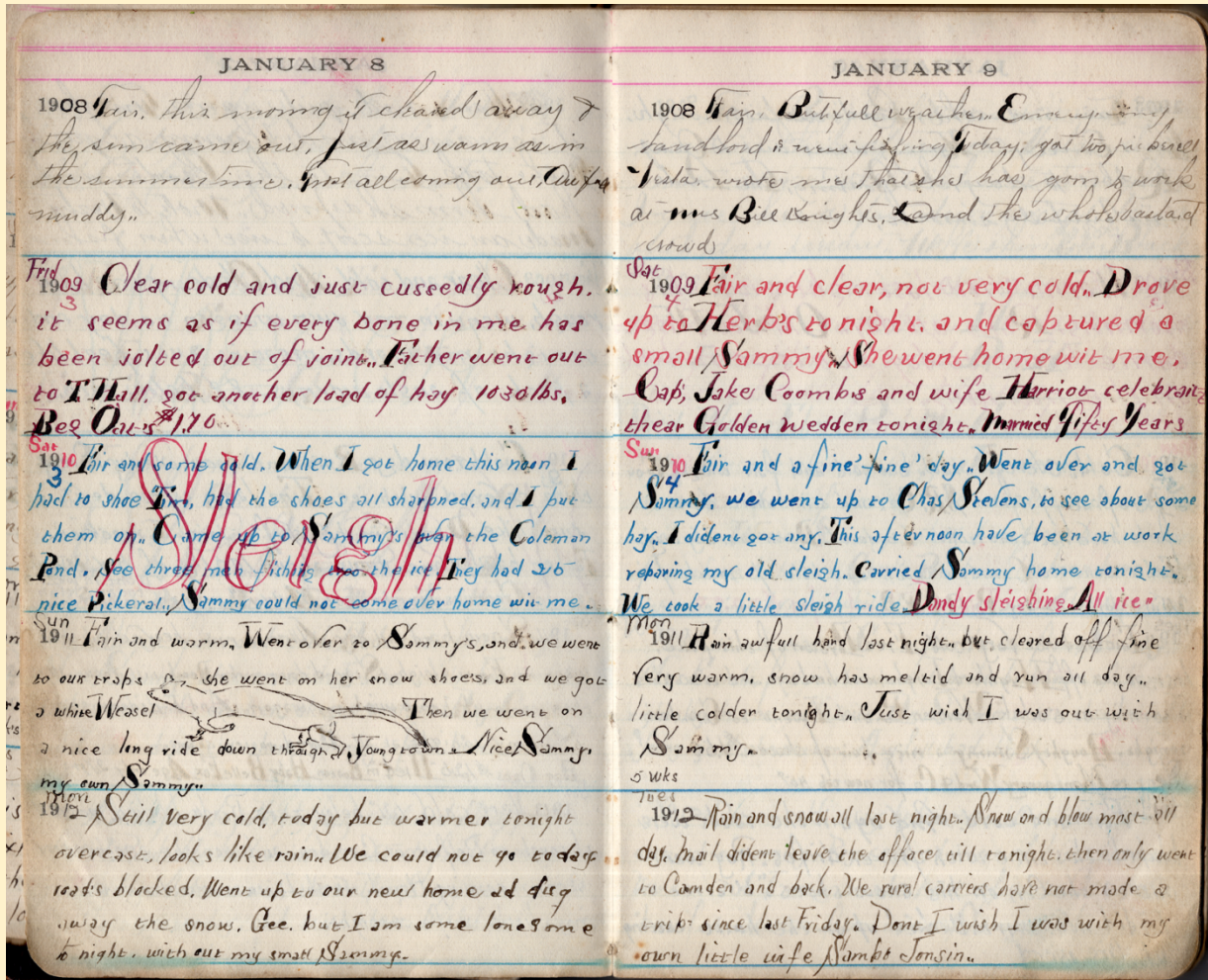


RALPH RICHARDS - 1908



Wednesday, Jan. 1 This is a butifull day. Warm and springlike. There is no snow on the ground. Vesta and I went on a long walk down into the Big Woods this afternoon. And tonight went to a New Year dance at the Center.

Thursday, Jan. 2 Butifull weather. Today has been sharp and cold. Tonight the glass is down at the zero mark. Everybody at the Beach is out tonight skating. Ice perfect.

Friday, Jan. 3 Another butifull day. Clear and cold. And that is what I have in my head is full of it. Took Quinine tonight.

Saturday, Jan. 4 Overcast. Snow and rain tonight. I went and got Sammys Kinney. Walter Richards came up for two weeks. Got a half pint minnows. (Live bait). Going pickerel fishing tomorrow. Born to Lena Gray Jr. a girl.

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Sunday, Jan. 5 Fair but bitter cold. Blowing a gail of wind. We did not go fishing. Did some nice Burned work to day. A forest scean on a big fungus.

Monday, Jan. 6 Fair and quite cold. Herbie Thomas took Lindy to Prokes[?] and had him shod. Awfull icy in the woods.

Tuesday, Jan. 7 Fair and quite warm. Tonight it is rainy and blowing a gail. Father took Tim to the Center and had him sharpened. Wrote to Vesta. Made an ice scoop to use when fishing.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 Fair this morning. It cleared away and the sun came out. Just as warm as in the summertime. Frost all coming out. Awfull muddy.

Thursday, Jan. 9 Fair. Butifull weather. Emery my landlord went fishing today; got two pickerel. Vesta wrote me that she has gone to work at Mrs. Bill Knights and the whole bastard crowd.

Friday, Jan. 10 Fair and cold. Roads awfull rough. Tom Emery and Harry went out to Camp Rabbit to day. Ice boating. The ponds are butifully smooth.

Saturday, Jan. 11 Fair. Bright frosty morning becoming warmer this afternoon. Vesta did not come over with me tonight. I gave her a fur driving coat for a birthday present. "Wolfe skin" \$8.50 Color Black.

Sunday, Jan. 12 Cold overcast this morning. I went down to Harry Rankins and we went fishing through the ice for trout. About noon commenced to rain. Raining hard tonight. All we got was a good wetting & a bad cold.

Monday, Jan. 13 Snow this forenoon a heavy squall about 2 inches fell. Not enough for sleighing. Cleared about noon warm as spring. Colder tonight.

Tuesday, Jan. 14 Fair. Clear and cold. This is Vesta's birthday. She is twenty three to day. Herbie Thomas and Roy Richards did battle today. Honors all for Thomas. Wist [wished?] was up at Vetty's tonight.

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Wednesday, Jan. 15 Fair. Very cold. 10 below zero this morning. Ormand Law came over tonight and gave me my first lesson in Chess. Geo Pendleton came home to day sick with diphtheria.

Thursday, Jan. 16 Rain this morning. Very warm 40 degrees about a change of 50 degrees in two hours. Went out to Goodwins tonight. Had Lindy sharpened. Snow squalls tonight. Paid RJ Hurd for hay \$31.90.

Friday, Jan. 17 Fair and cold. Fine wheeling. Father took Tim to the Ctr & had him sharpened. I wonder why Vesta did not write. Poor little girl. I am afraid my little Sammy is sick. I will be with her tomorrow night anyway. Paid Becky [??] \$6.45.

Saturday, Jan. 18 Fair and quite warm. Sammy came over with me. Did not want to wear her new coat but was glad she did when she got here.

Sunday, Jan. 19 Clear and cold. Rough cold day below zero. Vesta and I are watching with much pleasure the sappy actions of Laddie & his languishing lass, Abbie.

Monday, Jan. 20 Clear and cold this morning down to zero. Tonight 30 degrees above. I wonder what Sammy is doing tonight.

Tuesday, Jan. 21 Fair and very warm. Drove to day without gloves. Temperature 50 degrees butifull warm summer weather.

Wednesday, Jan. 22 Still warm butifull day. Just like summer. I wrote to Sammy to day but she did not. Dear little woman, how I would like to be with her tonight.

Thursday, Jan. 23 Fair and cold. Awfull rough traveling. Got a letter today from Sammy. Had tires set on my wagon. 50 cents Gone to H—. Storm coming. Snow I guess wind northeast.

Friday, Jan. 24 Very cold. Roads awfull rough. Broke the center piece in my wagon today. SJ Young, FC Blacksmiths Shop burned today. Snowing wind northeast. Blowing great guns.

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Saturday, Jan. 25 Fair and much warmer. Went over and got Vesta. She came over with me. Poor little sweetheart she is not feeling well nowadays. And that what makes me mad. Portland burned.

Sunday, Jan. 26 Fair and very warm. Intended to go fishing at the pond but over slept. Fixed my old wagon up and stayed at home. Little Sammy is sick to day.

Monday, Jan. 27 Commenced raining last night and its still coming down in bunches & blowing to beat the band. Clear afternoon & tonight. Sammy is still at my home. She and Laddie T. had a little battle tonight.

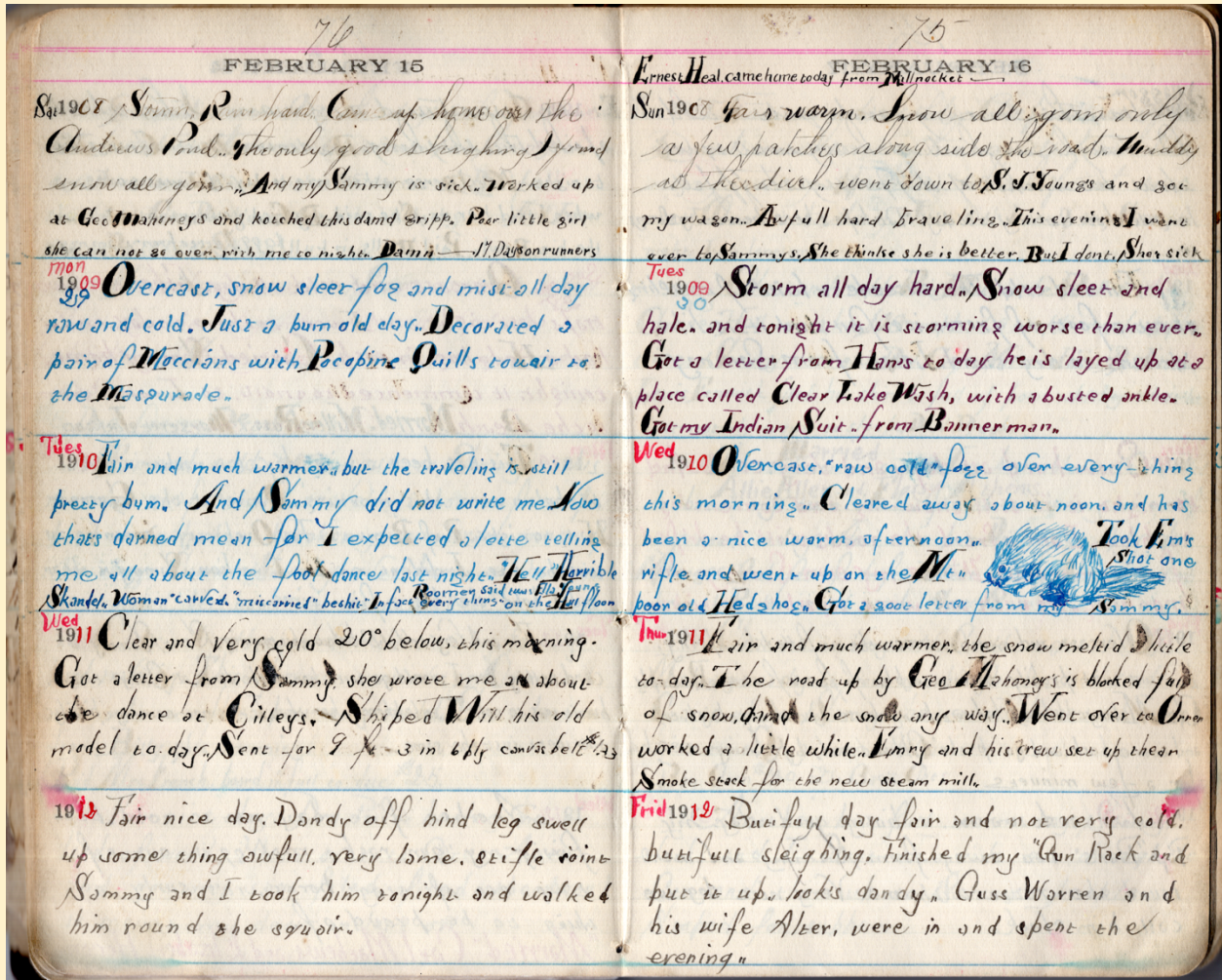
Tuesday, Jan. 28 Fair and cold. Roads all cut up and so rough that my poor old ribs are driven by each other about ever five minutes. Warmer tonight & overcast. Sammy is still at my home. I see her to day.

Wednesday, Jan. 29 Soft damp snow fell all day miserable traveling. Vesta went home last night. Abbie & her shadow went to Camden to day. Busted wheel on my wagon. Hope to go in a sleigh tomorrow.

Thursday, Jan. 30 Cold 10 below zero this morning and colder tonight. Wind blowing a gail. Went in sleigh first time since the 23 of Dec. [word SLEIGH written over whole entry]

Friday, Jan. 31 Very cold and blowing hard. 22 below in E. Searsmont. Got a letter from little Hans. He is working in a New York Bug House.

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Saturday, Feb. 1 Well this month came in like a lion all right this time. A howling N.E. Snowstorm & it has stormed wicked all day. It is raining tonight, a change of 40 degrees since 5 A.M. to 10 P.M. Stayed at the Beach tonight.

Sunday, Feb. 2 Candlemas Day. Overcast snow squalls and cold. Awfull icy went out to Goodwin's had Dandy shod new and old set of shoes fitted up for Tim. Carried Sammy home with me tonight. Then shod Tim.

Monday, Feb. 3 "Fair" and powerfull cold. Bummet kind of traveling. First you have it and then you don't. Heavy crust. Icy bair ground and snow drifts that will hold a horse almost. Very butifull roads Like H—

Tuesday, Feb. 4 Bitter cold 22 below zero this morning and 6 below when I got out into E. Searsmont at 11:30 A.M. I wish it would grow warmer. Bought me a Clark heater this morning. God knows I need one.

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Wednesday, Feb. 5 Still awfull cold 28 below this morning. Got a letter from my small Sammy today. Good one. Dance at Ctr tonight too cold for me to go.

Thursday, Feb. 6 A thumb out of joint. An Elopement and a terriable snowstorm are the attractions for today. Della Seekins and Ferd Richards not a relitif of mine, Thank God Did the elopement act today. God rise thear lustfull soals.

Friday, Feb. 7 Clear, not very cold. But God such traveling. When the storm cleared last night it ended in rain, then froze, and today its been fun lurching a horse through frozen drifts.

Saturday, Feb. 8 Fair and cold. Sammy came over with me tonight. Dear little girl. This time we wont get cheated out of seeing each other.

