

**The Diary
of
Richard
Varney**

Gilmanton, New Hampshire

~1899~

Diary written by Richard Varney in Gilmanton, N.H.
~~1899~~

January 1, 1899
Temp. 7, weather fowl

Well here goes for another year. I start in on it with a good many responsibilities. I trust that I shall do well. I shall try hard. This diary is a xmas present from Harry. Got up at 5:30, did chores etc. It stormed on and off and none of us went to church. In afternoon it cleared off and I broke roads and it was awfully cold.

January 2, 1899
Temp 12 below, weather fair

I got up before day light and did milking etc. After breakfast watered the stock then went to breaking roads. Took the milk to creamery also got home at noon. In afternoon scraped snow off frog pond it was wet on ice so we got on pretty slow. Went down for mail and got letters from George and Harry.

January 3, 1899
Temp 8, weather fair

Did chores then went to work on the pond scraping snow. It was a tough job but we got it finished up by night. Went down for the mail then went up to the drug store and talked over the ice business. Puss got her watch today from George. its a beauty.

January 4, 1899
Temp 22, weather fair

Did part of chores then went to creamery then watered stock. In afternoon fixed mammas glasses and the shot gun. It has been warming up all day and rains now. Mamma went to circle and stayed to Lycenum.

January 5, 1899

Temp 47, weather fair

Did chores then went to the creamery. Knowles Blake and myself cleaned out the ice house and made a platform and runway. Took us all day. It has been very warm and the snow has gone off like the dickens. Mamma and I went for the mail tonight.

January 6, 1899

Temp 20, weather snow

Went to creamery - It began to snow like the dickens before I got back. Did chores then built fire up at the shop. Knowles came and got two of the pigs. Worked up in shop in afternoon getting out sled stakes etc. Rufus brought the pigs back. Weighed 150 and 170.

January 7, 1899

Temp 20, weather fair

Did chores then hitched up colts and broke the road to village, but it wasn't very bad and as the boys came up put the colts up and went down on the pond and cleaned the snow off. In afternoon cut up the pigs. Had to hustle to get them done before dark.

January 8, 1899

Temp 10, weather fair

Did chores then built fire up in shop and went to making sled stakes. Got eight made. Shouldn't have worked today but want the sled ready when we cut the ice so have got to hustle. This ice business keeps me on the jump.

January 9, 1899

Temp 10, weather fair

Went off to creamery then after chores went to work up to the shop and finished up the sled stakes and put on the irons and got the windlas off and fixed things up generally. Went down for mail in eve and got the boys letters.

January 10, 1899

Temp -12, below weather fair

It was so awfully cold didn't hurry about the chores but got them done about noon then after dinner took Snider and went to mill for grist but it wasn't ground so had to go to John Grants and get trusted for 2 sacks of grain

January 11, 1899

Temp -8, below weather fair

Went to creamery then Rufus Knowles got in and road up with me. He made some iron hasps for gramps table. I did chores then helped him finish them. In aft. mamma was taken with the grip and was very sick. Felt some better by night.

January 12, 1899

Temp 10, weather fair

Did chores then took Rob and went down to pond. Jewett came and we got under way plowing the ice. Got it most done by working two teams. In after noon we went to hauling. I took 66 cakes of 265 lbs. apiece. We got things going in good shape. Put up 5 bu. potatoes after supper.

January 13, 1899

Temp 20, weather fair

Didn't feel as if I could hardly move this morn. The grip has got me in good shape. Took my potatoes and milk got a load of ice and went to creamery got down 55 cakes in morn. Oscar did my chores in afternoon. Oscar and I got in my ice, got it all packed but one load.

January 14, 1899

Temp 40 weather rain

Caved all in and had to milk then slumped. Oscar did my chores and went down to village and got the groceries that Eveleth got for me with the potatoes. Quite a supply. Felt better in afternoon so let Oscar off and did the chores myself.

January 15, 1899

Temp 30, weather squally

Got up feeling first rate, did my chores which took me all the morning as things were at kind of loose ends even if I had been laid up only part of a day. Just dinner time Eddy came up and stayed till most dark then Oscar came and we had quite a lot of company take it all round.

January 16, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Went to creamery then came home and did chores. Feel kind of weak but am better. Grandpa is worse this afternoon. He was out of his head. I got saw dust up in the ice house job done. Nellie had a fine heifer calf last night.

January 17, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Did chores which took about all morning. In afternoon got up old brine and boiled it and packed the pork which is a very poor lot indeed, it is very thin. Have to sit with grandpa nights now, he is very uneasy and gets no better.

January 18, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Oscar came up this morning and I have asked him to do chores etc. and sleep here nights. The Dr says grampa can not get better. It is beginning to be a hard job.

