

[Diary fragment; probably 1897, written by Elmer] - Nov 5-17

Fri. Nov 5

Pleasant and warm. This forenoon we went up to Mr. Maxfields to begin shingling his barn. Got the old long shingle off and the barn boarded except a small opening to pass shingle through and have put on four courses [sic] of shingle. Looks like a storm tonight. Found Aunt Mira at home. Walter did not go down to meeting tonight. I rode down with Arthur. Mr. Tenney was down and gave a talk on the Christian Culture Course. The Consecration meeting was just off till next Friday eve.

Sat. Nov 6

Squally. We went up to Mr. Maxfields again today and have laid about eighteen bunches of shingle and finished boarding, it will take part of a day more to finish. It has been a little uncomfortable working some of the time, had to go under cover for one squall. Arthur came home to stay tonight.

Sun. Nov 7

Pleasant. We boys went down early today so as to practice for the concert. Mr. Hooper preached today. After meeting Arthur, Winslow, George (Maxborn?) and I stayed at the meeting-house, we got some cookies at the store for our supper. (Oley Sear?) came over with his cornet a while. The concert came off finely, every thing went finely. We all walked home as father came down afoot. Grandpa and father went over to Washington this forenoon.

Mon. Nov 8

Cloudy. This morning directly after breakfast I took my ax, dinner pail and camera and went down to Winslows then he and I went down to Sant. Georges and left the team then we went down onto what Winslow supposed was Will Bartons meadow to cut alders but could not find enough. Looked round and at last went up to Will Bartons and found where the meadow was. then cut half a cord of wood by noon. ate our dinner and quit. came back to Winslows and got my camera and went down to Mr. (Bowlbys?) and took two pictures. Afterward W and I split wood at Mr. Sholes till dark then I went up and took supper with him and came home. Father and mother went down to the W.C.T.U. lecture tonight. Arthur and I developed the plates they came out pretty fair.

Tue. Nov 9

Rainy. It has rained all day but has cleared tonight. We have not done much today. This forenoon we piled up some wood in the wood-shed. After dinner we toned a few pictures then fixed some apples. George Brom came over about three oclock and in a little while we went hunting with him through Mr Colbys and Uncle Orens we shot one gray squirrel. though it rained most all the time we were gone. Tonight after supper we all went down to see if we could get a skunk that Walter thought that Sparks run in but could not find it.

Wed. Nov 10

Pleasant. I rode down with father to the River this morning and met Winslow then we went down and went to cutting alders on Will Bartons meadow again. We got there about nine and cut till five and put up two cords. Arthur came down about three o'clock with the camera and gun and took Winslows and my picture and stayed round till we came home. We went down to prayer-meeting tonight and I got a card for the express office saying that our camera etc., had come.

Thu. Nov 11

Went over chopping again today. Went over to Steve (Maxborn?) to meet Winslow, waited some time then went down with George and went to work. Winslow came in a short time. We cut two cords and a quarter today and piled which makes 4 3/4 cords in all, we shall not cut any more. It has been cloudy today and began to storm a little before we left. Found the boys and Uncle Oren at the River to work on the shed putting in wood, etc. stopped and rode back with them. Roscoe brought down our box to day and tonight after we got home we opened it and looked at the contents the camera is a beauty.

Fri. Nov 12

Stormy. It has snowed a little most all day and some eight or ten inches have come. Arthur and I have been to work on things photographic all day. Have taken a picture of the snow and of the baby and developed them with the plates that were taken Thu. then we have tried intensifying on a couple of plates and toned a picture of Mr. (Bowlbys?) family. We went down to meeting with a sleight tonight went pretty well. There were 21 one out, had the meeting in the vestry.

Sat. Nov 13

Cloudy. This forenoon Arthur and I went down to the meeting house and helped Arthur Sear throw in some wood into the shed and pile it up. This afternoon we printed two or three pictures and finished up the snow scene and two others. The picture came out first class. Colder tonight.

Sun. Nov 14

Pleasant and cold. We went down to meeting with a sleigh today it went pretty well on our road but the rest of the way it was a little bad. A good number out we boys stayed down between meetings. I went up home with Winslow, and Arthur and Walter went up to Aunt Mira's. Father went home and went over North. A fair number out. We walked home part of the way with George (Maxborn?)

Mon. Nov 15

Cloudy a little. Father went down to the shop to help Winslow fix the waterwheel. We boys have cut wood in the shed some and worked on photographs a good deal today. This forenoon we took a picture of Walter up stairs and developed it. It came out very good. Have been printing pictures all day. Just [last?] night Arthur and I tried exposing a couple of plates for lantern slides. After supper we developed them, they came out pretty good. Tom (Hoytt?) was over and saw us work on them.

Tue. Nov 16

Pleasant. Warm. It has been thawing very fast all day. The snow has pretty well gone. Papa has gone down to the shop again. Arthur and I fixed a vignetter and toned and took to the brook over a dozen pictures this forenoon. Then took Walter's and the baby's picture seperately [sic]. After dinner done the chores, mounted the pictures, developed the plates and done the dishes. After supper made a couple of lantern slides. George Brown came after a while this evening.

Wed. Nov 17

Cloudy. This morning I went down to Winslows and he and I went down to Mr. Sholes and finished splitting the wood, took dinner there then went up in Hollis' and went to working up the bee tree for Mr. Sholes. Got a few cuts sawed off and partly split. Went down to meeting early to night and went over to Mr. (Bowlbys?) with the pictures. Got part of the pay, a little late to meeting.