Sunday, Feb. 9 Fair and powerfull cold. Sammy and I went up to Herb's. Gee didn't we look swell in our new sleigh and our Mont horse in his new harness.

Monday, Feb. 10 Fair clear and cold. 18 below this morning but warmer tonight. Paid Mrs. French \$25 in full to date.

Tuesday, Feb. 11 Fair and butifull sleighing. Mrs. Parkman had a shock. Many people sick with the Gripp--

Wednesday, Feb. 12 Fair nice warm day. Great. Sammy is working at Geo Mahoney's every one of them are sick. Gave to the poor and needy this day, in the form of S.J. Young one half doller, may Sarah and St. Gideon reward him.

Thursday, Feb. 13 Fair and warm. Part of the day with a few snow and sleet storms thrown in. Got a letter from Sammy to day. Dance at the Ctr to night. We did not go. Butifull sleighing. Geo Pendleton set a trawl today. And I am now going to bed. Shela.

Friday, Feb. 14 Overcast and very warm. It has about spoiled the sleighing. Big dance at Mystic Grange Hall tonight. Nell Morse asked me today if I was

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going, when I told her no, she said, By God you don't want to miss the big Bawl. Paid Mills in full \$9.89. Letter from Sammy.

Saturday, Feb. 15 Storm, Rain hard. Came up home over the Andrews Pond. The only good sleighing I found snow all gone. And my Sammy is sick. Worked up at Geo Mahoney's and ketched this damd gripp. Poor little girl she can not go over with me to night. Damn---. 17 Days on runners.

Sunday, Feb. 16 Ernest Heal came home today from Millnocket. Fair warm. Snow all gone only a few patches along side the road. Muddy as the divel. Went down to S.J. Young's and got my wagon. Awfull hard traveling. This evening I went over to Sammy's. She thinks she is better. But I don't. She's sick.

Monday, Feb. 17 Waggon fair this morning and quite mild but tonight we had a heavy snow squall about two inches of dry powdery stuff fell. I wonder how Sammy is today. Do hope she is better. My Sammy.

Tuesday, Feb. 18 Fair and cold. Awfull rough. Damd such weather and traveling anyway. Had a wheel fixed over at Orren's today. Just wish I could see Sammy tonight. I am lonesome.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 Sleigh. Overcast cold. Commenced to snow about dark to night and now at 10 o'clock it is just howling. It's a terriable storm. Came down in a sleigh. Got a letter from Sammy. Poor little sweetheart. Her father is sick and she has to do all the work.

Thursday, Feb. 20 Just awfull traveling. It cleared off last night with a rain squall then froze. And today it has been a case of break roads through crust. Terribal hard traveling. I wonder how small Sammy is tonight. I will see her tomorrow I hope. And I hope she will be all well. No Gripp.

Friday, Feb. 21 Fair and not very cold. Came up home tonight. Called and see Sammy. Her people are all sick and she could not come home with me.

Saturday, Feb. 22 Holerday don't drive. Fair and quite warm. Went down and see Sammy. She could not even take a ride with me. It's a lonesome old day without my Sammy.

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Sunday, Feb. 23 Fair and mild. Drove down to Sammy's but she could not go ride. Her father is worse. I went and got Dr. Strongarm. Poor little sweetheart they are just working her to death. She looks so tired. My Sammy.

Monday, Feb. 24 Fair and colder. Good Sleighing. Wrote to Sammy this morning. Hope to have a letter from her tomorrow. "Dear, I wish I was with you tonight". Bought of R. Nubet 1070 pounds hay \$7.49. Got a letter from the wandering Dutchman. He is now in Wocester.

Tuesday, Feb. 25 Cold this morning. At 7 oclock it was 12 below zero. And at one six hours later it was 30 abov. A change of 42 degrees. Warm tonight. Storm coming. Got a letter from Sammy today. She writes her Father is better, but not a word about herself. I bet she is sick.

Wednesday, Feb. 26 Fair and warmer. Looks like rain tonight. Promaced Sammy I would come out to night, but it looked so stormy I had to give it up. Fraid she will be disappointed. Dance at Tim Clark's tonight. D—his old dances.

Thursday, Feb. 27 Rain all day. Very cold and hard traveling. Inspector Boutell came today. Wonder what Sammy is doing to night. Wish I was up home, with her to night.

Friday, Feb. 28 Fair and warm. Butifull day. Sammy wrote me. She poor child is about tired out. Hope she can come over home with me tomorrow. Got 30 empty shot gun shells. Going to load them for duck.

Saturday, Feb. 29 Fair and quite cold. Came up home by way of Sammy's tonight but she could not go over home with me. Damn.

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Sunday, Mar. 1 Fair and warmish. Fine sleighing. Sammy and I went on a long sleigh ride. We had my new sleigh, new road, new harness and Black Monty. Wore our new fur coats, and just shone with style. Sammy came over home with me and spent the evening.

Monday, Mar. 2 Snow hard all day. The worst storm this winter. Expect to have an awfull day of it tomorrow. Roads will be drifted full. F. Coggins don fell deat on the way from Belfast.

Tuesday, Mar. 3 Snow soft and light about all day. Hard traveling had to break my own road. Roy went after hen clamb's tonight got half a bushel. Elder Purdy gives entertainment at Freeman's Hall tonight.

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Wednesday, Mar. 4 David Cross came home today from Somerville. Fair and a bit warmer, not quite as bad traveling today. Geo Pendleton caught five fine cod on 200 hooks this morning. I am afraid Sammy is sick she did not write to me today. I just wish I could see her tonight. I do. I do.

Thursday, Mar. 5 Quite cold. Nice clear day. Held a cawkos at the Ctr to see which fool the people want for Selectman. Got a letter from Sammy to day. Poor Kittens, she has the blues, and no wonder. Delory is again sick. Dance Ctr tonight.

Friday, Mar. 6 Fair and quite cool. Pooty good day just the same. Will see Sammy tomorrow and you can kiss the book on that. Got my pay check to day. Makes a fellow feel pooty good to have a hundred or so in his jeans. You bet.

Saturday, Mar. 7 Fair and warm. Snow melted fast today. Went over to Sammy's via Geo Mahoney's tonight. Stopped and got my snow shoes. Stopped at Sammy's all night. Gave Frank Coggins \$2. to help him buy a hourse.

Sunday, Mar. 8 Fair and still warm. Well but Sammy has got the rough end of it today. More than seventy mokes must be thear to mug up. Smike and I went gunning down Andrews Pond & up in Isacks woods. Went on snow shoes. I shot a Hedgehog with Sammy's rifle.

Monday, Mar. 9 Belfast Mayor Hanson reelected by 29 majority. Rsh [?] for Demoricy. Fair and warm. Cold tonight. Town meeting. Irving Eugley chairman selectmen, assisted by Fred French & Joel Fernald. Miller Ross whollosed Arnie Knight for the honor of Town clerk's office. Paid Mrs. French \$10 in full to date. This has been a very strenious day and lme going to bed.

Tuesday, Mar. 10 Fair and very cold down to zero this morning. When I got out into E. Searsmont, what do I see but a large flock of Robbins. Honest there was a dozen of them sure. Got a letter from Hans this morning.

Wednesday, Mar. 11 Fair and warmer. Jack Rankin tryed to sell me a hourse today. Guess I ought to have bought him. Leslie Marriner was telling

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me to day that his boy Earl caught a 4 1/2 pound pickerel out of Laury Pond last Sun, on a hunk of pork. Don't that beet H—

Thursday, Mar. 12 Fair and much warmer. Nice sleighing only a few spots of bair ground. See another Robbin today. Dance at Center tonight dont go. Clarence Hurd is appointed as Roy's sub. Went over the Route today.

Friday, Mar. 13 Slightly overcast, warm. See a robbin today. Geo Pendleton got 9 big cod today. But I didn't get any letter from Sammy and that's what makes me mad. Had a wagon wheel fixed that cost me 30¢.

Saturday, Mar. 14 Fair and very warm. So warm that the snow is all going off. Last night we had a heavy Thunder shower. Tonight Sammy and I went out to Belmont to a dance at Mystic Grange. Fine time. Father hauled me a load of grain.

Sunday, Mar. 15 Fair and very warm. Intended to carry Sammy home tonight but its raining again. Worked on my boat some today. Ground all bair have to go on wheels tomorrow. Old Joe Wiggen came home today.

Monday, Mar. 16 Nice warm day. Went on waggon, awfull muddy. See flock of Blue Birds. Geo Pendleton launched the Spud today. She fell out of her cradle and busted in three plank stove two holes in her bottom. Poor old boat. They are giving her a hell of a time.

Tuesday, Mar. 17 Cold and raw, we had a heavy snow squall to night. Awfull hard traveling. Rough. Tim is lame as a bitch and I am as sleepy as two. Just wish I could see Sammy tonight. My Sammy.

Wednesday, Mar. 18 And this is a day of surprises. This morning Mabel Gushee came into the stabel whear I was working, and informed me she was married to Herbert Richards, and she was. Gad but her old father is mad. Oh la-la

Thursday, Mar. 19 Raw and cold. Rain snow and about everything else and I am seven-eighths under the weather. I just do feel good and sick.

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Friday, Mar. 20 Fair and quite cold. I have one for fair [?] and don't feel any better. Paid Miller Ross in full \$11.75 (For Bread). Born to Ralph Wiley and wife a Boy. Smart young people been married six months. Shela.

Saturday, Mar. 21 Fair and warm. Sick. That's me the devil has a grip of his own this time. So horse I can't speak and a beastly cold. Sammy came over home with me tonight.

Sunday, Mar. 22 Fair and warm. Roy got me a quart of whiskey yesterday. I have taken most of it today but am just not much better. Joe and Herb over today. Carried Sammy home tonight and came down to this hell hole.

Monday, Mar. 23 Very warm. Fair. Do feel damned miserable. Hard traveling to day and worse tomorrow for coming out. Tonight it is snowing hard. Woe is me..

Tuesday, Mar. 24 Fair and warm, But oh Gad such traveling. Frost all coming out of the ground. Just cussed. Born to Moll Pitcher and wife a Boy. Shela. See a flock of Black Birds. Went out with Geo Pendleton tonight when he set his trawl. Born to Clarence Griffin and wife a Boy.

Wednesday, Mar. 25 Fair but awfull cold and its just cussed. Its so rough. Got a letter from Sammy today. She is well, the lord be praised.

Thursday, Mar. 26 Fair but it has blown a awfull gale all day. And tonight it is whooping it up something fierce. Just wish I knew what Sammy is doing tonight. Storm coming. Boy get wet tomorrow all right. Yah..

Friday, Mar. 27 Warm overcast. Rain tonight. Awfull hard traveling. Died, Uncle Jason Hill aged 90 years. Tomorrow will be a powerful hard day. Gad but I wish the roads would settle.

Saturday, Mar. 28 Overcast nasty awfull traveling. Frost all coming out. Went over and got Sammy she came over home with me. We had a terrible ride. See a big flock of ducks in the meadow this morning. Married Parker Dean and Hatty Collemer.

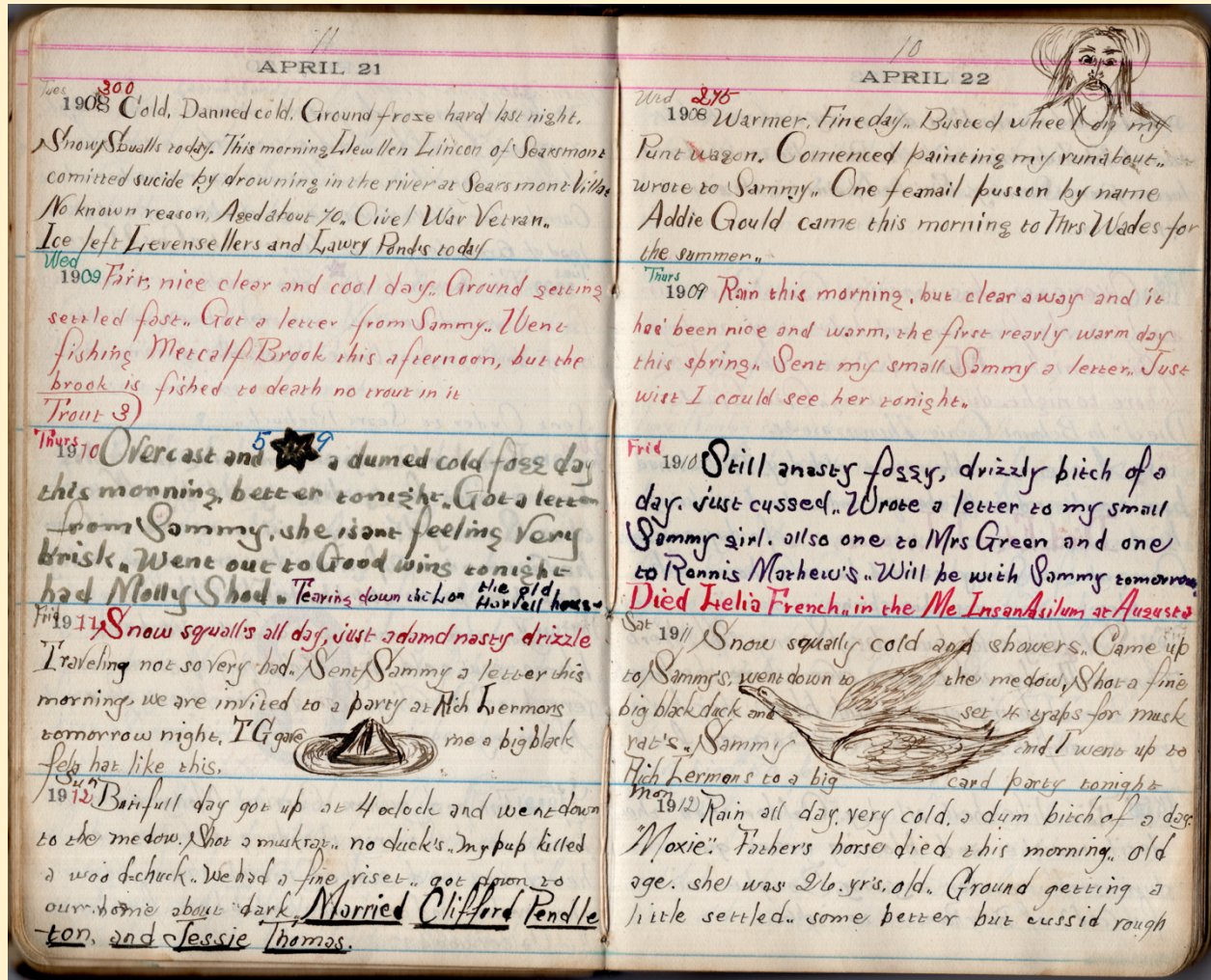
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Sunday, Mar. 29 Rain and snow most all day. Carried Sammy home tonight then came down to this Saints Rest. Got here at nine o'clock was three hours coming. Buried. Jason Hills.. Leo Crooker and Russell Heal got three black ducks to day.