January 19, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores and fooled around in the house till Rufus Knowles came up then we killed the other two pigs. In afternoon it stormed but finally cleared off fine and Bessie and I went over to Knowles to see about the pigs.

January 20, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Went to creamery then did a few errands. Sam Eveleth took pigs up to Laconia. One 177 and 178. In afternoon stayed home. Grampa is very bad and tears around a good deal have to watch him every minute.

January 21, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went to village saw Eveleth and got money for pigs etc. Had Dr come to see grampa who is worse. The Dr said he could do nothing. Stayed in house this afternoon. Feel pretty sleepy.

January 22, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then took bath and by that time it was dinner time. In afternoon Eddy and Laura came up and we were glad to see them. Laura took mamma to ride. Dr came up and said he could do nothing for grampa.

January 23, 1899
Temp 50, weather fair

Had Oscar stay after we got the chores done and I went to creamery and hustled back for grampa is very low in afternoon. John Moore was here and fixed insurance policy then mamma had some callers. Did chores early.

January 24, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Didn't help do chores as grampa is very low and he kept his bed today for the first time and all day today have been looking to see him take his last breath. It is wearing work and keeps anyone on the strain all the time.

January 25, 1899
Temp 35, weather windy

Grandpa died this morning at 3:15. Oscar went right for Mr Beck who came at once and helped me lay him out. After breakfast I went to village and telephoned to Harry and Lord and saw about the other things. In afternoon saw about bearers etc. Laura stayed with mamma.

January 26, 1899
Temp 48, weather fair

Oscar and I did chores then cleaned up the barns etc. Worked hard all morn. In afternoon Harry came and I went down to the village to see about several things. Got home early and did chores in good season.

January 27, 1899

Temp 16, weather windy

Did chores then Harry went to creamery and I did odd jobs. Lord came at 11:30 and we had to hustle but got around all right. The funeral was at 1 p.m. at Friends church. Very few attended. Got home. Othniel came home with us and is to stay all night. Harry went right back.

January 28, 1899

Temp 8 below, weather fair

Did all the chores but watering stock then Othniel and I went to look over the creamery. Then we came home and he went to Cyruses then I finished up my chores. In afternoon went down to cemetery and picked up things and cleaned up some things at home. We all went for mail tonight.

January 29, 1899

Temp 2, weather fair

Didn't get up till 7:30 was awfully sleepy. Did chores then took bath and by that time it was dinner time. After dinner read etc. It has been a raw and disagreeable day. Haven't seen but one person today Oscar who came up this evening.

January 30, 1899

Temp 0, weather fair

Took clothes to Mrs E's then to creamery. Got home at 10:30 had to hustle to get chores done by dinner time. In afternoon hitched up colts and hauled down two loads of wood. It has been a very cold and raw day. We 3 went for mail tonight 4 letters.

January 31, 1899
Temp 4, weather fair

Did chores and cleaned up took Puss to school etc. In afternoon hitched up the colts and hauled down some dry wood. Got down two loads. It is hard work getting it. The snow has filled in the woods so. I was 26 years old today. Feel it too. Had a good letter from George and Harry. Harry gave me \$5 and Mamma a cake.

February 1, 1899
Temp 4, weather fair

Hustled around and got chores done early and took milk and went to Laconia. It was a cold ride up. Got a fur robe and horse blanket with Harry's \$5. Got home at 3. Got warmed up then did chores and went for mail.

February 2, 1899
Temp 0, weather fair

Got up rather late for a farmer then pretty soon after breakfast Uncle Cyrus came up and so I didn't get my chores done till dinner time. In afternoon hauled wood. Toward night put up team and went out and had a coast with Puss.

February 3, 1899
Temp 20, weather snow

Did part of chores then went to creamery . Had to see Will about property. Didn't get home till dinner time. In afternoon watered cattle and fixed the hams in the pickle. They were in bad shape

February 4, 1899
Temp 10, weather fair

Did chores then cleaned up the barn and got them straightened out. In afternoon had fire up to shop and set some window glass, ground an axe etc. Frank, Cyrus and two Granes boys were up to see Puss. It seemed good to have a noise.

February 5, 1899
Temp 10, weather fair

Got up late and hustled around and got my chores done in good season then took mamma and Puss to church. Took bath etc. After dinner Eddy and Laura came up also George Knowles. Didn't get around to do my chores till late.

February 6, 1899
Temp 10, weather fair

Did part of my chores then went to creamery. Didn't get back till late so didn't do much in morn. In afternoon got down the last of the dry wood and one load of the scrub. Eddy was up and spent the evening, I'm feeling more like my self now.

February 7, 1899
Temp 8, weather fair

Did chores then took my little axe and went chopping scrub. In afternoon took colts and hauled down what green wood I had cut also the shingle stuff I had cut 6 logs. It is now so I can do some business.

