

Monday, January 1, 1900

This is the first day of the 20th Century (in my opinion) I will not discuss that, but it is Monday Jany 1st 1900 no one will doubt.

Up to this date since Summer ended, we have had a most delightful fall or autumn, no snow to speak of (1 Light snow in Nov. only) and no cold weather until the night of Dec 30th. On morning of Dec 31st thermometer was at zero & Spy Pond frozen with 3 inches of ice. This AM thermometer at 8° above zero & snow. well before night we had about 8 inches of light snow & then the weather cleared, but little obstruction to the Steam and Electric cars. Such are the conditions today. and now why am I commencing this diary? I have tried to do it years ago, but when Spring came I find I dropped out. Well here I am in my 74th year, being 73 years old Aug. 22d last, and if God is willing, I will try and write my experiences for this year of 1900, in hopes through the Historical Society now organized & chartered, that this diary will be preserved and read in Jany AD 2000.

I shall record current events and some of the history of the nineteenth century, and hope that the facts I may state may be interesting to some historian.

I am a native of Arlington formerly West Cambridge to which Town my father Timothy Wellington came in 1809 as a physician. he married my mother Lydia Yates April 1st 1819. I the third child was born Aug 22d 1826, and think I must have been a weakling, for my mother told me that when 10 days old I was taken with "infantile gout" [epilepsy?] and

was not dressed until I was 1 1/2 years old, and here I am in my 74th year and have not lost 1 day from business for over 40 years and never felt better in my life than today

Tuesday, January 2, 1900

Well the snow storm of yesterday cleared off at sunset and today the air is a good clear winter day: the thermometer about 7° above zero & mounting at noon to about 20°. There is not much to state, except that during the day as I always do I attended to my business as Insurance Agent and in the evening as one of the Trustees of the Arlington Five Cents Savings Bank and chairman of the board of Examiners. I with Reuben W. Hopkins and Benj. A Norton (the two other members) Examined the Bank preparatory to our quarterly report to be made on the 5th inst. Speaking of this Savings Bank it was chartered April 2d 1860 and of the original charter members, at this date there is but one alive and that is Wm. E. Parmenter, who will be on March 12th prox. 84 years old and is now active, being the Chief Justice of the Municipal Court in Boston. next to him I find I am the next oldest Trustee

This Bank our idol for money saving, was opened in the summer of 1860 with nothing. to day we have over one and three quarter millions of dollars on deposit, and pay 4 prct dividends. The Bank to date is perfectly sound and is an important institution of this Town, and I am proud of being connected with it. all of the charter members were old friends of mine, concerning some of which I may write farther on. The original charter members of the Bank are as follows. Geo. H. Grey Abel. G. Peck, Geo. C. Russell, William E. Parmenter, Addison Gage, Nathan Robbins: these were all leading men of the old Town of West Cambridge in their day & generation

Wednesday, January 3, 1900

Well the snow of Jany 1st is with us. and there is sleighing. the weather this A M was 8° above zero. and the snow has not melted since it fell. but the sky is clear and good healthy winter air. What have I done? Well I went to Boston in the 7.40 AM train for the first time since Dec 29th went to my office 55 Kilby St for my mail. Attended to some Insurance business, did some marketing & arrived to my Arlington office in the Savings Bank Building at 10.40 AM. Of course my quiet routine of life makes one day the duplicate of another, as my only business is Fire Insurance and there is enough work in it to keep an old man's time fully occupied. After return from Boston I spent the rest of the day at work in my office. I leave for dinner (as I have the good old fashioned hour for dinner at 1 PM.) at 12.45 and am back in my office about 1.45 where I remain until 4.30 PM. then I go home for a rest until 6 P.M. when I have a good old fashioned supper. "tea & toast! I sleep better on this than I would on a hearty dinner. Wednesday nights and Saturday nights throughout the year I go to the Bank to attend to business from 7 to 9 PM. So this evening is a Bank night and I got home little before 10 PM as I always drop in on my way home to see my sister older than myself. Mrs M W Hodgdon who lives in the house that all of us children were born.