Monday, Mar. 30 775 miles more. Fair. But such traveling would drive a man to drink. Took me seven hours to cover my route to day. And tonight I have two tired hours and I my own self don't feel very frisky. Heh.

Tuesday, Mar. 31 750 miles more. Fair. Ground froze solid last night and we got quite a start before it thawed up. Tonight it is overcast and damp, rain tomorrow. See a chip monk today. Went Clambing tonight. Got a few big fellows. Just hope the traveling will improve by Sat so I can go out home.

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Wednesday, Apr. 1 725 miles more. Fair and cold. Strong west wind. Miserable traveling. Born to Eddie and Gertrude Marriner another girl. That makes five and one boy all built and launched in seven years. That's going some. Emery and I went up to Griffins tonight after Hen Clams. Got two. Had a letter from Sammy this afternoon.

Thursday, Apr. 2 700 miles more. Snow hard all day. Nasty warm snow, slush but tonight it is cold. Freezing hard. Died this morning John Thomas baby Maxwell, aged one year. Went clambing tonight and got Goos Grees.

Friday, Apr. 3 675 miles. Fair and cold. Ground froze hard last night. Awfull rough today. Father went out to Goodwins this morning and got Tim shod. Had his legs clipped. Cold tonight but tomorrow shall see Sammy I reckon.

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Saturday, Apr. 4 650 miles more. Bitter cold. It was two degrees below zero out in E. Searsmont this morning. I think this is the coldest fourth of April on record. Went up and got Sammy to night. She went over home with me.

Sunday, Apr. 5 Fair and some warmer. Just put in the day loafing around home and plaging Sammy. Old Joe Wiggin came over this evening and entertained us with a chois collection of lies.

Monday, Apr. 6 685 miles more. Snow some last night but today it has been fair and warm. Awfull muddy. Carried Sammy home this morning. We started at four o'clock. Paid Mrs. French \$10 in full to date. Just terriable s[l]eepy. Good night.

Tuesday, Apr. 7 600 miles more. Fair and warm fine day. Paid Gushee \$11.70. Paid Mills \$16.41 in full and I be damned if yours truly runs any more grain bills. For between the two SOBs they did me out of about eight bones.

Wednesday, Apr. 8 575 miles more. Raw and cold. Overcast all day. Comenced to snow about noon, rain hard tonight. Went out to Goodwins got Dandy shod. Paid Goodwin in full \$5. Paid R.J. Hurd in full for hay \$40. Bag of oats paid \$1.75. Got me a new combination stamp and cash box.

Thursday, Apr. 9 550 miles. Cold as the devil and so rough that half of my teeth are loose. Got a letter from Sammy today. Poor little boy. She is just sick and has got the meanest old cold. Percy Cross over home today, took dinner.

Friday, Apr. 10 525 miles more. Fair and warm. Frost coming out again. Rain hard tonight. See a yellowhammer today first one this season.

Saturday, Apr. 11 500 miles more. Warm. Awfull hard traveling. Went over to Sammy's tonight. Growing cold. Emery went Trouting today in Metcalf Brook and got 18 fine trout. Heavy hale storm this afternoon.

Sunday, Apr. 12 Clear and cold. Blowing the hardest I ever see it. Father hawled my boat down to the McKinney Meadow. Smike, Joe and I went Duck shooting and got the experance.

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Monday, Apr. 13 475 miles. Fair. Ground froze hard last night. I walked home from Sammy's this morning. Got a letter from Hans he writes me there is a plot on foot to bunco Richards and Son out of thear Granite Quarry.

Tuesday, Apr. 14 450 miles. Fair and quite cold. Ground froze hard last night. Went fishing to night in Metcalf Brook. Got 14 fine Trout. Trout God how I like to fish. I wonder whair I will be next year at this time. Ice went out Andrews Pond.

Wednesday, Apr. 15 425 miles. Married Annie Miller and John Watson. Fair and warmer. But this afternoon we had a shower. Roads were drying up a little. Ralph Heal in E. Searsmont is tearing down the old Wyman House. It is built of granite and must have stood before the flood. Wrote to Hans today. Allso to Sammy.

Thursday, Apr. 16 400 miles. Cold raw day. High wind. Ground froze hard last night. Mirah Dean's house caught fire this morning but our heroic town fire company quickly put out the fire. John Thomas caught 9 trout in the Wadsworth stream.

Friday, Apr. 17 375 miles. Fair and quite cold. Old Mills sent me a bill of \$10.45 today for grain which I never had and insists on my paying him. Went troutng got 14.

Saturday, Apr. 18 350 miles more. Quite warm. Rain tonight. Went over to Sammy's this evening walked. Carried my runabout wheels out to Goodwins to night. Percy Cross rode out home with me.

Sunday, Apr. 19 Easter Sunday. Rain some this morning but rest of the day fair. Herb McK went with me in my boat down to the Camden pond. H shot a big black duck.

Monday, Apr. 20 325 miles more. Cold ground froze hard last night. Awfull cold today and rough. Don't mention it. Father carried a barrel to Camden for Will's folks. Came up this way and got a load of grain for me of Gushee. 2 bags Oats, 2 Corn.

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Tuesday, Apr. 21 300. Cold, Damned cold. Ground froze hard last night. Snow squalls today. This morning Llewllen Lincon of Searsmont committed suicide by drowning in the river at Searsmont Village. No known reason. Age about 70. Civil War vetran. Ice left Levensellers and Lawry ponds today.

Wednesday, Apr. 22 275. Warmer. Fine day. Busted wheel on my Punt wagon. Comenced painting my runabout. Wrote to Sammy. One feamail pusson by name Addie Gould came this morning to Mrs. Wade's for the summer.

Thursday, Apr. 23 250. Fair and warm. First decent day we have had this month. Roads drying up a little. Rain a bit tonight. Got a letter from Sammy. Finished painting the geer on my wagon.

Friday, Apr. 24 225. Fair and warm. Fine day. Father went to Belfast to hear the trial. Richards via Gerry. Lou Pendleton came home from the W. Indies been in a big schooner for the last seven months.

Saturday, Apr. 25 200. Partly overcast. Rain and fogg to night. Went out to Goodwins after my wheels. Not done. Hans Rankin came home today. Went over to Sammy's tonight.

Sunday, Apr. 26 Warm. Fogg this morning. Got up early took my boat and went down the meadow back of Will Calderwoods after the frisky TROUT. Got 12. They weighed 8 lbs. Finest catch I ever got.

Monday, Apr. 27 175 miles more. Very warm 85 degrees in the shade. Put on leather shoes this morning and shook my fur coat. First time I have drove without it for over six months.

Tuesday, Apr. 28 150 miles more. Rain hard all day. Gee but didnt it rain and the cussedest traveling a man ever see. Born to Bessie Drinkwater another boy, that makes seven. Keep up the good work.

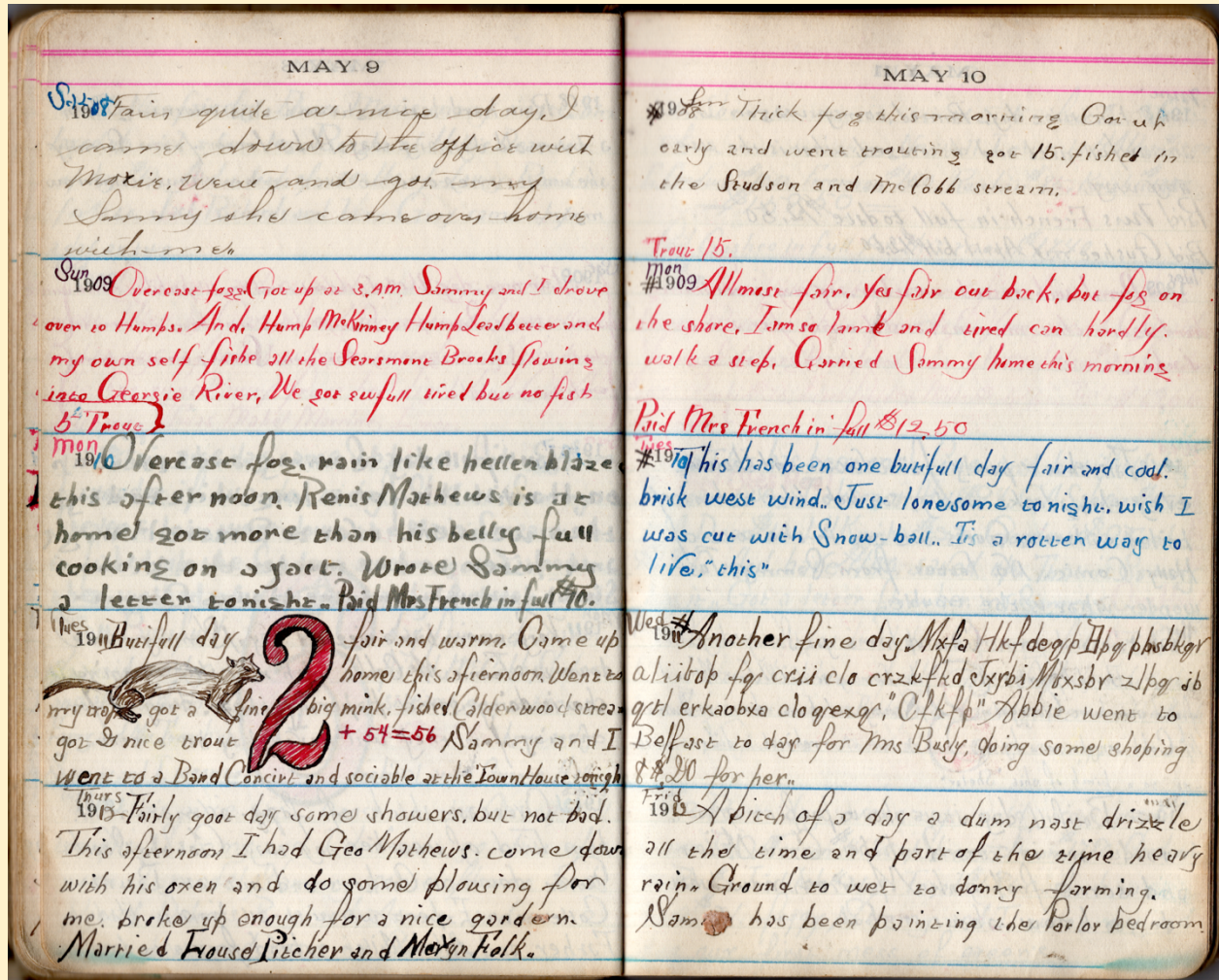
Wednesday, Apr. 29 125. Frank Wellman moved his family to Gardner, Massachusetts. Mary Coleman moved to the Ctr Chester Cross coming on her farm. Fair and warm went up the brook trouting tonight got one. See Mabel

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Gushee Richards this afternoon first time since she was married. Got a letter from Sammy. Allso got a bum headache. Bag Corn Bag Oats - Gushee.

Thursday, Apr. 30 100 miles more. Fair and warm. And this was a day for surprises for me. When I got up at the old Harvell place, what did I find but a small Injon in the shape of Sammy hiding behind the tree, waiting for me. Yah-a-real-live-Injin.

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Friday, May 1 75 miles more. Rain awfull hard all last night and blew like all Sam hill, but cleared away this forenoon and has been a fine clear day. Dance at the Ctr tonight but the traveling is so bad did not go. See barn swallows today.

Saturday, May 2 50 miles more. Fair and warm. Sammy came over home with me tonight. Went down to the stream for a little while but water so high could get no trout. Hired wagon of Freeman.

Sunday, May 3 Rain last night, but nice and pleasant today. Sammy and I went on a long walk. Played we were kids and throwed sticks in the brook called them our vessels.

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Monday, May 4 25 miles more. Fair and warm. Carried Sammy home this morning. Finished striping my wagon body. Bush Oats Gushee 75¢.

Tuesday, May 5 Finis of mud time let us hope. Fair but cold brisk West wind. My black hourse laid up with a shoe boil. Father brought my wheels down from Goodwins and carried back a load of grain 5 Bags of oats, 4 Bags corn.

Wednesday, May 6 Fair and quite cold. Varnished my wagon body today and painted the rims to the wheels. Wrote to Sammy. Ernest Heal got a fine catch of trout. He fished from the old Gould Mill to the Wadsworth bridge. Got 10.

Thursday, May 7 Nice fair day. Drove Moxie on my route. Tim laid up with a bum leg. Bought of Hollis Dean ton of hay \$13. And a load of 800 lbs of Lawry Rankin for \$5.66. Jack Richards and Vern Gray came up for a day or two.

Friday, May 8 Rain hard last night and this morning. Been a bum old day anyway. Had a letter from Sammy she wants me to come over to her house tomorrow night.

Saturday, May 9 Fair quite a nice day I came down to the office with Moxie. Went and got my Sammy she came over home with me.

Sunday, May 10 Thick fog this morning. Got up early and went trouting got 15. Fished in the Studson [Stetson?] and McCobb stream. Trout 15.

Monday, May 11 Fair nice day. Painted on my wagon wheels am awfull tired and discouraged, what is the use anyway. Paid Mrs. French in full to date \$12.50. Paid Gushee my April bill \$12.60.

Tuesday, May 12 Showers warm, wrote to little Sam this morning. Now all I owe is H.A. Dean \$13, E. Goodwin \$10, Freeman \$1.50, Rankin \$85, Knights \$50 = \$159.50 Paid Gushee in full for this month \$17.40.

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Wednesday, May 13 5 months + 13 days 1940 lbs of hay went. Fair fine day. Finished my wagon. Thank God Walter Blake of suicide fame was up here today drunk. Yea DRUNK as a durned fool..

Thursday, May 14 Overcast this morning. Fair rest of day. Dance Ctr tonight but I did not go am getting too old. Paid Freeman for wagon \$1. Saint Sylvester visiting up home.

Friday, May 15 Fair nice day. Got a letter from small Sammy, she's pretty well. Emery and I went trouting took his team and drove out to the four corners. Got five little trout. 5 Trout.

Saturday, May 16 Fair and warm. Stopped out at Slab City this afternoon, went fishing in Black Brook. Sammy and I went on a row in my Pretty new Boat. Down in the d___old Medder. 1 trout.

Sunday, May 17 Overcast. Showers. Fair tonight. This morning I got up early, three o'clock, and hiked in for the McCobb Stream. Fished it down to its junction with the Main stream and fished that up. Got home before Sammy was up. Went up to Smike's this afternoon. 20 trout.

Monday, May 18 Very warm fine day. Put my wagon together this afternoon. I tell you she looks some. Sammy has gone to work up at that Hell House Pottle, they are getting ready for Mrs. Nichols to die.

Tuesday, May 19 Fair and very warm. Drove today in my Runabout the first time since painting it. \$340 [very large writing]

Wednesday, May 20 Fair fine summer day. Got a letter from Sammy. Called her up this morning and talked with her. The Pendleton Bros finished setting an engine in thear dory. They put in a two horse Losier.