February 8, 1899

Temp 10, weather snow

Got up rather late and went to creamery right after breakfast. It was storming like the dickens. Got my chores done by noon. In afternoon read most of the time. Sawed a little wood etc. Have got a little touch of the diarrhea today. Too much molasses candy.

February 9, 1899

Temp 0, weather fair

Got up early and had all my chores done at 8:30 then rigged up my sled hitched up the colts and was off breaking roads. In afternoon stayed in the wood shed and sawed wood and got up quite a little pile.

February 10, 1899

Temp -10 below, weather fair

Sat up all the night so this morning don't feel very brisk and got up rather late. Did my chores except watering the cattle then went to creamery meeting There wasn't a quorum so it didn't amount to anything. In afternoon watered the stock and Eddy came up and we talked most of the time.

February 11, 1899

Temp -12 below, weather fair

Sat up all night, hard work to keep things warm and it was a hard night. Got up late. Did chores but watering then went down to the city, got back at noon then watered stock. Right after dinner went to breaking roads, it was cold and a hard job.

February 12, 1899
Temp 6, weather fair

Had a chance to sleep some last night got up once and fixed fires. Got up at 5:30 did part of chores and got off on roads at 8:00. Home at 11. After dinner watered the stock etc. Went to house and tried to read but got to sleep and didn't wake till 5.

February 13, 1899
Temp 6, weather snow

Didn't go to bed till 3 last night so I was a little late about getting up this morning. Took Bessie to school. Went to creamery. This afternoon made a new pickle for the ham, soaked a flour barrel etc. Also made some white wash. It is a fearful storm and it has snowed all day.

February 14, 1899
Temp 6, weather fair

Got up rather late did all my chores but watering then struck out on the roads. It is chuck full. Worse than it has been for years, had to give up it. Filled in as fast as we could shovel out. Eddy and Cyrus stayed all the afternoon. I watered stock and then whitewashed mammas and the step room.

February 15, 1899
Temp 6, weather fair

Did all my chores but watering and got off breaking roads at 8 and we had a tough one and didn't stop for dinner but kept right on through the district. Got home at 3 but we had to work some to do it. Had my dinner then watered the stock did my chores and went for mail.

February 16, 1899
Temp 20, weather fair

Did chores then hitched up and went over the road with colts also had oxen on another sled. Got home at noon. Got a barrel of oil when I was down to the city also took my milk. In afternoon watered the stock and got things kind of straightened out around.

February 17, 1899
Temp 30, weather fair

After breakfast hitched up the colts and went to the creamery then did my chores. In afternoon put some new hoops on the pickle barrel and got that job out of the way then sawed wood the rest of the time. After supper went for the mail.

February 18, 1899
Temp 30, weather fair

Did chores then shoveled out the paths and then sawed wood till dinner time. After dinner the Graves boys came up then we had a little squabble together Then I hitched up the colts and hauled a load of hemlock down from the Sax camp. Not a very heavy days work,

February 19, 1899
Temp 30, weather fair

Got up in good season had my chores done at 9:30 then reading awhile. Took mamma and Puss to church. Saw Mac Murphy and gave him \$5. In afternoon went over back of Peaked to pick out a place to chop. It is growing colder tonight.

February 20, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Went to creamery then after getting home late did chores then picked over 4 bushels of potatoes for Helen Bean. In afternoon took my axe and went over to spruces and cut shingle stuff. Puss went with me after supper we went down for mail also took potatoes.

February 21, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores. Mamma went down and spent the day with Mrs Dimmick. I took my axe and went to cutting shingle stuff. In afternoon took colts and the old sled and tried to haul the logs down but had a good deal of trouble. Went for mamma after supper.

February 22, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Took Puss to school and went to creamery then did chores and whitewashed the kitchen then went down for Puss. In afternoon went over kitchen again and went over my room. Not a very big days work but such things have got to be done and I've got to do them.

February 23, 1899
Temp 20, weather fair

Got my chores done by 8:30 and went out on the road filling up holes. Got home at noon and found Mrs Page here spending the day. In afternoon took colts and got down the rest of my shingles stuff. Took the long sled and did some thing this time.

February 24, 1899
Temp 15, weather fair

Hustled around and got chores done at 8 then went down to creamery meeting had quite a time. Hosford has resigned. In afternoon took colts and hauled down 1/3 cord of dry hemlock to Al Wights for Mary Badger. Got paid too.

February 25, 1899
Temp 10, weather fair

A fine day. Did my chores then went over back of Peaked and started on Helen Beans 10 cords of wood. It seems good to get chopping again. Had good luck got most a cord cut, it split kind of hard.

February 26, 1899
Temp 12, weather squally

Did my chores then took bath and shaved and we all went to church. First time I've been for a long time then had church in the school room. Seems kind of odd, but it was warm. In the afternoon read etc. Feel kind of lazy. Eat so much dinner.