Thursday, January 4, 1900

Well to day is a little warmer. the snow is melting gradually. and not being my Boston day, I went to my office. We are at home quite regular in our habits. The bell to arouse us in the morning sounds at 6.40 AM then at 7. sharp is breakfast, a simple meal generally, a piece of Steak, chop or boiled Egg with hot rolls and coffee, We eat hurridly, too much so I think

but 7.30 generally sees me on my way down Town every morning. it is said that the neighbors can set their clocks, knowing the exact time I pass to & from my office throughout the day. Well to day was given up to writing Insurance Policies: it was thawing throughout the day the snow & sleighing gradually disappearing. To night was a home night, and I read all the evening. the family were out most of the evening so I took care of the premises. am never lonesome when I have a book

Friday, January 5, 1900

To day was cloudy & warmer, snow melting and sleighing gone. I went to Boston on the 7.40 train the train I always take, every morning when going to Boston. It was quite a busy morning so did not return to my office until 11.40, where I remained, writing all day. In the evening there was the quarterly meeting of the Trustees of the Savings Bank, at 7.30 every Trustee was there Except good old Judge Parmenter who will be 84 years old on his next birth day March 12th prox. It was an important meeting as we had to elect a new Secretary and Treasurer. Mr Whitaker who has acted as such for the past 10 years or more resigning because he felt he was "too aged": he is not as old as myself by 3 years, and it seemed sad to see a man drop out, when so young! Well we had expected it, and had made a dilligent search for a trustworthy man, and think we have found him in Mr Henry Blasdell, who has been connected with the Boston National Bank for nearly 40 years. We elected him and, perhaps his only fault is his age being 62. yet he should be good for 10 years longer if his health is good. After the meeting adjourned I called on my good Sister & her family and arrived here about 9.30 PM

Saturday, January 6, 1900

This has been a delightful day weather warm but was colder toward night. Walking was quite good. I spent the whole day in my office as usual, writing. It was dividend day at the Bank, so the new Treasurer was Kept busy with his assistant Miss Anna Proctor all day, having opened the Bank at 9 AM to accomodate the depositions. a hard day it

was for the new Treasurer, being new to this Kind of business and a stranger to the customers of the Bank. After supper this being my Bank night, I went to the Bank, and there was quite a rush the whole evening: the doors were closed promptly at 9 PM. It took until about 10 PM to count the cash & balance it. Received all in small sums about \$11.500 & paid out about 10.500 a pretty good days work. it was so late I did not call on my sister on my way home, which I reached soon after 10.

Sunday, January 7, 1900

Is a fine comfortable winter day. thawed a little but the walking was good. The first Sunday of the new year and (perhaps) of the new Century Sunday our rising bell is one hour later than on week days, viz 7.40. our breakfast about 8.20 this suits our family; of which I think I should speak. Mrs Wellington had a birth day yesterday and was 69 years old. her hair is as black as mine is white, and she looks much younger than I. We were married in Baltimore Md. July 29th 1857 so for over 42 years we have been hand in hand together. Frank our oldest is married and a partner of mine also has a little business of his own he is 41 years old & with his wife & her sister Miss Anna Proctor, in a house of their own No 15 Wellington St. next is Ethelinda, and next Annette. These two are principals of a private School and Kindergarten and a school building of our own by the side of our house No 16 Maple St. the next is Arthur some years younger than his sisters a graduate of Harvard & the Harvard Law School. he is practising law with offices in Boston & Arlington and the last three children all unmarried live at home with us. After breakfast Sunday morning I go to my sisters & my Sons house thence to the Post Office returning home about 10.30, where I remain and rest through the day excepting between 4 and 6 PM I go out again & make calls in the neighborhood & at home in the evening. this Sunday evening I called on my old friend Judge Parmenter.