Thursday, May 21 Fair and warm. Housewarming out to Chester Cross tonight. Sammy and I invited. We intended to go but found out late this afternoon that each guest must bring a present. So we, Sammy and I, went up to Smike's. 15 trout.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Friday, May 22 Fair and hot. Got my uniform suite from Sears Roebuck last night and wore it today first time. She's a bird. Cost \$8.95. Shall see my Sammy tomorrow anyway. Lost one of my new gloves.

Saturday, May 23 Showers. Bum day. Sammy will finish work at the Pottle Hell House to day. Just hope she won't work herself sick. I see the small girl to day. Had to drive up to the house with a register for old Arch.

Sunday, May 24 Hot. Sammy and I went up to Smike's and Sarah's, today is their wedding anniversary. Been married five years. They gave us a great feed. Parker Young and wife were there also Sammy's Paddy and mother. 4 Trout. Died Bertha Pason.

Monday, May 25 It has been hotter than love in haying time today. Got a letter from my small Sammy her throat is better. That's good. Roy commenced driving today in his new wagon that he bought of Gushee. The new Grange hall was burned tonight. Incendiary.

Tuesday, May 26 Fair and warm. Heavy Thunder showers this afternoon and evening. Dance and musical performance at the Ctr tonight. We that's Sammy and I, went, we had a slick time. Keyes Music. The authorities had Blood Hounds on the track of the SOBs that burned the new hall. And they would have got them but for the heavy rain tonight.

Wednesday, May 27 Very warm today. And tonight we are having an old switcher of a shower. Rain hard. Hired team of Emery last night. \$1.25. Don't care if Sammy had a good time. God ain't I tired and sleepy. Good night. Bag Oats \$1.75.

Thursday, May 28 Overcast, fog. Father went to Camden after Belle Taylor. Some relation to old Zac judging by her temper. When I got home today, what did I see hanging up but Sammy's coat and hat. Gee wasn't I surprised. She came over last night to paper a room.

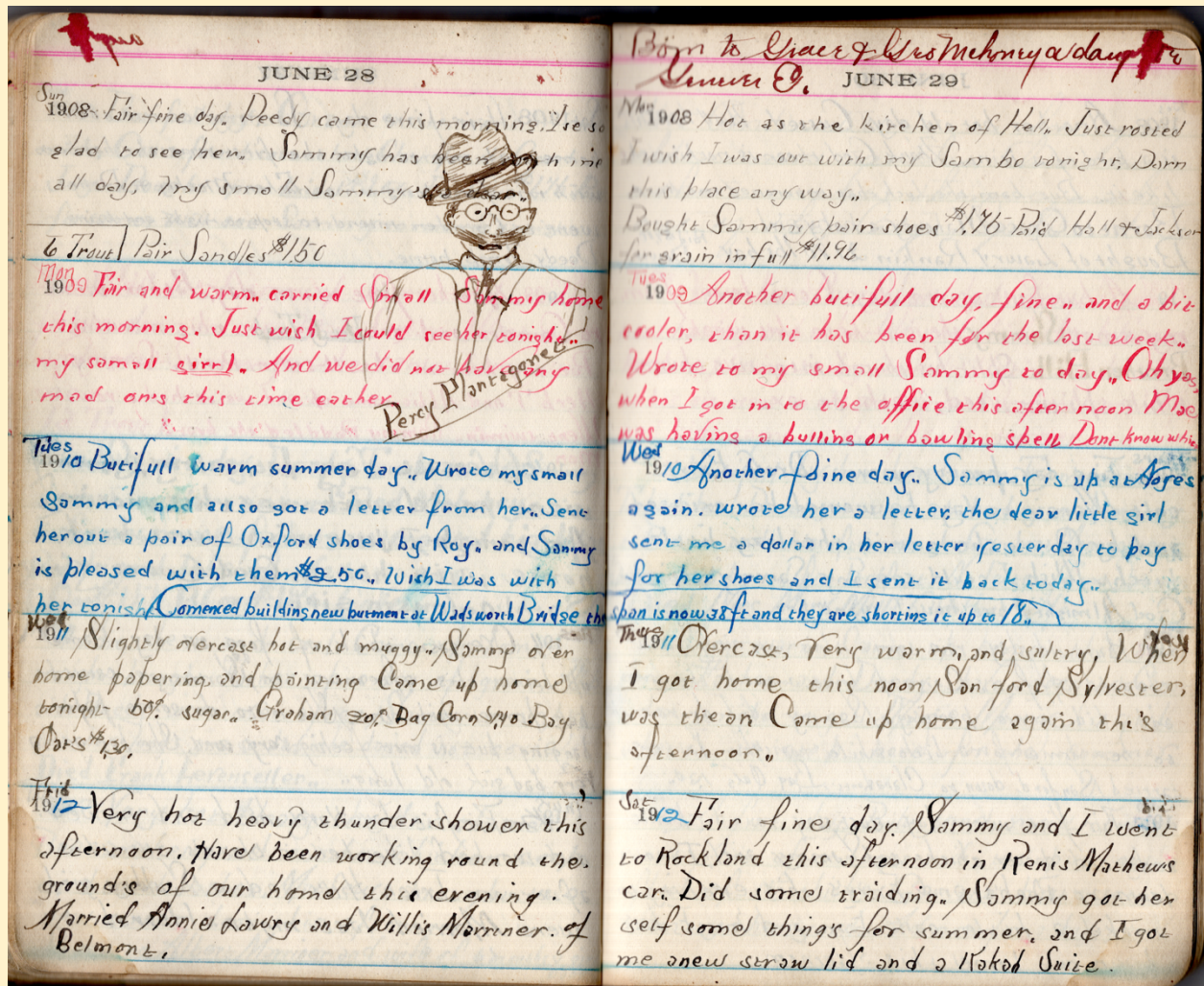
Friday, May 29 Fair this morning overcast and showers tonight. Mrs. Belle Taylor and daughter Doris came this morning. Came up home tonight. Sammy could not come over with me so I went down to her house to stop tonight.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Saturday, May 30 Memorial Day don't have to drive. Overcast this morning but cleared away and has been a fine day. Sammy and I went to the Memorial Address given by Wilder Irish and Elder Frohock both of Camden. They spoke pooty good. We had dinner at the Grange.

Sunday, May 31 Fair to day. Powerful thunder storm last night. Herb Thomas and yours truly put my canoe in the stream. Went in swimming. Sammy and I went up to Smike's tonight. Old Hump Leadbetter while leading a bull got urked by same into a pump and had his mouth to be cut open on him. He don't mind the cut but it hurts him to chew tobacco.

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Monday, Jun. 1 Rain. Powerfull storm, and I am feeling some under the weather my own self. Just feel cussed.

Tuesday, Jun. 2 Raw cold overcast. Mean bum bad and beastly. Just a mean and cussed day and yours truly feels just the same. Wrote to Sammy but did not see her, and her postage stamp to day.

Wednesday, Jun. 3 Fair and cold. Am feeling better, but some other people are feeling worse. Edna McKinney for example. She went to the Hospital today to have some of her machinery repaired (meaning guts). Went fishing Metcalf Brook got 27 Trout. Fine fellows too. Father got me a load of grain in Belfast.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Thursday, Jun. 4 Butifull day. See Sammy today. Went over to Oren Ames and built me a spear then went fishing for Flounders. I wonder what fool thing I will be trying to do next. Wish I was back home tonight. Gad dum this low live burg any way.

Friday, Jun. 5 Fair warm and butyfull. Tomorrow night at this time Sammy and I will be together. I just wish it was tomorrow. Geo and Lew Pendleton are more than catching fish right off the Beach. Got a thousand pounds today.

Saturday, Jun. 6 Married Burt Knight & Bessie Dickey. Nice warm day. Came up home tonight and got Sammy. She went over with me. Sammie-o-o-o Sammie, can't live without you. Got my pay check today. It takes me a month to get it and a couple of days to spend same.

Sunday, Jun. 7 Fair and warm. Got up at three o'clock this morning and went fishing, fished the Tucker Brook and from the old Gould Mill and down to the Wadsworth Bridge. Carried Sammy home tonight. Manley Turner came up home on his wheel today and took dinner. 20 bum Trout.

Monday, Jun. 8 Hot. Thats what it is. 95 in the shade to day and thats melting some. Wrote a letter to one small Sammy tonight. Paid Hollis Dean in full for one ton hay \$13.00. Paid Mrs. French in full to date \$10.00.

Tuesday, Jun. 9 Hot as the joint resirved for sinners but it is nice and cool to night. Sammy is working at Noisy Bids to day. I talked with her over telephone. This morning Grace Mahoney had me bring her out some meat for dinner. I forgot to leave it. Clarence said that damned fool didn't know enough to give to me. Meaning Me.

Wednesday, Jun. 10 Fair and warm but not near as hot as yesterday and day before. Commenced fixing up Roy Hurd's sloop. Painted her top this afternoon. Paint bottom tomorrow.

Thursday, Jun. 11 Fair and very warm. Worked on Roy's boat got the bottom partly painted and the mast scraped down. Called Sammy up and talked with her. Paid Hollis Dean in full \$6.50.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Friday, Jun. 12 Another butifull day. Went out fishing in the bay and had great luck caught four rottne silver hake and got a blister on each hand and another on my bottom. Got the Scarlet Feavor up at old Peavey's. Allso Skindimey Heal.

Saturday, Jun. 13 Fair and hot. Came up home, stoped at Wigginses's and got Sammy, carried her home and she was glad to get away from the flying tongue of old Bidd too. Married, two old fools, Avan Knight and Leathe Crooker. So mont it be.

Sunday, Jun. 14 Butifull summer day. Went down to Goodwins got Dandy shod. Took a look at Hans, he's been sick. Sammy and I had a ride. Smike and I caught four trout in Medow Stream. I got one 17 inches long weigh 3 lbs. Gad it was a Ripping BIG ONE. 4 Trout.

Monday, Jun. 15 Shocking. A new aunt Gunnes in our midst. Fair heavy wind blowing all day. Awfull Calizy in our midst. Allie Knight committed suicide (Kilt hissself) this morning by shooting. His wife left him in bed, went out to the barn to feed the stock. Came back in a few minutes, found him dead, revolver still in his hand.

Tuesday, Jun. 16 Rain hard all day. Clear late this afternoon. Cold tonight. Went out to Goodwins got Tim shod and nearly froze coming home. Paid Goodwin \$10.

Wednesday, Jun. 17 Clear fair and cold. Winter is again in our midst. Allie Knight buried today and V.S. came. Almond G. carried a crowd out to Searsmont to a dance tonight.

Thursday, Jun. 18 Butifull fine summer weather. Grand Show in our midst. Eddie Erickson and his fake show. I played the fool and went.

Friday, Jun. 19 Fair butifull weather. Hired Emery's team. Went out the Ctr took Sammy to the show, it was better here than down on the clamb flats.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Saturday, Jun. 20 Butifull day, went out home tonight, went over and called on Sammy. Poor little girl but she looks bad, and no wonder. God what she has been through. Hans and I went fishing in Medow Stream. 3 Trout.

Sunday, Jun. 21 Fine clear day. Sammy took me over to the house of horror, and there is no doubt in my mind how Albert Knight met his death. Sammy and I took a ride down over the Turn Pike.

Monday, Jun. 22 Just a handsome day. Fine. Went out in the bay to night with Lew Pendleton, set three tubs of trawl. Had a fine trip in his power boat.

Tuesday, Jun. 23 Fair, another great good day. And did I not write to Sammy yes. Hans came over home and got my bark canoe. He intends putting it in Corner Pond. Likewise hisself. Later the G.D. fool went away to Boston and left it in the pond and the boys smashed it up and there is \$5 gone to hell and I wish he was with it.

Wednesday, Jun. 24 Rain lightly all day. Off coars I got the seat of my little trousers all nice and wetty as usual.

Thursday, Jun. 25 Fair and warm. Got a letter from my small Sammy, she is working for Biddy O- Wig. Old hell cat Ina, wanted to have her come sleep with her nights, the old bitch. What do you think of that. Arrested Nate Clark for burning the Grange Hall.

Friday, Jun. 26 Butifull day. Great excitement in our midst. Court found cause to hold Clark for the Grand Jury. Bought open bridal \$2.00. Bag Oats \$1.75 Paid for same. Will see Sammy tomorrow night.

Saturday, Jun. 27 Fair fine day. Sammy came over home with me tonight, the first time she has been with me for a long time. Father, Mother & Belle went to Camden intend to stop to night and bring Deedy Tomp home.

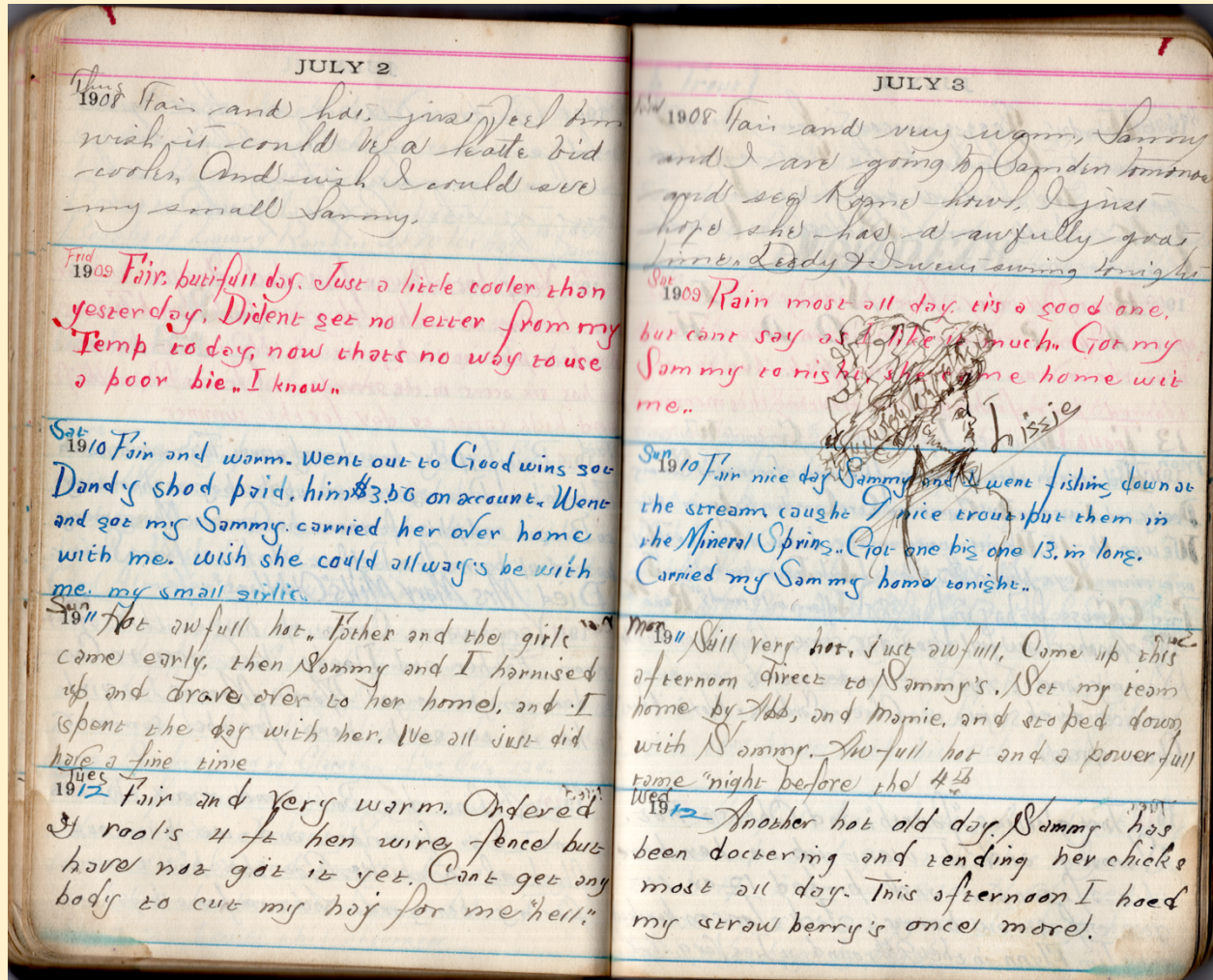
Sunday, Jun. 28 Fine fair day. Deedy came this morning. I'm so glad to see her. Sammy has been with me all day. My small Sammy. Pair Sandles \$1.50. 6 Trout.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Monday, Jun. 29 Born to Grace & Geo Mahoney a daughter Geneva E. Hot as the kitchen of Hell. Just rosted. I wish I was out with my Sambo tonight. Darn this place anyway. Bought Sammy pair shoes \$1.75 Paid Hall & Jackson for grain in full \$11.96.