February 27, 1899
Temp 50, weather fair

Did my chores then went to creamery then mamma and I took down the clothes. Finished my chores. After dinner broke a path down in the woods. Had a mighty hard job, the snow is very deep and it was all the colts wanted to do to get through it.

February 28, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then took mamma down to the Beans to spend the day and I came back and took the colts and went down in the woods chopped till noon then brought home a load of wood. Afternoon chopped till chore time then went for mamma,

March 1, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery then went into the woods. In afternoon mamma went to the sewing circle and I chopped till chore time then went for her. Jack Cleary came up and bought calf, he was a beauty. One dollar

March 2, 1899

Temp 40, weather snow

Did chores then after putting in a new axe handle struck out for the woods worked till noon then it began to snow like the dickens. Mamma went to examanations and came home at noon. In afternoon I trimmed wall paper for mamma's room. Went to school entertainment in eve.

March 3, 1899

Temp 50 weather fair

Got up rather late hitched up right after breakfast, took my milk down and broke out the roads then went down to the Iron Works and got the colts shod. Got home at 4:30 did chores and after supper went to the grange.

March 4, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Didn't get up till 8 then did milking and had breakfast at 9 pretty stylish. Cleaned out pig pens then Frank Badger came and bothered me till noon. After dinner watered stock. Cleaned out hen house and trimmed wall paper etc.

March 5, 1899

Temp 50, weather rain

Did chores etc. then sat down and read. It rained hard all day and it has been pretty cosy here in the house. There was no church today as Mr Graves had a bad sore throat. The snow is going fast.

March 6, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery. Got home in good season and struck for the woods. Got a good pile. Chopped today went over on snow shoes this afternoon. They went well. Tapped a tree over behind the hill and the sap ran well.

March 7, 1899

Temp 28, weather snow

Did chores then got things ready to go to papering. After dinner struck in and got along first rate. The wind has been blowing like the dickens all day. It has been a hard one. Roads to break again I guess.

March 8, 1899

Temp 28 weather fair

Hitched up colts right after breakfast and went to breaking roads. Also got Robs shoe set on and took down my milk went way through the district the wind blew a hurricane and the roads filled right in again. In afternoon I papered on mamma room and did my chores.

March 9, 1899

Temp 10 weather fair

Hitched up the colts after breakfast and went to breaking roads. Got through roads. Got through by noon. In afternoon watered the stock and etc. and then papered. It snowed hard in the afternoon but not enough to do any harm. Don't get along much cutting wood.

March 10, 1899

Temp 28 weather fair

Got up early and had my chores done at 8:15 then fixed up a little and went to creamery meeting. A very business like meeting. Then afternoon papered. Got all done except the border.

March 11, 1899

Temp 30 weather snow

Did chores then went to putting the borders on mammas room. Got it done in afternoon and it looks pretty well. It is mammas birthday and she is 54 years old. Went for the mail tonight got a whole slew of letters for mamma.

March 12, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Got up rather late but got my chores done in good season. Took ma and Bessie to church then came home and took bath etc. Then went and got them. In afternoon read and loafed around. The time goes mighty fast especially on Sunday when I loaf.

March 13, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Hustled around and did the chores, put up 4 barrels of corn put on my milk and after going to creamery went to Belmont and got my phosphate 10 sacks. Got home at 2. Eddy came up and waited for Laura who went to Laconia with ma.

March 14, 1899

Temp 40, weather squally

Hustled around and did my chores then went down to I.W. to town meeting It snowed hard in morn. It was the meanest town meeting I ever went to. Everything went Democratic. Things are getting pretty low down. Let her rip.

March 15, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery and as there was a creamery meeting didn't get home till 1:30. Hurried up ate dinner then hitched up and took half of shingle stuff to mill. It snowed like the dickens. Got home just right Did chores and we went to play.

March 16, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then started to break roads but after going a little ways found it wasn't necessary so went home and loaded up rest of shingle stuff and in afternoon took it to mill. Got home in good season and put up 8 barrels of corn.

March 17, 1899
Temp 20, weather fair

Hustled around and did chores then loaded up my corn and after going to creamery went to Belmont and got my corn ground. 12 barrels and had to wait a long time. Got my grass seed and clover seed so that won't have to be looked after.

March 18, 1899
Temp 10, weather fair

Didn't get up till 8 was feeling awfully lazy so did do nothing but moved another set in there then a few odd jobs. Got a little cold I guess. Went for mail in evening.

March 19, 1899
Temp 10, weather sleet

Got my chores done up in good season then read. About 2 hitched up colts and broke out the roads. It began to rain hard after I had started out and it was a nasty job got home at 5. Got pretty well chilled through.