Monday, January 8, 1900

Little cool but pleasant. it is my Boston day so I went in as usual and returned by 10.40 A.M. and spent the rest of the day as usual. only that this evening I was at home. Last evening I said I called on Judge Parmenter. Well he is delightful in his Reminiscences. he was a graduate of Harvard in 1836 and of the Harvard Law School, and for many years has been Chief Justice of the Municipal Court in

Boston. in his early days, his father was a member of Congress for 8 years, so he was in Washington with his father at times, knew Webster, Clay, Calhoun. those brilliant men of 60 years ago. he married and came to this Town in 1853, and has been a leading citizen ever since. as I am but 10 years his Junior, we have much in common to talk about, though he has always in politics been a Democrat, while in my early days I was a Whig and my earliest political work was in defeating Judge P's father the last time he ran for Congress. Well it is enjoyable to me to spend a quiet evening with the old Judge

Tuesday, January 9, 1900

This pleasant weather still continues and it is warmer & the snow of Jan'y 1st is disappearing fast. I was at work in my office all day, and spent my evening at home. Of such a day there is not much to write about. I enjoy this constant work it keeps my mind active, and physically stronger. For many years I have on or about the middle of this month taken a three days trip to New York, begin to think of going next week on Monday night. don't know as I will. Will see how business is it has been very good to day.

Wednesday, January 10, 1900

Still warm for the season and this morning is cloudy. Boston day again and I went as usual, took no umbrella and almost needed it as it rained a little ere I returned at 10.40. I went to the office and spent the day in work. in the afternoon it cleared up and commenced to grow colder, and it froze some during the night. It is Bank night so I was there at 7 and left at 9 called on my sister Mrs Hodgdon and returned home by 10 PM Mrs Stanwood my only other sister is spending a few weeks with Mrs H. So here are three out of five children one over 60 & two over 70 years old that can come together, I enjoy very much that three of us have lived so long and all in as good health as could be expected for our years. Mrs S has a daughter Mrs Kenyon living in New York and an older daughter Mrs Wilby, (both married to lawyers) living in Cincinnati Ohio where her older child a Son James B Stanwood also married is living

Thursday, January 11, 1900

A beautiful winter morning, just enough frost in the air to be invigorating. how I like such winter days, when I can walk without wading in the snow or slipping upon the ice, but alas in the afternoon it became cloudy with a fresh East wind and about 8 PM flurries of snow, then in the night a hard rain. I was writing in my office all

day, and was at home all the evening My whole family were out all the evening to a "gentleman's night" of the Woman's Club." I was invited but did not go. Mr Henry Blasdale the newly elected Treasurer of the Savings Bank however called upon me and we had a very pleasant smoke talk over our cigar, I giving him a little history of the Bank from its beginning with nothing in 1860 until now it has over one and three quarter millions on deposit & over 4000 depositors its growth in 40 years is remarkable. I trust the new Treasurer may be in every way acceptable, at least he comes to us as a stranger but very highly recommended. I retired about 10.30 PM soon after some of the family had returned home from the Club

Friday, January 12, 1900

Well last night, there were all kinds of weather, but it froze by this morning, and the walking was decidedly icy. however I took my usual train to Boston and attending to my business there came home at 10.40 and, then for the rest of the day was busy in my office. It has been dark and cloudy all day with thermometer fair above freezing, one of those dreary winter days the walking is a little improved, but it is not pleasant to be out and about. I remained cloudy all day, but no snow fell and at night was quite cold, which is good for freezing the Ice on Spy Pond, and when the ice is thick enough say 10 to 12 inches, the Ice Co's cut and store it in the Ice Houses on the shore of the Pond for summer use. The Ice business began here about 60 years ago by Mr Tudor, who cut ice on Fresh Pond in Cambridge & was soon followed by Mr Hittenger of Belmont Mr John Hill of West Cambridge and at last Mr Addison Gage by purchasing rights obtained the monopoly for cutting Ice on Spy Pond as well as on other Ponds in the State. The firm of Addison Gage & Co were large shippers of Ice to the South & West India Islands & South America. Mr Gage died many years ago. he had a beautiful Estate bordering upon the Pond, where Addison Street now is. The invention of Ice making machines, destroyed virtually the shipping of Ice & what is now cut on the Pond is sold for local trade