Tuesday, Jun. 30 Another hot old day. Cussed. Well but this is a bird of a joint. Thank God thear is nothing else like it. But bam the luck that marroned me here. Bornt to Grace Mahoney a baby girl. Bought of Lawry Rankin 2180 lbs hay. Paid \$7.00 down.

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Wednesday, Jul. 1 And still it is hot, great old summer weather. This is what makes them crawl out of the Citys yah.

Thursday, Jul. 2 Fair and hot, just feel bum wished it could be a little bit cooler. And wish I could see my small Sammy.

Friday, Jul. 3 Fair and very warm. Sammy and I are going to Camden tomorrow and see Rome howl. I just hope she has an awfully good time. Deedy & I went swimming tonight.

Saturday, Jul. 4 Holerday. Foggy overcast. Sammy and I went to Camden to the Trot and ball game. We had a good time Sammy & I. Nice ball game. Belfast via Camden. Camden won score [??]

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Sunday, Jul. 5 6 Trout. Fair and warm. Sammy and I went up to Hump's had ice cream and a good time. Hump & I went fishing Levenseller's Pond got 200 W. Pirch, big ones. Burned E. A. Wellman's buildings.

Monday, Jul. 6 Fair and terrible hot. The clinging kind of hot weather. Old Angie O. has took her mailbox down and now thear is a ripping old fight on. This is Daddy's birthday. 60 Years old.

Tuesday, Jul. 7 Oh switchel, but this is what one would call HOT. 96 in the shade. I wrote to Sammy today, hope to hear from her tomorrow. My Sammy.

Wednesday, Jul. 8 Terribal hot, 106 in the shade. And tonight I have one of my Wolf Larson headaches. God but how I wish Sammy could be with me. We had a fine shower to day. Bought of A.F. Blood ½ ton hay \$6.50.

Thursday, Jul. 9 Fair and a little cooler, but still it is warm enough for comfort. Sammy is working up at Benson Noyes for the rest of this week. Sammy I wish was with me all-w-a-y-s.

Friday, Jul. 10 Fair fine day. Went out with Dr. V.S. in his power boat. She is a great boat. And don't I wish that I owned a nice little power boat for to carry Sammy on a sail.

Saturday, Jul. 11 Fair and still hot and dry. It's a powerfull dry spell in Lincolnville. I went out after Sammy to night. She is working up at Benson's and Harry's. And durn if I didn't lose her compleatly.

Sunday, Jul. 12 Hot, well rather, just cussed. Spent the day over at Sammy's. She's sick poor kid. Don work so hard she is all played out. Slid down to the Medow Stream to night and yanked out 2 trout. 96 in the shade. 2 Trout.

Monday, Jul. 13 Awfull hot and so dry that everything is like powder. Never since the birth of man has thear ever been such weather at this time of the year. Paid Mrs. French in full to date \$12.50.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Tuesday, Jul. 14 Hurrah. Overcast and quite cool, and wonders of wonders we had a small thunder shower this afternoon, and tonight are threatened with another. J. Hallie Gilberte christened his new barn tonight with a hog rassel. I not being in society, was not invited. Ah me. I must retire and weep.

Wednesday, Jul. 15 Fair, but overcast and cloudy. I had a letter from Sammy to day, she is up at Noyes again. Intend to stop there the rest of this week. Just lonesome tonight, hate this damn sniveling place any way.

Thursday, Jul. 16 Fair and cooler, much cooler, so much so that it is disagreeable. I'm so lonely to night. And where is Sammy when we could see her to night. Richards & Co is just tired of living this way. I don't want to any longer.

Friday, Jul. 17 Fair nice day. Worked painting on Roy's boat. By the way I am working I shall have to break ice to see her out of the dock. Well Dickey cheer up for tomorrow is Saturday and you get a day of rest.

Saturday, Jul. 18 Fair this forenoon. Rain like——tonight. Sammy came over home with me. Gosh but what do you think Aunt Gunnes 2nd came over tonight and jamed a five dollar. William on to her for washing up signs of the slaughter.

Sunday, Jul. 19 My birthday. Gosh but I am an old man. Thirty today and old enough to die. Had a hell of a time. Big cake. Big dinner. Mother gave me a great big Family Bible. I'm so pleased. Just love it. Sammy and I went up to Smike's tonight. Nora Duncan came today.

Monday, Jul. 20 Overcast this morning. Heavy shower last night. Fair this afternoon. I am so tired, wish I was out of this D___ hole. They are such a pack of G. D. fools down here any ways. Died Maggie Hall.

Tuesday, Jul. 21 And this is a fine fair day, only so darned lonesome and I wish I could be back in the wood. Way way back. Where I should never have another smell of the salt old sea.

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Wednesday, Jul. 22 And this is a bum rainy day, it has just pored all day long and yours truly got nice and wet. See Hum McK. he was up by Peaveys, wet to the skin.

Thursday, Jul. 23 Fogg this morning clear at noon fogg tonight. Went sailing in Orren Ames' sloop great fun to sail out in the thick damp fogg.

Friday, Jul. 24 Overcast this morning but fair and very warm afternoon. Well sport, tomorrow sees the end of this week, and tomorrow I shall my own small Sammy. My Sammy.

Saturday, Jul. 25 Fair fine day, but rain like Helenblazes to night. See Sammy to night poor little girl, but she is again playing in hard luck for her Father is layed up with a soar leg.

Sunday, Jul. 26 Hot, oh so hot, just cussed. Sammy and I, Herb, Sarah and Nora Duncan went Blueberrying and fishing down to the Coleman Pond. We got no fish but lots of berrys, and had some fine swimming. Sam and Edith came today.

Monday, Jul. 27 Still awfull hot, and I am so tired, but what of it. I must enjoy my Sundays even if I die Mondays. Poor Sammy I know she must be about all in my small girl is tired. Awfull tired.

Tuesday, Jul. 28 Butifull day, fine, this has been one of the days one hears about but seldom sees. It is a good one. Wrote to Sammy to day. Just wish I could see her. Mr. and Mrs. Segar went home to day. And took thear kitten, what I gave them, with them.

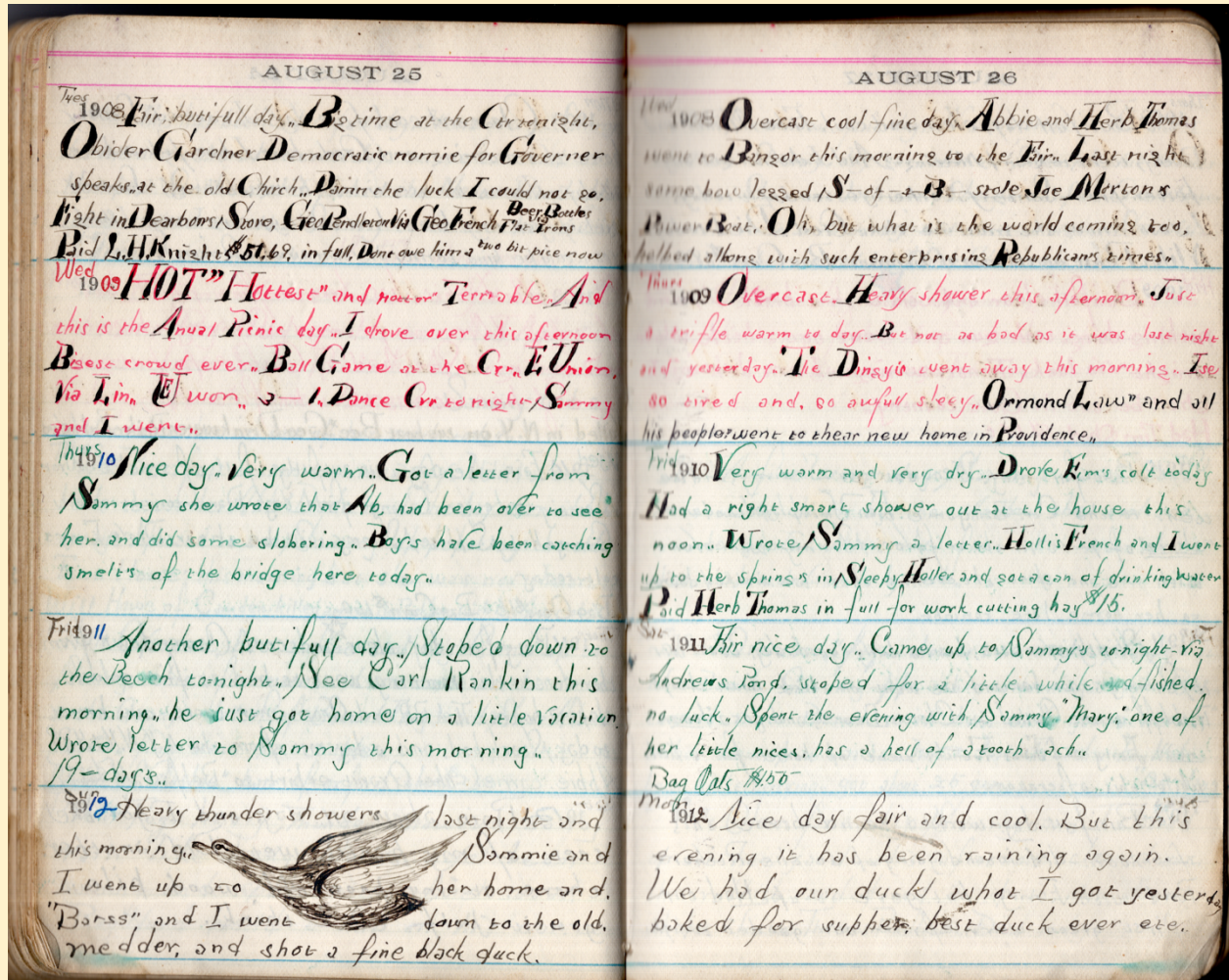
Wednesday, Jul. 29 Another fine day, just great, but oh what is the use to admire butifull morning's when the morning of our life is passed, and one is alone. I am so lonely. And today they finished painting the house, out Home. Home. Hell, I have no home and never shall.

Thursday, Jul. 30 Fair fine, warm day. And to day poor Carl Rankin lost an eye. Caught it on an ice tong and tore it out by the roots. Now what do you think of that, doesn't that boy have the luck of the Damned. Later, Didn't lose his eye. Dr's saved it.

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Friday, Jul. 31 Nice day. Great weather but a trifle dry. Died Mary Coleman. Poor old lady she did not live long after giving up her old house and going to live at the Center.

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Saturday, Aug. 1 Fair and just a little bit cooler. Went to the Center tonight for Sammy, she is sick poor little woman. She has nearly worked and worried herself to death. It's a G.D. shame the way her folks use her. My Sammy.

Sunday, Aug. 2 Fine day great. Got up at 2-30 this morning and went over to Pitcher Pond. Fishing but could get no boat, so got no fish. Sammy was over a while today and tonight we went up to Fred (Hump) Leadbetter's a listening to his Fony Graf. Awfull cold tonight.

Monday, Aug. 3 Another fair fine day. Great, but I have been so blamed tired that I cant appriciate it. Didn't get home till after two this morning and up again at five. Such hours are just Shocking and this Willy Boy is going to bed NOW.

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Tuesday, Aug. 4 Fair but some cooler. Big mascarad dance at the Beach tonight. Sammy and I went but did not mask. Big time and a bum one. Carl Rankin came home today from Portland hospital. He saved his eye all right. Paid Miss Hents \$6.50 in full for one half ton hay. Had Dandy shod tonight. *[Amelia Hentz lived next door to Orlando and Adelia Richards and was 56 in the 1900 Census; Listed as a farmer with boarders, Frances Blood and Nancy McKinney]*

Wednesday, Aug. 5 Overcast and so am I. Gad but I am tired. Got home at 3 o'clock this morning. And now tonight it is raining like the dickens.

Thursday, Aug. 6 Overcast fogg Rain hard last night, and raining hard again tonight. The folks had a picknic to day. Sam, Edith, Father, Mother, Abbie and Dedy came down to the shore. Paid Lawry Rankin \$9.35 in full for hay.

Friday, Aug. 7 Thick fogg all day, with occasinal showers, and tonight it is raining hard. Tonight lady pedestrians came to the house for the night. They are from Wellsly. Got a letter from Sammy today. She thinks perhaps she can come over home tomorrow night.

Saturday, Aug. 8 Slightly overcast, but still a fine day. And now what do you think, Geo Mahoney's hired girl has the Scarlet Feavor. Gee but what will happen next. Sammy and I went to a ball game at the Ctr this afternoon. Hope via Lincolnville. Hope won, Score 18-19. Sam and Edith went home today.

Sunday, Aug. 9 Fair fine day. Put my boat in the Pitcher Pond. Sammy and her uncle Eibb went fishing and got nothing no kind of luck. We both have a big appitite and a bad head ache.

Monday, Aug. 10 Elegant day. Carried Sammy home this morning. When we got to her place found Nora Duncan, she got lost in the woods yesterday, and came out at Vesta's so stopped all night. Went out to Goodwins this afternoon had Tim shod. Paid Mrs. French in full to date \$10.00

Tuesday, Aug. 11 Fair and warm, all day. And I have smoked so much that tonight I have a devil of a headache. Now the girls of this enlightened burg

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are having what they call a leap year ball tonight. Thank God I know enough not to go.