March 20, 1899
Temp 10, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery also saw Bill Sanderson about Probate business etc. The wind blew a hurricane it was tough. In afternoon hitched up colts and broke roads got home just chore time. Went down for mail. Said goodbye to Hosford who goes 21.

March 21, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then hitched up colts and broke down into the woods. Got up almost all the wood I had cut. Some I hauled to house and some only to top of ridge It was mean job breaking the path.

March 22, 1899

Temp 20, weather snow

Did part of chores then went to creamery. Had quite a number of errands to do so didn't get back very early. In afternoon took mamma and Bessie to sewing circle and went for them after mail time. Sold Mrs Graves 6 bu. potatoes.

March 23, 1899

Temp 10, weather snow

Got up rather late. Did a few chores then went to breaking roads. It stormed hard before I got back nasty. In afternoon watered stock and put up 6 bushel potatoes and several other odd jobs. Curious weather.

March 24, 1899

Temp 20, weather snow

Did part of chores then hitched up and went to breaking roads. Also took down my milk and Mr Graves potatoes. In afternoon went to hauling wood from woods and got up all I had cut myself. Eddy is bothering me. He agreed to get to cutting 2 weeks ago.

March 25, 1899

Temp 30, weather fair

Hustled around and did my chores then hitched up the colts and went to hauling wood down to the village and got all down. I had cut some over 3 cords. The Colts take 1 1/4 cords as easy as a pin. Eddy was loafing around today. It makes me nervous.

March 26, 1899

Temp 35, weather snow

Didn't get up very early so was kind of late with my chores. Just as soon as they were done took bath and shaved then it was dinner time. Didn't any of us go to church as ma had a cold and it stormed anyhow. Read all afternoon.

March 27, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Did chores in part then went to creamery came home and took clothes over to Mrs Ellsworth then did rest of chores etc. In afternoon it was such a good sap day hustled out the sap things. Mamma and Puss washed them and I took colts and went over the hill and tapped.

March 28, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then Jesse and Eddy came up to chop . Then I went down and showed them where to chop and then came home and went over to sap camp and took pans fixed funnel etc. In afternoon Eddy had to go home and so I went over and chopped with Jesse. Put almost a cord.

March 29, 1899
Temp 35, weather snow

Did chores then went to creamery then hitched up the colts and went to hauling wood out of woods. Eddy didn't come up but Jesse did but didn't work. Eddy came just dinner time and had dinner. I hauled in afternoon The wind blew awfully and it squalled hard.

March 30, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores up early and then hitched up the colts and got two loads out of woods then hauled to village got down 2 loads then the rest of afternoon got out of the woods. The sap don't run a mite but I'm glad I have got it tapped.

March 31, 1899
Temp 35, weather snow

Did chores then went to creamery. Had to stay to creamery meeting and got pretty well disgusted. Hauled one load down in afternoon and hauled out of woods. Got the colts in all over but didn't hurt them any.

April 1, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores early and got to hauling wood in good season got my 10 cords down to city just noon and paid up Eddy and Jesse. Harrah I feel pretty well. Brought home 2 barrels of flour. In aft. gathered what little sap there was and Eddy who was here at dinner was with me.

April 2, 1899

Temp 32, weather fair

Got up rather late did chores and took ma and Puss to church then shaved etc. Went for them at 12:45 then had dinner. In aft. read and loafed around. It seems like the middle of winter not much sap weather.

April 3, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery got home late and sawed wood till dinner time, In aft. went over to camp and started the boiling so to get things warmed up. In eve. went down to Cyruses and then for mail. No sap day.

April 4, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went over on hill chopping sap wood. Took down one of the big hemlocks. Mamma went off to spend the day. In aft. didn't go to work till late. Chopped. Puss came home and we went for mamma.

April 5, 1899

Temp 45, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery. Did odd jobs in morn. when I got back in aft. mamma went to sewing circle and I chopped and gathered what little sap there was came home did chores then we went for mamma.

April 6, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Did chores then went over to camp and fired up it seemed good. Every thing started off nice. Boiled down 2 and 1/2 gallons. The selectmen came and took the inventory. It was no sap day.

April 7, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Did chores then went down to creamery. Didn't do anything in morn. as I didn't feel very well. In aft. chopped on the hemlock and got it all chopped up and most split up. Feel pretty mean tonight.

April 8, 1899

Temp 40, weather rain

Did chores rather late then felt so mean I loafed. In aft. went down to Ellsworths and then to Cyruses where I staid till time to come home to do chores. Lent Oscar 2 dollars to get a pair of boots with.

April 9, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went over and emptied up the sap buckets then took ma and Bessie to church afterwards took shave and a bath then went for them. In aft. read and loafed; it has been cold and raw all day and is no sapping time.