Saturday, January 13, 1900

This is another dark cloudy morning and quite cold, no snow. but the air is chilly and disagreeable: the weather bureau reports a fair day, today and tomorrow. I spent the day at work in my office, the walking being so slippery I did not care to venture out, though I feel that one of my good long walks would make me feel livelier. Saturday is a long day, as Saturday night is Bank night for me, and coming as it does at the end of the week, I feel tired at 10 PM when I come home Well this Saturday was dark &

cloudy all day without snow or rain a gloomy day and it looks as if Sunday would bring snow. I left the Bank soon after 9 P.M. and called on my sisters on my way home. As I have stated we were all born in the house that my sister Mrs Hodgdon lives in and my father built it in 1812 just before he married his first wife Maria Eunice Lord from South Berwick in Maine. She had one son born July 29th 1814, William Williamson, he graduated at Harvard College in 1832 and in 1838 established himself as a physician in Cambridgeport, and died in Oct 1896. this old residence, old colonial style, Frame 2 stories with Brick ends about 42 x 38 ft square. on Pleasant St corner of Wellington Street is now 88 years old & Mrs Hodgdon born in this house June 16th 1822 has lived there over 77 years. The old house is well preserved, has had a frame addition put on by my sisters husband Dr RL Hodgdon who died January 1893. Otherwise the outside of this house is not changed since being built.

Sunday, January 14, 1900

We were all happily disappointed this morning to find the sun shining and though cool it was a fine winter morning. I took at 9 AM my usual Sunday morning outing first to my sisters, then to my son Frank Y Wellington on Wellington St. thence at 10.15 to the Post Office & thence home. Notice that I say nothing about going to church on Sunday well it is so, the fact is that I have at least one defect, my hearing is not good. so to go to church and only occasionally hear a sentence and that imperfectly is tantalizing, so I prefer to stay at home and read & rest on Sundays and it is refreshing to me at my age to have one day out of each week to rest in. My wife & children are all church goers, my wife being a good Baptist while I more liberal am a Unitarian as my father mother brother & sisters were. So Sunday is my day of rest and I enjoy it. Sunday evening came with a light fall of snow with the thermometer just a little below freezing. I retired in good season.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/15/00

Monday, January 15, 1900

This is a dark cloudy morning, the light snow that fell in the evening just covered the earth, but about 9 AM the clouds rolled away & the day has been fair and a lovely winter day. it thawed a little but not

much. I went to Boston as usual on Monday, had a little business to attend to and arrived at my office about 11.40. Of course there was something for me to do, some letters to write and some insurance to write up, I went home at 4.30 PM & remained there the rest of the evening. During the night the weather moderated, wind south and it was quite warm.

I referred to the house my father built a day or two ago. Now the house that we own and live in on Maple St stands on the second 1 acre lot that Saml Cooke the first minister of the first Parish purchased of Jason Russell. when a boy this whole estate belonged to Miss Anna Bradshaw a granddaughter of Parson Cooke. She occupied the original parsonage house built in 1740. The first 1 acre purchased by Parson Cooke, had thereon the Parsons House & Barn & garden, the second acre adjoining was called "The Close" in my younger days & that was where the Parson's horse & cow were pastured. The front portion of "the Close" bordering on Pleasant St about 1/2 acre was given by Miss Bradshaw in 1844 to the Orthodox Congregational Parish for their Church Edifice: Nov 30th 1869 Miss Anna died leaving all her real estate to the Orthodox Congregational Parish. The parsonage house & lot and what remained of "the Close," that 1/2 acre I purchased from the Church & placed my present house thereon, moving into the same February 1st 1872.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/16/00

Tuesday January 16, 1900

A warm, dark, dreary morning, as I awoke and about 8 A.M. it began to rain. I went to my office as usual and there remained, of course busy. I had intended to go to New York to night, as it is the date of my annual trip, but I have postponed it indefinitely. Well in the early P.M. the wind went west and the clouds broke away, and still thawing a bright sun, and with a little freeze during the night the weather was clear & a bright moon. Quite a distinguished wedding occurred at the Unitarian Church at 8 PM. Miss Maud F Pierce daughter of Henry B Pierce, 125 Pleasant St. was married to Albert M Walcott Pleasant St Belmont about 700 invitations were out and the church & house were crowded. My daughters went to church & the reception at the house, it was a jam. As to my residence to which I removed in February 1872, this house was removed from 119 Pleasant St and the present house of Waterman A Taft was built on the site. In the early 1840s W M Chase who kept a dry goods store on the present site of our Town Hall, bought a lot on Pleasant St and built a darling of a small house on this lot, for himself and wife (they had no children) in 1852/3 he sold this place to Wm Adams, one of the first manufacturers of fire proof Safes in Boston. J.S. Potter once a Representative &