Wednesday, Aug. 12 And still it is fair and hot with a big thunder shower every night. Tonight I feel lonely and don't I wish I were on the North Side of these old mountains. Yo. What's the use anyway.

Thursday, Aug. 13 Just sweltering. Tis a bum un. Everything goes wrong, now tonight there is a dance out in the old Town House. I hired a team and got all ready to go intending to surprise Sammy when up comes a big thunder storm and I have to chuck the whole thing. Oh switchel.

Friday, Aug. 14 This has been what I call a G-D hot one. Just cussed. Well tomorrow night I shall be back in God's country once more. Don't I wish I could always stop thear. This is no kind of a place to live in any-way.

Saturday, Aug. 15 Butifull day not too warm just right. Got a letter from Sammy this afternoon asking me to take her and Nora Duncan to the dance down here tonight. Well I took them and we had one ripping old time.

Sunday, Aug. 16 Fair and warm. Went fishing over in Pitcher Pond all by my lonesome. Got four monster White Pirch and a few Bass. Went down and see Sammy tonight. Poor little woman she is awfull tired. (So am I)

Monday, Aug. 17 Rain like Hellen Blases all day and little me got the seat of my trousers all nasty wet. Durn such weather any way. It has been dry for so long we don't know what to do when we have a rainy day. Nora went home today.

Tuesday, Aug. 18 Fair nice day, but I am not feeling just right to enjoy it. Have a cussed cold and my old head and throte feel as if someone had been using a coars rasp on it. Just wish I was up in God's country tonight.

Wednesday, Aug. 19 Married Lawry Rankin and Helen Wiley. Homer Smith and Abby Rollison. Fair elegant day. Came up home this afternoon took Sammy and went to the Ctr for to see a ball game. (This being the day of the Annual Picnic) The game was a one sided affair. Played by Lincolnville

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and a team of college boys. What are camping out down beside the pond at Lake City. Lincolnville won by a score of 14-1.

Tuesday, Aug. 20 Butifull day clear and cold. Sammy and I went to Searsmont tonight to the Midsummer Ball. Had a slick time but most froze coming home. 150 couples. Great old time.

Friday, Aug. 21 Clear and cool fine day I guess. For I am hardly to condition to admire it. Got a small hours sleep and have a cussed bum cold. Just wish I was with my small Sammy tonight. Paid Hall & Jackson for grain in full \$23.00

*[Enclosed undated clipping: No Murder Charge Against Marshall (Oct. 4)
The grand jurors who had been in session at the Waldo County September Term of the Supreme Court for the past week rose at 3:45 this afternoon. 19 indictments were found, only 3 being made public, two against Oscar Cole of Winterport for adultery and Harriet S. Foyer alias Harriet S. Stevens of Bangor for enticement. No indictment was found against Joshua A. Marshall of Lincolnville held in jail here since August 21 on charge of murder.]*

Saturday, Aug. 22 Overcast, Rain a little tonight. When I got up to Sammy's this afternoon, found my poor little girl all used up. Sick with a terrible bad cold. Just mean for that small girl to be sick at all.

Sunday, Aug. 23 This has been a butifull day. Went over to Sammy's this morning. She's better today so we went up to Hump's [*Leadbetter*]. Smike and I fished the Medow Brook. He got 3 trout I got 16. Sammy came over home with me tonight. 184 trout up to this date. 16 Trout.

Monday, Aug. 24 Clear and cool, fine day. I carried Sammy home this morning and god but I have felt so blue all day. Thear is no use in our living this way. Sammy girl if you only knew how much you are to me, I think you would be kind to me. My own small Sammy.

Tuesday, Aug. 25 Fair butifull day. Big time at the Ctr tonight. Obider Gardner Democratic nomie for Governer speaks at the old church. Damn the luck I could not go. Fight in Dearborn's store, Geo Pendleton via Geo French Beer Bottles via Flat Irons. Paid L.H. Knight \$51.69 in full. Don't owe him a two bit piece now.

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Wednesday, Aug. 26 Overcast cool fine day. Abbie and Herb Thomas went to Bangor this morning to the Fair. Last night some bow legged S-of-a-B stole Joe Morton's Power Boat. Oh, but what is the world coming to, helped along with such enterprising Republicans times.

Thursday, Aug. 27 Butifull day, clear and cool. Father, Mother and Deedy went to Camp Meeting. And I did not get any letter from Sammy, either yesterday or today. I just know she must be sick. God. Died today Miles Pease an old man of Belmont. Bag oats \$1.80.

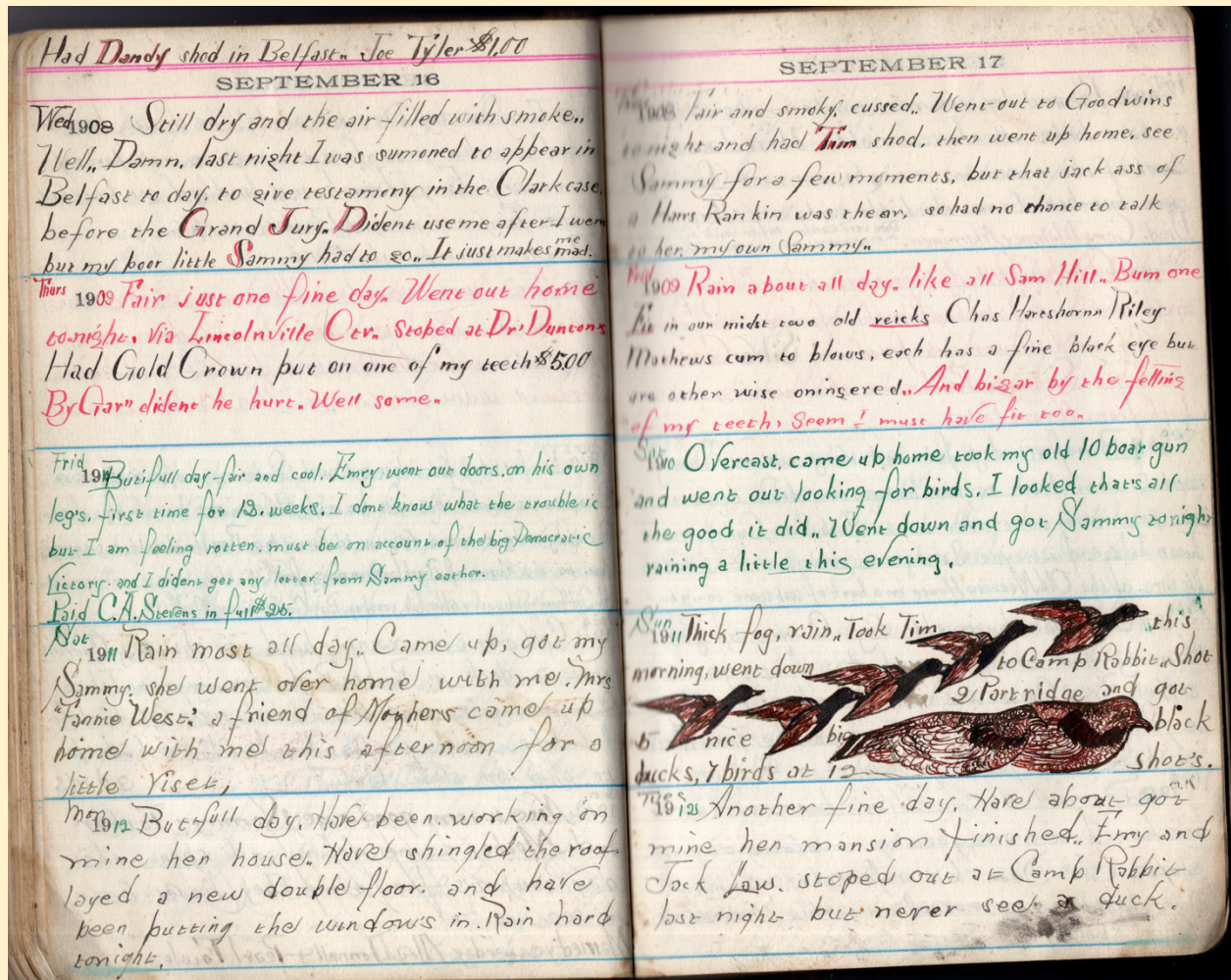
Friday, Aug. 28 Fair and cool fine day. Now tomorrow is Sat and I shall see Sammy. By gar, that girl, been playing snooks on me. She want look out. She go too far. Got a letter from the little imp today and she is all right. She will never know how worried her uncle Ebb was.

Saturday, Aug. 29 Butifull day fair and cool. Came up home tonight and got Sammy. She came over with me. We intended going to a ball game but they did not have it.

Sunday, Aug. 30 Clear fair and hot. This morning Sammy and I started out on a walk down to the stream. When we got below Frank Pattens [2652 *Belfast Road*] we met a big buck deer right in the middle of the road. First one Sammy ever see. This afternoon we took a ride over the mountain back of Wale's.

Monday, Aug. 31 Fair and warm. Dance tonight at the Town House, four of us went up from here in a Surry. Sammy was thear and we had a slick time. Father and T.G. [*Tom Gushee?*] had a fight tonight, all I wish is that Dad had murdered him. Cut his damned heart out.

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Tuesday, Sep. 1 Hot as the devil and I am so blamed tired that I can hardly write. And lonesome God. I just want my Sammy. My Sammy.

Wednesday, Sep. 2 Ormond Law came today. Overcast shower this morning. Rain hard tonight. God, but I am so lonely tonight. I just wish I could see my little Sammy again. Not the bad naughty Sammy that is but the good loving little Sammy that was. I never thought she could be such a jelious jelious girl.

Thursday, Sep. 3 Fair and colder. Damn, but winter will be here soon. Perhaps I won't be here who knows. Every day some poor devil plucks up courage enough to go the long still way why not I? Went up to Camden this afternoon with Orren Ames in his power boat.

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Friday, Sep. 4 Butifull day fair clear and cool. Herd today that Herbert True P.M. [*Postmaster*] at the Ctr had resigned, and that N.D. Ross was to get the appointment. Wrote Sammy today, and God how I hope she will be good to me tomorrow.

Saturday, Sep. 5 Fine day. Mother and Deedy went to Boston today. I came up this afternoon, got Sammy and we went to the Ctr to see the Ball Game. West Rockport played Lincolnville. Our team won by a score of 28 to 14. Sammy came home with me tonight.

Sunday, Sep. 6 Overcast, rain some this afternoon. Got up early this morning and went fishing and right thear is whair I missed it. Should have taken my gun for I see 6 flocks of Wild Duck, more than 200 birds, and near enough to kill with a club. 5 Trout.

Monday, Sep. 7 Hollerday. Big Republican Rally in Belmont at the farm of Horace Chenery. Speeches that concisted mostly of mud slinging at the Democrat Party. Brass Bands and Ball Games. Lincolnville trimmed Morrill 14 to 1, #6 innings. Paid Mrs. French in full to date.

Tuesday, Sep. 8 One very butifull day. Carried Sammy home this morning. Old Joe Mullen wants to hire her but I just don't want her to go out working anymore. Gee but I did get an awfull cold out at that rinktorn [?] yesterday. Wish Chenery and the whole damned Republican Party was in Hell.

Wednesday, Sep. 9 A darned fine day, but I being about half sick can't enjoy it. The barn on the Wyman place in Belmont burned today and one hourse got cooked alive. Mystery how it caught. No one knows.

Thursday, Sep. 10 Butifull warm day but awfull smoky. Drove up home and got Sammy tonight and we went down to Maiden Cliff over Parker Young's new road. [*Poverty Knoll?*] Big crowd thear we had a fine time. The Lincolnville Band was thear.

Friday, Sep. 11 Fair fine and warm. The Grange had its Field Day at Norton Pond this afternoon. Sammy and I went and tonight we went to hear Stanley J. Clark a Socilest speaker at the old Chirch. And say he is O.K. Finest speaker I ever listened too.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Saturday, Sep. 12 Perfect day. Carried my wagon up to Goodwins tonight to have tires set then went up to the Ctr to a ball game. Camden played. Our team beat them 28 to 12. Sammy and I went to the Socilest lecture again tonight. Great.

Sunday, Sep. 13 Fair and warm Sammy and I went fishing over in Pitcher Pond and got awfull tired but no fish. Tonight Mattie Thomas came tearing into the house. John was having a bullin spell and clamed he had a big hankering to spill his gore (Blood).

Monday, Sep. 14 Butifull clear cool day. Carried Sammy home this morning and Delory met us with the news that we are to be summoned to testify at Nate Clark's trial. Went to Camden tonight. Bought me new Lid \$2.50. Gloves \$1.45.

Tuesday, Sep. 15 Fair fine day but a bit smoky. The drouth has become so bad now that forest fires are rageing in all parts of the country. Emery French, my landlord got ketched of the jury and went to Belfast today. Bought me new pair shoes \$3.00

Wednesday, Sep. 16 Had Dandy shod in Belfast, Joe Tyler \$1.00. Still dry and the air filled with smoke. Well, Damn, last night I was sumoned to appear in Belfast today, to give testimony in the Clark case before the Grand Jury. Didn't use me after I went but my poor little Sammy had to go. It just makes me mad.

Thursday, Sep. 17 Fair and smoky, cussed. Went out to Goodwins tonight and had Tim shod then went up home see Sammy for a few moments, but that jack ass of a Hans Rankin was thear, so had no chance to talk to her, my own Sammy.

Friday, Sep. 18 Fair and dry, the most smoke in the air today we have had at all. Just terriable. Wish I was out back of the mountains to night out with Sammy gee but how I miss the little girl. My Sammy. Died Cora Mahoney Marriner. Died very sudden taken with scever pain in head and died in two hours time.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Saturday, Sep. 19 Fair butifull day but awfully smoky. Some galute set fire to the Levenseller Mt. this morning and tonight thear is a helly of a blaze. Sammy and I rode up thear to night went over to Herb's for a little time.

Sunday, Sep. 20 Fair and colder, froze ice last night. Sammy and I went up to Hump's [*Leadbetter*]. Smike and I went gunning and got good and tired. Cold tonight.

Monday, Sep. 21 Butifull this morning, but tonight it is raw and overcast. Storm coming Line Gale. Dandy slumocked down to day and busted my harness, broke a shaft. Damn him.

Tuesday, Sep. 22 Fair and very warm. I lied last night when I wrote that the Line Gale was commencing because it was not. But good Lord what a stiff neck I have had today and it isn't much better tonight.

[A page is missing here, the 23rd and 24th]

Friday, Sep. 25 Fair and very warm. Well the Jury in the Clark case disagreed, so the case is put over to the Jan. term of the court for a new trial. Emery came home to night. Got a letter from Sammy to night.

Saturday, Sep. 26 Butifull day fair and warm. Sammy and I have been up to Herb's to night then she came home with me. Father went to Boston tonight for a two week viset.