April 10, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Went to creamery then did chores etc. In aft. went up to camp but sap didn't run so went up and finished up the hemlock. Got it all split and it makes quite a pile of wood.

April 11, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then hustled over to the sap camp, it was a pretty good day. Boiled down 4 gals of A No. 1 syrup. Mrs Beane was up and spent the day with mamma. They are feeling pretty blue over P.O.

April 12, 1899
Temp 50, weather snow

Went to creamery then hustled around and did chores then went to boiling It snowed hard in aft. and boiled down 3 gals. Uncle Cyrus is raising thunder on the road, guess I shall have to throw up the job.

April 13, 1899
Temp (did not record), weather fair

Did chores then did odd jobs around. No sap day. In aft. took colts and went over and hauled down my sap wood for next year. 1 1/2 cords then fooled a little with the Graves boys.

April 14, 1899
Temp 50, weather fair

Hustled around and did chores then went to creamery meeting. Didn't amount to much. In afternoon went down over road to see what was to be done. It's a hard look. Mrs Hoadly spent the day.

April 15, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Got up at 4:30 did chores and got off on road at 7:30. Tried to plow it out but it didn't work so have to do it by hand. Got up to Cyruses nearly 10 of us at work. it is all clear. ice in road and everyone is kicking,

April 16, 1899

Temp 40, weather fair

Got up at 4:30 did chores and got off on road early. Had to come home in morn. as Dimple calved. In afternoon about 3 it began to snow like thunder. So had to give up work. Got up to Skunk Hill.

April 17, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Had my chores all done at 7 then went to creamery and emptied the sap buckets then went down on the road. Eddy and Jess were at dinner. Finished up in afternoon. Hurrah. Came home put up the sleighs and got the wagon.

April 18, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Had chores all done at 7:30 then after helping Puss on some examples went over to sap camp and fired up. Took off 3 gals this afternoon. Sap didn't run. Graves was up this afternoon and settled up with us.

April 19, 1899
Temp 40, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery the rest of the day worked chopping wood, the trees that had blown down up behind the camp. Got them all chopped up there about 2 cords.

April 20, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery then went up and tackled the old maple that blown down. Got it all chopped up 1 1/2 cords

April 21, 1899
Temp 50, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery afterwards mixed up some paint and painted the big barn doors, tie up door and the corn house door

April 22, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery and did odd jobs all day picking up around etc.

April 23, 1899
Temp 50, weather fair

Did chores went to creamery then took bath etc. Took mamma and Puss to church and got my hair cut. In afternoon went over back of Peaked and looked around.

April 24, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then took Rob and took my milk then went to mill and hauled on my shingle stuff. In afternoon got my sap things home. A poor year.

April 25, 1899

Temp 50, weather storm

Did chores and went to creamery. Got 3 gal of paint for house and 2 cans of harness oil. Albert Wight oiled my harnesses. Came home and tackled wood pile. Rained about 3 so quit and took down storm windows and cellar door.

April 26, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores and went to creamery then went to work on wood and got it most done. In afternoon Mamma went to sewing circle.

April 27, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then got the dump cart rigged and took down my milk and got a load of shingles. In afternoon Puss went with me. Got them all home.

April 28, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery. Took down my work harness to be cleaned and got the breast plate. Then spread shingles and almost finished up the wood pile.

April 29, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then to creamery got home in good season and put in the day picking up around sleds etc. Planted the sweet peas and got the shingles packed away in corn house. 4000 of them.

April 30, 1899
Temp 84, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery took bath etc. and went to church. In afternoon wrote most all the time.

June 9, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Did chores then went to rigging up to plant corn. Eddy took milk. Marked off piece and got some planted. Finished up by 3:30 then took planter home.

July 10, 1899
Temp 60, weather Fair

Struck in haying with Jesse Page and Forest Canney for help.

July 24, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Finished up haying everything has gone on as smooth as a whistle. The boys are paid off and I feel thankful. We didn't get a single load wet. Aunt Annie came with the children tonight.

September 1, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Got up at 5:30 milked and after breakfast did chores then went to creamery Saw Sanderson on creamery business then came home and went to cleaning out well. It began to rain hard at 6:00 and is still as it. Have been so tired nights gave up my diary but mean to keep it up now.

September 2, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Got up rather late so didn't do chores till I got back from creamery. Got some pipe and just as soon as I got the chores done went to work on the well. Got it all pumped out at 2 then Eddy and Frank came up and we cleaned the mud out. It is all in good shape now. Made my first creamery collection.

September 3, 1899
Temp 80, weather dull

Got up late did chores and went to creamery. By the time I had taken bath etc it was 12:00 then went for mamma and Puss. In afternoon read and Dr K also up. Tried to get the water to run but I guess there is not enough water in the well.