then a Senator to the General Court married his daughter & became owner of the Estate which he enlarged and improved. later Mr Potter sold the estate to D P Greene [?] (now deceased) and in 1871, in Oct, I purchased the House & removed it to its present location. Mr Greene built a new house on the old site & after his death his place was sold to Waterman A Taft the present owner.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/17/00

Wednesday, January 17, 1900

A lovely winter morning the Sun rose clear and cloudless: just cold enough to freeze and the air invigorating. This is my Boston day & to Boston I went on the 7.40 AM train as usual, I called at Markward & Co [upholsterers] 535 Washington St & thence after going to the Fanueil Hall Nat Bank where I have been a depositor since 1862, and doing up some other matters of business I reached Arlington at 10.40, and went to my office. The weather is so delightful I wish I could have gone out farther but hope to get around Town tomorrow. The story of my house I will continue. as I have stated I removed it to the near end of Parson Cooke's "Close" in Oct 1871, and occupied it Feby 1/72 but it was not until 1873 that Maple Street past my house from Pleasant St to Academy St was built & not until 1875 were the row of Maple trees in front of my house set out. Well there was no other change in the premises until 1896 when Wife & I built in the corner of our lot a school house for our two daughters, it opened up a permanent Kindergarten & private School and the Town has given them until the present time good patronage. Our old house is comfortable & convenient & my youngest Son Arthur says he would not want a better house & better location than ours. The location is all right but I would like a more modern & better built house than this. To night is Bank night of course I was there but business is quiet got home just before 10PM

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/18/00

Thursday, January 18, 1900

Dark and dreary is this morning but no snow yet it is promised us by tomorrow, toward noon we had a glimmering of the sun & so it was through the afternoon. I took electric car for Arlington Height and then wended my way back attending to business. and reached my office little after 11 AM & there remained until nearly one then home to dinner: back again by 1.45 to my office. And the rest of the afternoon was spent there.

In my early childhood days, wood was about the only fuel, the use of coal was fast commencing for warming rooms, we had an open grate in the parlor of my fathers house and burned anthracite coal. I remember how visitors admired it, and it was not until 1837 when my father made a one story addition to the house for a kitchen that we had a cooking

stove to burn coal, even then it was thought there was no way to roast a piece of meat except in a "tin kitchen" on a spit. So as the fire end of the stove was a cast iron plate that got red hot from the fire & the tin kitchen with the meat was roasted there, but it was a failure & my mother soon discarded the tin kitchen forever, and roasted her meat in the stove oven. Thus early were cooking stoves with anthracite coal for fuel introduced. and the great kitchen fire places with the Brick oven beside them began to disappear.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/19/00

Friday, January 19, 1900

Was it not foggy and warm this morning. one could cut the fog with a knife. I went to Boston and three times between here and Boston the train was held up by warning bombs, we were about 15 minutes late in Boston, the fog began to lift about 10 AM and with the sun through the haze we had thermometer up to 60° during the day it was 50° at 5 PM, then it was hazy & cloudy during the night. I was back to my office about 10.40 and there I spent the day at my work, going home at 4.30 and there I stayed.

In writing about my father's house, it was a typical house of a well to do man in its day & it is so now but what changes! Originally with 4 Rooms on first floor and 4 good sleeping rooms and one bed room on second floor and an unfinished attic: the large front room now my sister's parlor was not finished until about 1842. I remember using it as a bed room in 1840, and at the time of the great Presidential campaign Wm H Harrison against Martin Van Buren. Those were exciting days. "Tippecanoe & Tyler too, for with these we will beat little Van" a banner hung over my bed "Harrison & Reform" my own make with letters cut from paper and pasted on blue cambric. I think this campaign was the liveliest one of the 19th century, with its log cabin & hard cider, and songs. Poor Harrison lived but a month, got cold at his inauguration & never got over it: then Tyler took his place, and was thought to be a traitor to his party although he had Dan'l Webster as his Secretary of State.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/20/00