Sunday, Sep. 27 Another fine day, but cussed hot. I went gunning this afternoon. Shot a muskrat. Big one. Sammy and I took a little ride up to Herb's. Sammy intends to stay with Abbie while Father is away.

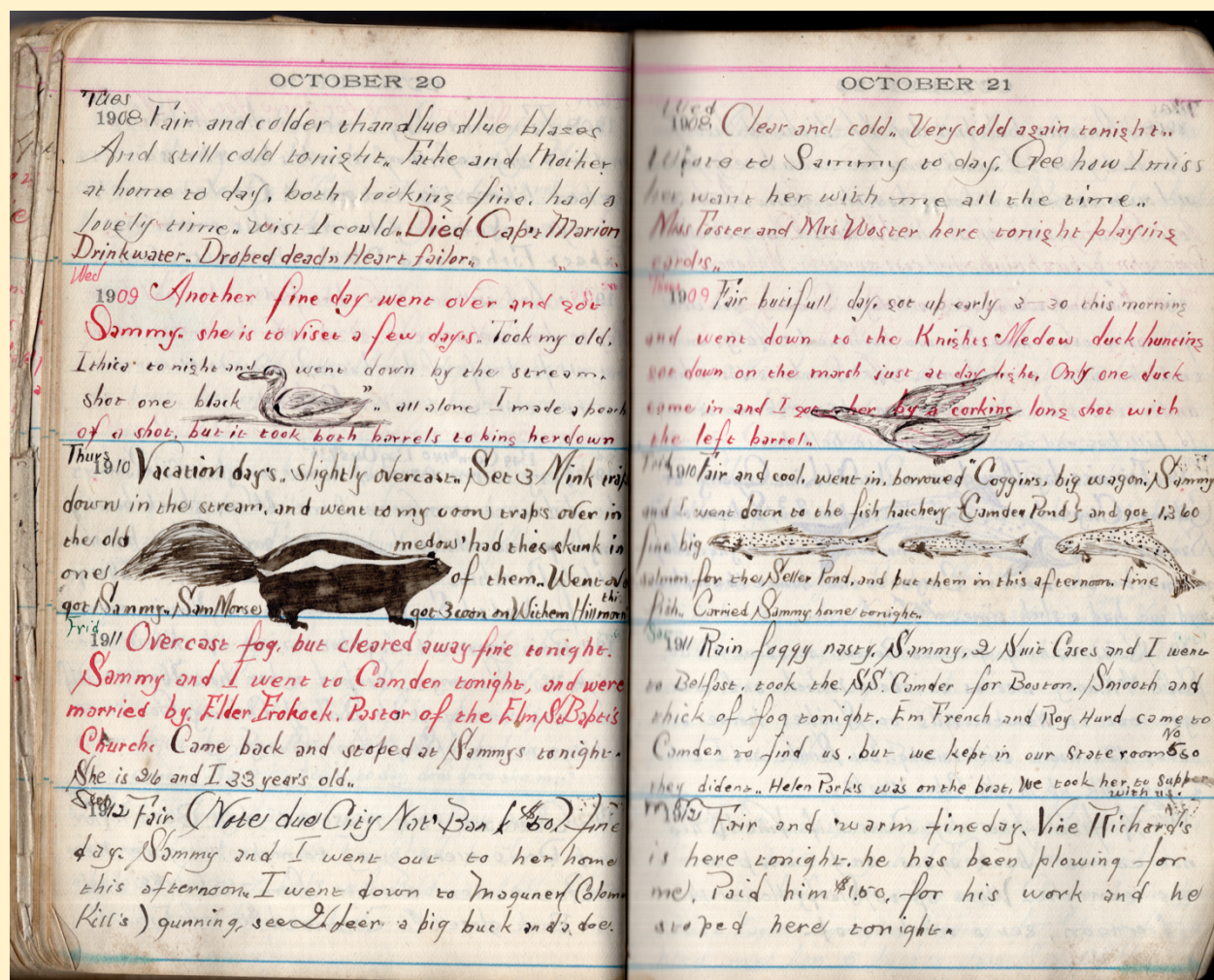
Monday, Sep. 28 Pretty day, but awfull hot and so darned dry that everybody has to hawl water. Big Whist Party at Gushees tonight. I was not invited. I feel awfull bad. Oh so bad. Bag of Oats \$1.75.

Tuesday, Sep. 29 Rained hard all day. It is powerfull good for the earth, but cussed for yours truly. And it is good to see my Sammy every day but it makes me want her more and more. Got a letter from Will [*Brother Bill?*] this morning. Sent Will \$25.00

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Wednesday, Sep. 30 Fair and cool. Went out home tonight because Abbie and Herb went to Searsport and my Sammy was thear all alone. God how it pleased me this noon to find her there my very own little wife. Married Blanche French and Bert Carver. Shelah.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908



Thursday, Oct. 1 Another fine day. Heavy frost last night and to night it is Raining hard again. How I hate this damd place any way, to have to smile and be polite to people that it would be a joy to knife. Damn Em.

Friday, Oct. 2 Overcast and raining this morning, but cleared off awfull cold. Blowing a gale to night. Just wish I was out home with my Sammy. Allways, my small wife Sammy.

Saturday, Oct. 3 Fair, another nice day. Sammy and I have the devil's own time tonight with Abb and her noble lover. And what do you think Almond Gushee and Amie Park's were married tonight. God.

Sunday, Oct. 4 Clear and cold. Sammy and I went up to Herb's. Carried the Phoneygraph up. Smike and I went gunning and got nothing. Married Rosie Dean and Albert Gray.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Monday, Oct. 5 Fair fine fall day. Powerfull cold last night. Ice froze in the stream. Saint Sylvester came to day. Now thear will be Hell on the home ranch. Sammy don't like him. Yah.

Tuesday, Oct. 6 Fair nice day. Got a letter from Father to day, he is having the time of his life, just wish I could go and have a good time too. Just work, work, all a time. Ise sick of it.

Wednesday, Oct. 7 Another fine day. Stopped out home tonight. Sammy is kinder sick, so I came up to be with her. Went gunning a little while and shot a Partridge and a Skunk. Got my Gloves from Sears Roebuck. Rubber Bit. 3 Trout.

Thursday, Oct. 8 Butifull weather, but tonight it's a little foggy. Emery and I went gunning this afternoon. I got one Woodcock. Had Oren Ames gun 10 bore Parker and it's a crackajack.

Friday, Oct. 9 Overcast all day and tonight, but very warm for this time of year. Emery went out to Will McCobb's shooting to day. Got four Wood Cock. Got my Bugle from Sears Roebuck.

Saturday, Oct. 10 Fair and cool. Went hunting tonight after I got up home. Got nothing. Sammy and Abbie went to Belfast. Sammy bought herself a nice black dress. Horace Miller came over to night and I burned Farmington Normal School on a [??].

Sunday, Oct. 11 Rain like the devil this morning and blow a gale. Went hunting tonight. Shot a Skunk a Muskrat and a big Hedghog. But never see a bird. Blistered Tim for Spavin to day.

Monday, Oct. 12 Fair and almighty cold, high wind and generally cussed. Hired a hourse to drive to day. Tim's leg is in awfull shape. But I hope Silver Spavin Cure will cure him.

Tuesday, Oct. 13 Still fair and cold. And I have had a headache all day, just feel cussed and tonight I wish my Sammy was with me. My own little Sammy.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Wednesday, Oct. 14 Butifull day good one fair and cool. Roy Charence and I went shooting tonight. Roy got two woodcock.

Thursday, Oct. 15 And still they come fair and warm. Roy starts on his vacation today. I went gunning tonight and got two woodcock.

Friday, Sep. 16 Fair and hot as any day in the summer. Went gunning and got nothing. Will McCobb shot three coon's this morning. Payed G. for use of his hourse this week \$3.00.

Saturday, Oct. 17 Hot. Yes cussed hot. Just as warm as any day we had this summer. Abbie and Herb went to Belfast. Sammy and I went gunning and we got 2 Partridge.

Sunday, Oct. 18 Hot as the devil. Sammy and I went down to her home to day. We went over and looked Tranquility the 3rd over, pretty bum. Smike was down we went gunning and got nothing.

Monday, Oct. 19 Sammy sent for a new Hat to N.Y. Fair and very warm this morning and the sky so full of smoke that the sun looked like a big red moon. Cooler tonight. Carryed Sammy home this morning. Expect Father and Mother home to day.

Tuesday, Oct. 20 Fair and colder than blue blue blazes. And still cold tonight. Father and Mother at home to day, both looking fine. Had a lovely time. Wist I could. Died Capt. Marion Drinkwater. Dropped dead. Heart failor.

Wednesday, Oct. 21 Clear and cold. Very cold again tonight. Wrote to Sammy to day. Gee how I miss her want her with me all the time. Miss Foster and Mrs Woster here tonight playing cards.

Thursday, Oct. 22 Another butifull day. If I should live for a hundred years, I would never see such a lovely fall and summer, as we have had this year. And to day Sammy was up at the Harvell Place to see me, she brought up my coat sweater. With a new sleeve on it.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Friday, Oct. 23 And still another butifull day, clear and mild. Father took Tim over to Ben Hall and had the shoe boil on his sholder lanced. Damn the luck, something to bother all the time.

Saturday, Oct. 24 And still another good day. Perfect. And this morning when I got out to Coleman Kilns thear standing under and apple tree was one of the biggest buck deer I ever see. Sammy came over with me to night. Paid Gushee for hourse hire \$3.00

Sunday, Oct. 25 Overcast, light fogg and very warm. I went over to Pitcher Pond early this morning fishing. No luck. Got nothing. Went gunning, shot nothing. Hans and Jack Rankin called tonight. Hans goes to Utah Monday.

Monday, Oct. 26 Warm, overcast, looks like rain, but it hasn't commenced yet. Jack Richards came up home to day, going gunning. Yah.

Tuesday, Oct. 27 Slightly overcast. Rain hard all last night. Blew a big elm tree down in front of the house. It as been very warm today and tonight, it is uncomfitably so, almost hot.

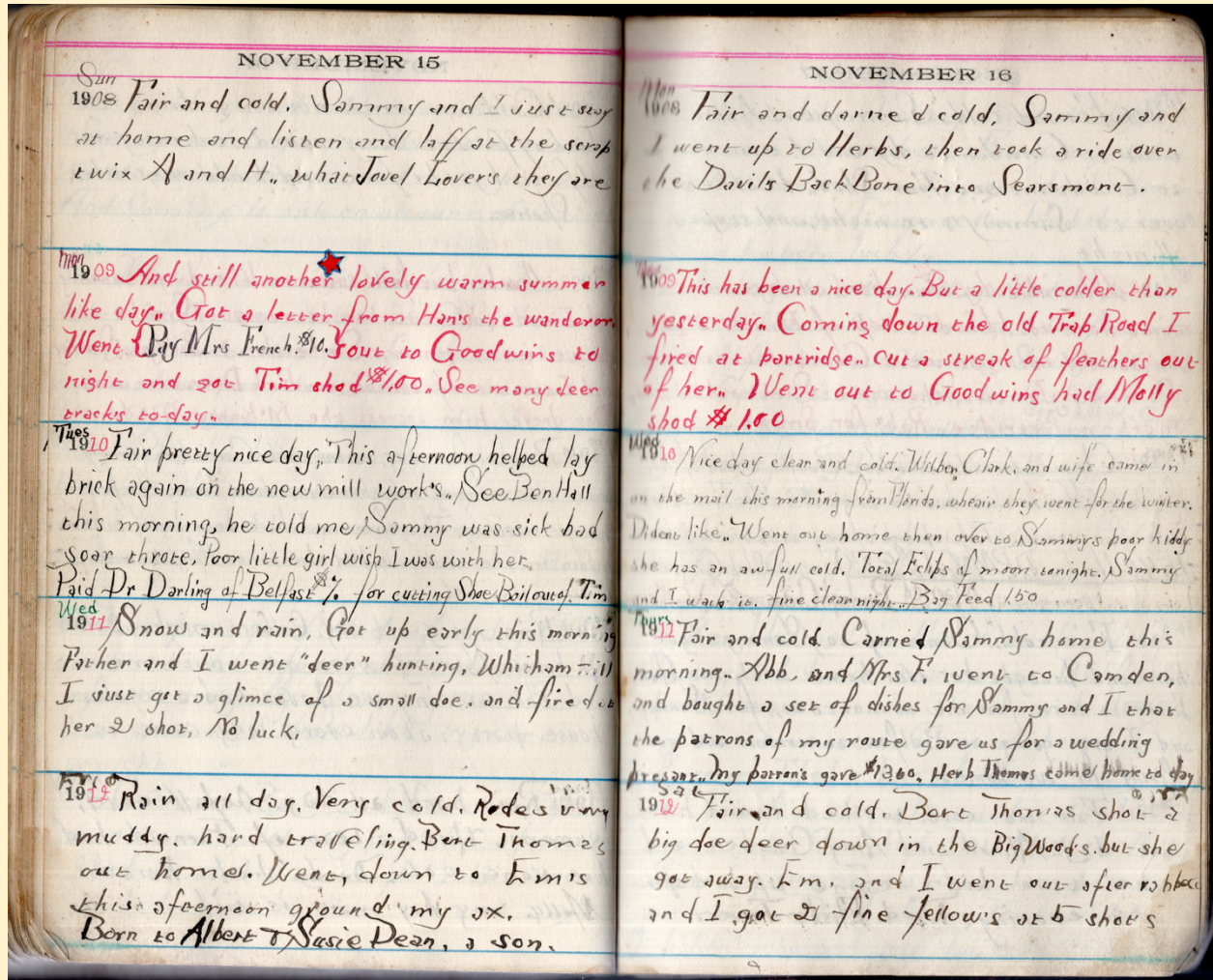
Wednesday, Oct. 28 Very warm, overcast. Raining tonight finest weather this month that ever was. Got a letter from Sammy, she is very pleased with her new sweater. I'se so glad.

Thursday, Oct. 29 Another fair warm day. Emery and Roy went bird shooting. They got 5 woodcock and 1 partridge. Just wish I could have such shooting. Paid L.H. Knight for Harness \$10.50

Friday, Oct. 30 Rain hard all day. Awfull cold one of the nastiest days I ever drove in. Mrs French gave a wist party tonight and wonder of wonders I won first gentleman's prize, a very pretty glass mug.

Saturday, Oct. 31 Cleared off powerfull cold. Just cussed. Came up and got Sammy tonight. Carried her home with me. It was so cold we broke out and wore our fur coats. First time this year. Paid Gushee for his hourse this week \$3.00

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908



Sunday, Nov. 1 Still awfull cold. Went gunning, took a rifle. Started a deer, and shot a hedgehog. Doctor Jackson came out from Belfast and cut shoe boil out of Tim's sholder \$3.50

Monday, Nov. 2 Very cold. Carried Sammy home this morning. Emery, my sub, went round my route with me to day. Percy Cross up home, took dinner. Went out to Goodwins [305 Youngtown Road] tonight, got Dandy shod \$1.00

Tuesday, Nov. 3 Fair and cold. Came up home tonight and went out deer hunting and got nothing. Earl Hannan and Joe Morton shot a small doe down at the Freeman Place last night.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Wednesday, Nov. 4 Vacation. Fair and durnd cold. Came up home [2685 *Belfast Road*] again tonight. Start on my vacation tomorrow. See Sammy tonight, but she did not come over home with me.