September 4, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Got up at 5:30 milked and went to creamery then after chores tried to start the water but it was no go. Then went to shingling on the barn and got quite a good start. It is very cold tonight. Sold the calf \$5.00

September 5, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Got up at 4:30 milked then went to creamery and took Jerry to get him shod but Fogg was gone. Shingled in morning and afternoon except when I went down the hill to fly a kite.

September 6, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Got up early and did chores and got off and started for fair at 8;30. Kind of a disagreeable day. Took Puss and the wind blew so that it wasn't so pleasant, but glad we went. Got home at 7. Saw about getting a bond etc.

September 7, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Did milking then went to creamery then went to work trying to start the water. Didn't do chores till after dinner. Then went to work on the water and started it in 5 min. The pump was out of whack. I got all disgusted but it is going now alright.

September 8, 1899
Temp 80, weather showery

Got up at 5:30 milked and then took Jerry down when I went to creamery and got him shod then did chores etc. In afternoon it looked like rain so went down and opened the barrel and box of books that Julia Clark sent to the library etc.

September 9, 1899
Temp 79, weather fair

Got up early did all the chores then went to creamery meeting. Had a hard meeting . John Sawyer demanded his money and take it all around we had a disgraceful time for Gilmantons welfare. Such is life in Gilmanton. Came home and pulled beans. They are good.

September 10, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Did milking then went to creamery and did chores etc. Then made some ice cream. Took bath and it was 12:00 and went down for ma and Puss. In afternoon went up on the hill and got kite string and Eddy came up and we measured off where the ditch is going 30 rods \$100.00 at rd.

September 11, 1899
Temp 60, weather showery

Got up early did chores and got down to Eddys to mowing at 8:30 and mowed till noon then came home and after dinner finished pulling the beans. Then it began to rain and I didn't do much of anything else but chores.

September 12, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Did chores etc. then went to creamery and stayed down till nearly noon on creamery business. In afternoon put in a new pole in dump cart then dug potatoes in garden. Mrs Knowles spent the afternoon and took supper here also.

September 13, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went down and mowed at Eddys. Got home in good season. After dinner I took my potato digger and struck in on potatoes and made a good start and that is about all,

September 14, 1899
Temp 38, weather fair

Did chores early then went to creamery. Had to see Sanderson so didn't get down to Eddys till late. A cold day, frost in village. Got home at 1:00 and cut the 2nd crop. Have got a pile to do but guess I'll come out all right.

September 15, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores early and got off down to Eddys in good season got home eat dinner and got to work at 2. Dug potatoes till 4 then hitched up and got them into cellar there were 16 bushels of beauties. Was rather late in getting chores done.

September 16, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

After chores and getting my milk to creamery went down to Eddys and by jumping we got the meadow done and I'm mighty thankful. In afternoon raked up the second crop etc. Began chores at 4:00 and at 6:00 Dan Moore called for me and we went to Iron Works.

September 17, 1899

Temp 80, weather fair

Did chores early then moved 4 loads of oats and cleared up the barn so I could get in the 2nd crop. Got in one load in morning and 3 in afternoon. Worked hard all the day but the hay is all in now in good shape.

September 18, 1899
Temp 80, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery and as I had to see Sanderson didn't get home till late. Then went to digging potatoes. Hitched up at 4:00 and got them in. 14 bu. they are panning out fine this year.

September 19, 1899
Temp 80, weather fair

Had to work all last night making out checks. 4:00 when I turned in. Went right to creamery when I had milked. Didn't get chores done till noon. Dug potatoes in afternoon. 9 bus. and got them in. Ma and Puss went to ball given by Kitchen.

September 20 1899
Temp 70, weather rain

Got up rather late and went right to creamery then eat breakfast and did chores. Loafed the rest of morning. In aft. to a G. Improvement meeting didn't amount to much. Harry and wife came this eve at 6:00 o'clock.

September 21, 1899
Temp 70, weather rain

Went to creamery after breakfast then came home and did chores. Harry and I went hunting didn't get anything and it began to rain and we came home. Didn't do anything in afternoon, it rained so.

September 22, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery then went to cutting tops on the corn. The corn isn't very ripe. Harry helped me in the morn. In afternoon went it alone and made quite a hole in it.

September 23, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did part of chores then went to creamery had to see Sanderson so didn't get back till late then went to cutting up the corn. Made quite a hole in it today I guess one more day will knock it out.

September 24, 1899
Temp 60, weather cloudy

Got up late so right after breakfast went to creamery then did chores. The rest went to church and I cleaned out the dinning room chimney- Put up mowing machine etc. Took bath and loafed in afternoon.

September 25, 1899
Temp 60, weather rain

Did chores then went to creamery then went to topping corn. Harry helped in afternoon and we cleaned it all up. It rained off and on all day. Well so far so good The corn is pretty good but it will have to hustle.

