1833.

³⁶⁴ Lucia Genevieve Haven (1879–1972), Edwin's and Ludema's daughter.

³⁶⁵ Presumably John Killefer (1833–1922).

³⁶⁶ Eugene C. Pelong (1860–1900), Edwin's brother-in-law.

life[,] and I will be 26 y[ea]rs old next July, I have been trying to learn and master the plain—every body, almost, sees and admits their truths of true success. Slights, snubs[,] open insults have only sharpened my perception on and given me some idea of my acquaintances. True success founded on the everlasting Rock³⁶⁷ cannot be obtained unless you build upon an experience obtained by failures; failures humanity must [132] meet at almost every turn. A wise man is not daunted by failure—he will undertake the battle of life letting all the light of knowledge he can bring to shine upon his ~~this~~ future. His mistakes + failures but add to his light. A foolish man hardly dares venture lest he fail and ~~he~~ be laughed to scorn; or venturing and failing he fails to remember and profit by his experience. I have heard a saying—“Soon ripe, soon rotten.”³⁶⁸ I know my (apparent) green stage has been long and is not yet terminated. I am confident my life would have been much fuller had I been allowed and given more home freedom and training. But God lives and doeth all things well.³⁶⁹ In stepping out among and [133] with the world lately (4 y[ea]rs past) much more than ever before (in my farm, grange—am sec'[retar]y—and Seed Business relations) I find that none of my past experience comes amiss. [134, first stamping] [blank]

[135, first stamping] [paper clipping of printed text taped to the page:

A CHAPTER ON MANNERS

It is a sign of bad manners to look over the shoulder of a person who is writing, to see what is written.

It is bad manners to occupy a seat when other people stand around without one.

It is bad manners to go into any person's house without first taking off your hat.

It is bad manners to use your own knife on the butter-dish when there is a butter-knife.

It is bad manners to go into any person's house with mud or dirt on your shoes.

It is bad manners to talk in company when others are talking, or to talk or whisper in church.

It is bad manners to talk in company to one or two persons about some subject which the others do not understand.

It is bad manners to stare at strangers in company or on the streets.

It is bad manners to say "yes" or "no" to a stranger or to your parents or to aged people; let it be "yes, sir," "no, sir."

It is bad manners to pick your teeth at the table, or to pick them with a pin in any company.

It is bad manners to comb your hair and brush your coat in

³⁶⁷ See Holy Bible, Old Testament, Isaiah 26:4.

³⁶⁸ English translation of the Latin proverb "cito maturum cito putridum."

³⁶⁹ See Holy Bible, New Testament, Mark 7:37, as well as the famous 1875 Fanny Crosby hymn "All the Way My Savior Leads Me," which contains the line "Jesus doeth all things well."

the eating-room.

*It is a sign of low breeding to make a display of your finery
or equipage.*

*It is bad manners to boast of your wealth, of prosperity, of
good fortune, in the presence of the poor, or those less fortunate
than you are.*

It is vulgar to talk much about yourself. [horizontal line]

*The wealth of a man is the number of things which he loves
and blesses, which he is loved and blessed by. CARLYLE.]*³⁷⁰

[134, second stamping] [paper clipping of printed text taped to the page, incomplete:

breath,

Where that dark streamlet ran,

The desert seem'd to dream of death.

Around the lonely man;

But thro' the dark and sullen rift,

A thousand feet in air,

He saw the cloudy billows drift.

And knew that God was there.

The heavy silence of a calm

Wrapped gloomily the scene,

And held entranced one spectre palm,

Above the deep ravine.

The horror of the famine lay

Along the barren pass,

And sicklier-hued grew, day by day,

The tufts of withered grass.

But when from Moab's³⁷¹ peaks of snow,

At each returning morn,

There came, with ruddy flush and glow,

The coy, cool breath of dawn;

Or when at twilight, deep and drear,

All purple grew the glen,

God sent a message to the seer

Beyond the dreams of men.

From those wild cliffs, remote, unknown,

Whence Cherith³⁷² drew its springs,

³⁷⁰ The article, "A Chapter on Manners," appears in the *Cuthbert Appeal Newspaper* 8, no. 47 (Friday, November 20, 1874): 1, although it is unclear whether this is the first appearance of this text. The quote at the end appears in the Scottish philosopher Thomas Carlyle's work *Past and Present* (Chapman and Hall, 1843).

³⁷¹ Land east of the Jordan River. See Holy Bible, Old Testament, Number 22:1 and elsewhere.

³⁷² Brook where the prophet Elijah hid. See Holy Bible, Old Testament, 1 Kings 17:3+5.

Where Bethel's³⁷³ woods waved wide and lone,
 There came a sound of wings;]
 [footnote] * *The brook Cherith which lies to the left of the*
[r]ocky path leading down from Jerusalem to Jericho]

[second column, incomplete, cut off in the middle:

And, while with trem
The bread which h
Tears, as he bowed t
Were mingled with
What were his thoug
lime,
Hist rapt, ecstatic p
His visions of the noble
A purer earth and a
O'er these no grand I
Of triumph throws
But veiled from mort
*The record dies aw]*³⁷⁴

[135, second stamping] [blank] [136–184] [blank] [185]

Edition: Additional Materials

Some of the best thoughts.

I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to my fellow-beings, let me do it now; let me not defer it or neglect it; for I shall not pass this way again. Standard, March 17, 1877. P. 83.

Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous. Confucius. When you know a thing, to hold that you know it; and when you do not ~~know~~ know a thing, to allow that you do not know it; this is knowledge. Confucius; from Chapt's from Bible of the Ages. [188] [blank] [189]

Think of ease. but work on. [190]

Bible Readings.

Middle Of Bible, Psalm CXVII, 8 [117:8].

The finest chapter to read is Acts ~~XXXVI~~ XXVI [26].

The most beautiful is Psalm XXIII [23].

The four most inspiring promises are

Psalm XXXVII, 4 [37:4] Matthew XI, 28 [11:28] [,] John VI, 37 [6:37]. and XIV, 2 [14:2].

For a new convert Isaiah

³⁷³ Location where the prophet Elijah was taken to heaven. See Holy Bible, Old Testament, 2 Kings 2.

³⁷⁴ Presumably from the 1872 poem "Elijah" by Pennsylvanian Bishop Alexander Mackay-Smith.

All who flatter themselves with vain boastings of their perfectness
should learn Matthew VI [6].

All should learn Luke VI, 20 [6:20] to end of chap[ter]. [191]

My Watch.

Jan[uary]. 27. 9 A.M. (1877). No. of movement 856341.

Has gained 24 sec[onds] (about) in 14 days; did not regulate.

About March 1, set + regulated. S. ½ space.

Aug[ust] 27. 1877. Set true (meridian) time; turned back 5 min. moved reg. "F." a very little.

[back pastedown, modern hand/pencil]

#680 IO/lvs

[original hand/ink]

E[dwin]. M[elancthon]. Haven / Bloomingdale / Mich.[igan]

[paper clipping of printed text taped to the page:

DIED.

Sunday, May 26, at 8:30 P.M. of inflammation of the

brain. JULIA HAVEN, only child of Dr. Plymmon S.³⁷⁵

and Hattie H. Hayes.³⁷⁶ Funeral from residence of Grand-

parents, 167 Wabash av[enue]. Tuesday, at 10:30 A.M.]

³⁷⁵ Dr. Plymmon Sanford Hayes (1850–1894), Edwin's cousin.

³⁷⁶ Harriet Helen Hayes, née Hayden (1855–1935).