Thursday, Nov. 5 Cussed cold. Went over to Sammy's via Lower wood and Coleman Pond. [*Sand Hill Road to Dead Man's Curve?*] Shot a rabbit for Delorie. Went down to the desirted city of Maguner and Got cold.

Friday, Nov. 6 Still powerfull cold, been deer hunting most all day, no luck. Still stopping over at Sammy's [2192 *Belfast Road*]. Just hope I shall see a deer soon.

Saturday, Nov. 7 Fair and much warmer. Hunted all day but had no luck. Sammy and I went up to Herb's tonight. And we see a skunk that's what's the matter.

Sunday, Nov. 8 Nice day fair and warm. Went down to the old Barrett place tonight. Lay around thear until midnight then frozed it home.

Monday, Nov. 9 And still another fine warm day. Haved walked and walked but no deer. Went over to Sammy's to night.

Tuesday, Nov. 10 Fair and warm nice day. Came home this afternoon, harnessed Dandy up and took a ride. First time for a week allmost.

Wednesday, Nov. 11 Rain, a nasty blowy old day anyway. Went over and got Sammy and we are going gunning tomorrow if it don't rain. Went gunning got wet. Yah, damn. Born to Mabel & Herbert Richards a son. Thin Skin.

Thursday, Nov. 12 Fair and quite warm. Sammy and I went gunning, went way down in the lower woods. Games a powerfull scarce artical. Father went to Belfast today. Paid Hall & Jackson for grane in full \$47.79

Friday, Nov. 13 Cold cussed cold, so much so that Sammy and I after walking over to the pond gave up hunting and came home. And Sammy is sick on account of it.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Saturday, Nov. 14 Cold raw wind. Nothing doing to speak of. Just lazy round and enjoy ourself sit by the fire and build our castles in Spain.

Sunday, Nov. 15 Fair and cold. Sammy and I just stay at home and listen and laff at the scrap twix A and H [*Abbie and Herb*] what Jovel Lovers they are.

Monday, Nov. 16 Fair and darned cold. Sammy and I went up to Herb's, then took a ride over the Devils BackBone into Searsmont.

Tuesday, Nov. 17 Fair and cold. Sammy and Abbie went to Camden today and I went down to Goodwins got Tim shod. Walked over to Sammy's tonight and stopped all night.

Wednesday, Nov. 18 Snow like the very divel all day. And what do you think. Emery, my sub, shot kilt and captured a nice little doe deer up by the Levenseller Pond. Wo, to be born lucky.

Thursday, Nov. 19 Just G.D. cold if you know what that is. Got up at 3 A.M. went deer hunting and just about kilt myself. Went over and got Sammy tonight, we intended going to Belfast but it commenced to snow.

Friday, Nov. 20 Fair and durn cold. Sammy Abbie and I went to Belfast tonight attended the Concirt of Nations. It was bum. So thear. Dance afterwards, Sammy and I danced.

Saturday, Nov. 21 Fair and still cold. Have been resting today after our night of disapation. How nice it would be if one could rest all of the time.

Sunday, Nov. 22 Perfect day. Just lay round home and rested. Tonight I carried Sammy home. Poor little girl but she is having the divle's own time with her face. It pains her just cussed.

Monday, Nov. 23 Leslie Morse [*Dean?*] killed pig for Father today. Butifull warm spring like day. Just as warm as it can be. And now I am back in the harness again and don't I hate it. Came down with Tim this afternoon and he mashed Hell out of his leg again.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Tuesday, Nov. 24 Great day fair and very warm. Father went to Belfast today got a bbl of flour. Mrs. French came this morning. She has been for a couple of weeks viseting relatives in N.S. Drove one of Furnell's [*Fernald?*] Hourses to day.

Wednesday, Nov. 25 Bought a goose of Leroy Morse for Thanksgiving. 6 1/2 lbs paid \$1.25. Fair and very warm. I drove one of Furnell's hourses today. And tonight came up home with Tim. He came fine was not lame a partical. Paid Furnell for hourse hire \$2.50.

Thursday, Nov. 26 Butifull day fair and warm. Went over and got Sammy. She took dinner with us. Tonight we went to the dance in the new Grange Hall. About fifty couples. Awfull traveling. \$1.50

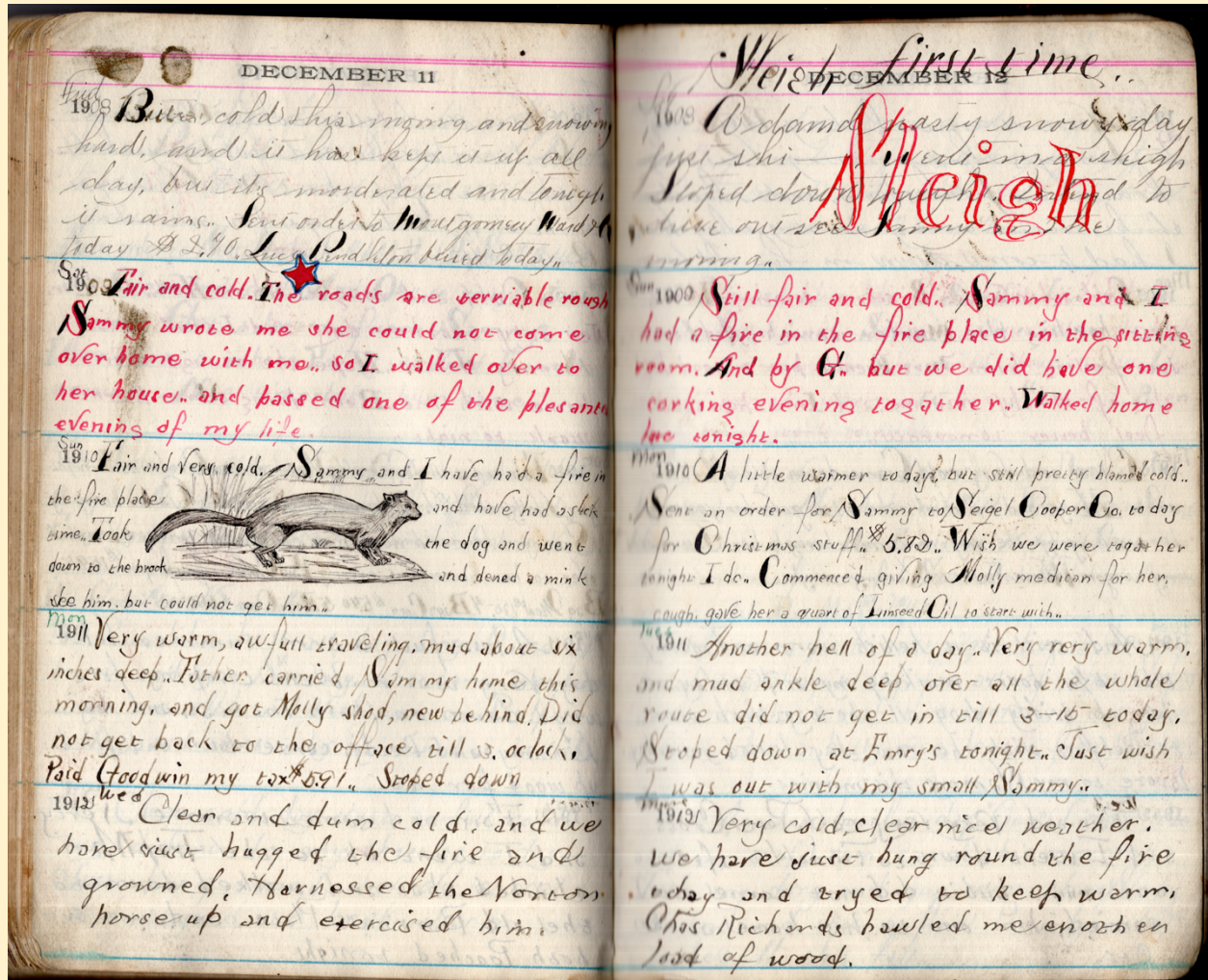
Friday, Nov. 27 Fair and very hard traveling. So darned much mud. And am I some sleepy tonight. Well I will soon be with Sammy again and we did have a good time at the dance.

Saturday, Nov. 28 Still fair and very warm. The ground has not frozen for the last four nights. Brought Sammy home with me tonight. Ed and Wm Dickey shot two fine deer today. Buck & Do.

Sunday, Nov. 29 Butifull warm day. This afternoon I went fox hunting with Geo Mahoney. We drove one into its den and was fools enough to try and get it out. And got nothing.

Monday, Nov. 30 Fair and warm. Hard muddy traveling. Father hauled me a load of pressed hay. 1,120 lbs Bought of Lewis Pitcher \$4.80. Bought of L. Mill Bag Oats \$1.70.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908



Tuesday, Dec. 1 One of the most perfect days. Fair and as warm as a day in May. Great. Went to a Whist Party tonight at Miss Foster's and nearly froze coming home. The weather has turned bitter cold tonight.

Wednesday, Dec. 2 Clear, brisk west wind. Awfull rough roads and bitter cold. Just wish I was in Dixey. Got a letter from Sammy this afternoon.

Thursday, Dec. 3 Clear and very cold. This morning it was only 8 above zero. The coldest this fall. Damn such weather anyway.

Friday, Dec. 4 Overcast. Snow squalls and a much warmer day than we have had for the last week. And tonight it is raining hard and I wish I was out home with Sammy. I do.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Saturday, Dec. 5 Clear and cold. Abbie sick with some devlis desice. Scarlet Fever we think. Went over to Sammy's tonight and we had a fire in the sitting room. Just a fine time.

Sunday, Dec. 6 Butifull clear and cold. This morning the glass down to zero. Spent the day with Sammy and had a fine visit. Came home this evening.

Monday, Dec. 7 Commence to snow at 4 o'clock this morning. Turn to rain about 8 and God but this has been an awfull day. Rain and Blow all day. Bought Bush Corn .80¢ Paid board to date \$15.75

Tuesday, Dec. 8 Fair and quite warm. And what do you think Dr. Armstrong came over home today and closed the house. The damd fool lowed Abbie has had Scarlet Feaver. Now wouldn't that bump [?] one.

Wednesday, Dec. 9 One perfect day, not too cold just fine. But hell was to pay and I had to go without my dinner woe is me. Sent order to Sears Roebuck \$6.03. Paid Dr. Small \$4.00

Thursday, Dec. 10 Fair and bitter cold. Went out to Goodwins tonight and got Dandy shod with never slip shoes \$3.00 Also got the stuff Goodwin got for me in Boston. \$3.45

Friday, Dec. 11 Bitter cold this morning and snowing hard and it has kept it up all day. But its moderated and tonight it rains. Sent order to Montgomery Ward today \$2.40. Lucy Pendleton buried today.

Saturday, Dec. 12 Sleigh first time. A damned pasty snowy day just shi-. Went in a sleigh. Stoped down tonight. Intend to drive out see Sammy in the morning.

Sunday, Dec. 13 Nice warmish day. Went out to Sammy's this morning. Put my hourse in Josh's barn and that darn stinker went away in my sleigh so I had to come down in his old box.

Monday, Dec. 14 Fine day fair and warm and just butifull sleighing. Fine it is and don't I wish it could remain so all winter.

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Tuesday, Dec. 15 Paid L.E. Pitcher for hay \$7.75 that settles him. Born to Herbert and Sarah McKinney another girl. [*Herbert is Vesta's brother and possibly "Smike"*] Warm and snow all day long. Went my trip in a covered sleigh. Walter Richards came up today. Poor divel couldn't go home on account of the quarantine.

Wednesday, Dec. 16 Fair butifull day, clear and not too cold. Sent to Sears Roebuck for a new pair of uniform pants \$4.00

Thursday, Dec. 17 Fair clear and very cold. And the very best of sleighing. Just perfect. Now this is the night of Lena McKinney's lottery dance. I have a ticket but Sammy can't go. So I won't be a smarty cat. No No No

Friday, Dec. 18 This has been a pretty good day but quite sharp and raw. This afternoon it commenced snowing and tonight oh my it's a powerfull bad storm. Married Orvil Young and Marchie Wellman.

Saturday, Dec. 19 Fair and a nice day. I went to Camden tonight. Came up to Vesta's over the Turnpike. Spent about \$15.00 on Christmas stuff. Came down to Josh's put my hourse up there tonight. Died Julia Nichols.

Sunday, Dec. 20 Fair and a darned nice day. Have been working like divel on Pyro work all day. Come down to the Beach tonight.

Monday, Dec. 21 Snow just cussed about all day. Damned such weather anyway. Sammy went up to Herb's to work today. Bag Oats \$1.70

Tuesday, Dec. 22 Fair and cold as the dickens. Been buying a lot of stuff tonight. Have got it about all finished.

Wednesday, Dec. 23 Clear and cold as the divel. And this is Christmas time. Such a mess of stuff is being sent, more this year than ever before.

Thursday, Dec. 24 Bitter cold this morning but warm tonight. I got a few presents today. A Book from Sam & Edith, Pipe (brier) from Emery, Pair of nice dress gloves Mrs. French, and a box of Stationary from Mrs. Wade

RALPH RICHARDS - 1908

Friday, Dec. 25 Christmas. Butifull warm fair day. We have a heap of Christmas goods. Sammy and I went to a dance tonight at the Grange Hall. Sammy wore her new princess dress and looked Elegant.

Saturday, Dec. 26 Fair and warm and I am so sleepy, only slept a couple of hours this morning. Stayed down in this hell hole tonight. My poor little Sammy is at the House of too much trouble.

Sunday, Dec. 27 Tis a fine warm day. I drove up to Herb's this morning. Herb and I went fishing, got nothing. Sammy and I went down to her home for a little while this evening.

Monday, Dec. 28 Fair and not very cold. Nice traveling. Went out to Goodwins tonight got Tim shod .50¢. Born to Orvil Young and Bride of ten days a girl. God but that is the quickest work on record. Ten days. Oh Gad.

Tuesday, Dec. 29 Barn fire. Butifull fair day. Great. I was powerfull sick last night. One of my cussed headaches. The Barn on the old Rankin place burned this morning. Two Hourses and Four Cows lost. Kismet.

Wednesday, Dec. 30 Cold this morning down to zero, and now tonight it is raining hard. And I did so want to go out and see Sammy tomorrow night. Shela.

Thursday, Dec. 31 Fair and warm and awfully icy. This is the last night of the old year and I am not with Sammy. God. Tonight Emery and I went to Camden and got a quart of live bait. Mummy chubs.