September 26, 1899
Temp 60 , weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery didn't get home till late and as it rained didn't do much of anything but fool around and do a few chores. It cleared off finally so did a little work out side.

September 27, 1899
Temp 60 , weather fair

Did chores and got home from the creamery early. Spoke to Harry about the deed. He didn't want to sign it at first but he finally did so it is alright Dug potatoes all day. Got in quite alot.

September 28, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores then went to creamery. Harry, wife and Puss went up on Mt Belknap I dug potatoes all day. Harry got a telephone calling him home. They had gone so they didn't get it in time to go today.

September 29, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores and went to creamery. Got word that the threshers were coming so hustled around got things ready and also three men and in afternoon we went at it at 6 it was all out. 86 and 1/2 bushels. A good job done. Harry went back.

September 30, 1899
Temp 50, weather fair

Did my usual work then went to digging potatoes finishing them all up and got them in the cellar. 100 bushels of a fine potatoes as anyone ever saw. One more good job done now I feel better

October 1, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

A beautiful day but rather cool. Didn't get my chores done till noon and bath taken. Read all afternoon.

October 2, 1899

Temp 50, weather cloudy

A mighty cold day did chores etc. Then tackled the marigolds. Jumped like sixty but managed to get them all done and in the cellar. 45 bushels of good ones. Another good job done.

October 3, 1899

Temp 50, weather fair

Hustled around did chores etc. and got off to Laconia at 11. Took up some crab apples sold some more. Then took the deed down to the court house and went up to bank, then up to Prescotts and got my bond. Then after some other errands home.

October 4, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores didn't get home from creamery till late then began on the beets. Got them all up and also took the colts and went up in the spruces and got load of wood. Found fence down so hustled home got some wire and stakes and put it up.

October 5, 1899

Temp 60, weather fair

Jesse came up, and I just jumped got home from creamery and we went to getting together the corn tops got them all bunched up and in the barn by night. Good job. Aunt Carrie came.

October 6, 1899

Temp 60, weather showery

Did chores etc. then went to picking apples. Got all the greenings picked but soon after dinner it began to rain so had to give it up. In afternoon I loafed all the afternoon.

October 7, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores etc. then went to picking apples. Got the Baldwins picked 2 barrels and also the sweet apples. It is a pretty cold morn. and Aunt Carrie went to ride.

October 8, 1899
Temp 60, weather fair

Did chores etc. Took bath and read the rest of day. Went to church. Had fires in all the rooms as it was a pretty cold day and a good fire felt good.

October 9, 1899
Temp 60, weather rain

Did chores etc. It rained so put up Liaters potatoes in morn in afternoon got up the hay rake etc.

October 10, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

A mighty fine day. Jesse came up and after chores etc. we went to picking apples. Got the northern spies all picked also got in the carrots.

*October 11, 1899
Temp 70, weather fair

Did chores and went to creamery then picked apples. Got all the odds and end lots in the cellar so that is all done now. Also got in the turnips so all is done now but the corn.

**This is the last entry in the book. The following addresses are found in back of diary.*

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FETED

(Continued from Page One)

known as "Mr. Republican" in Gilmanton, and took keen pride in helping to guide town affairs. He seldom misses a town meeting, even now, and has voted at every presidential election.

A native of Gilmanton, Varney and a brother, George, as young men felt the lure of travel, and spent about 20 years away from here.

"In Alaska, we ran a mining company near Nome," he recalled yesterday, "and I also worked in helping to build the Alaskan Central Railroad near Valdez."

He is a skilled craftsman and carpenter, and after returning here, did maintenance work and also built numerous houses. He is adept in many fields, friends said, and there were few building arts which he could not master.

The brother with whom he prospected wound up in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as a prominent engineer. He died seven or eight years ago.

An older brother, Harry, was for a long period chief engineer for the city of Brookline, Mass. He died about 20 years ago.

Richard, the surviving member of the family, never married. He is very fond of children, however, and they sense it, friends said yesterday.

"At least three generations of Gilmanton children have followed him onto house roofs to help out on jobs, just to be near him," a young matron recollected, "and I was one of them."

Varney seldom talks about any of his personal experiences, especially in Alaska, even to close friends. A reserved man, he is still possessed of a warm personality, it was said, and has extended a helping hand in many cases. Countless other cases of secret kindnesses will always remain unknown, it was stated, except to the beneficiaries.

Varney is in rugged health, and has a regular checkup every two months by his family physician, Dr. Roger Brasard of Laconia, one of the callers here Sunday.

Varney takes daily walks, is a prolific reader, listens to the radio a lot, watches TV occasionally and "putters" around in his woodworking shop in back of the house.

He said young people today are "just as good" as in his day, although they do not always realize the opportunities facing them, and should "work a little harder."