Saturday, January 20, 1900

Fog & light drizzling rain. Dark all day long almost needed the gas lighted. I was in my office most of the day, and as it is "Bank night" was there until after nine PM. I do not like this unseasonable weather, the snow is nearly gone from the fields & what is worse the outlook for Ice on the Pond is doubtful:

There is not much to write about so will go on with

the story of my fathers old house. I stated that a one story kitchen was built in 1837, parlor finished 1842, then in 1853 my father died: the next improvement was to put in a furnace: my sister was married, in fact it was a double wedding in 1854, my oldest sister marrying Dr R L Hodgdon who continued my fathers practice and after his marriage came to the house to live while my younger sister married Theodore Stanwood late from Gloucester Mass. And they went to house-keeping in this Town. With a furnace in the house, it was comfortable, yet a few years after the one story kitchen and back piazza were torn away and a two story kitchen was placed in the rear, the second story having a good sleeping room and a comodius bath room, so that the house was modernized, and so it is today, a most comfortable house, that has seen in its interior many changes, all improvements, but the exterior is just the same as it was "in "the good old days"!.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/21/00

Sunday, January 21, 1900

A thankful change in the weather: in the early morning the wind was high in the northwest, cooler, the thermometer at 22° the clouds were disappearing, and by 10 oclock the sky was clear. At 9, I started for my Sunday round, to my sisters, my son on Wellington St and thence to the Post Office & home by 10.30 Sunday is a day I take for rest. I need the rest and it is good for me. We had a good dinner from a pair of chickens that an old friend Edwin Robbins sent to me and we enjoyed it with the other good things Mrs W. looks out for. I did not go out the rest of the day except for my usual airing [?] & calls from 4.30 to 6.

As to my personal remenissances, I think it may be interesting at some time, and in this diary I will as I proceed, give some statements. Born Aug 22d 1826, my memory excepting one or two little incidents goes back to 1830 or about 70 years: being a delicate child my father the only physician in the Town had quite a large practice both here and in Lexington, and when quite young I used to be taken in his "Sulky" being really a one seated chaise, on his daily rounds to see his patients. There were no drug stores in those days, and the country Doctors carried with them their own medicines, in a box aboout 15 inches long 9 in wide and 9 inches deep. Well it was on this box in the bottom of the Sulky, I used to sit in my rides, my father's knees on each side of me protecting me from falling out. At every house where my father stopped I went with him, so that at a very early age, I became well acquainted with nearly every family in this Town and many families in Lexington.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/22/00

Monday, January 22, 1900

A beautiful bright clear morning, with thermometer about 40°, the oldest inhabitant fails to recall, more delightful weather than we have had since Sept 1st last, very little rain to Jan 1st, and the only real Snow Storm occurred on that day, and hardly a patch of that snow is to be seen to day. Well the annual meeting of the Middlesex Mutual Fire Ins. Co occurs today, and at 8.40 I took the train for Concord Mass, arriving at the Ins Office about 9.30 A.M. I have many old friends in Concord and it is pleasant to meet them there. The meeting was at 11 AM, only about 15 attended & it was all over at 12. then I was invited to the annual dinner where we all chatted informally for an hour. I then went to the Ins Office and about 3 my old friend Judge Keyes invited me over to his house & at 4.20 I left on the cars for home. Part of Judge Keyes' House was built in 1640 and part in 1750 it was there when the British attacked Concord in 1775 and the Judge delights in showing strangers the bullet holes from British bullets made on that eventful day In the evening my daughters had a party of their freinds in "Pleasant Hall" in their school house, a sort of reunion & I judge it was enjoyable for it was after 11 PM when the guests departed, but I had retired before that. having quietly spent the evening at home.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/23/00

Tuesday, January 23, 1900

A mild clear morning, which became a little cloudy and hazy soon after daylight. I spent the whole day in my office, with my typewriter, writing up policies for February. the weather was hazy during the whole day nothing unusual occured.

I will go back to early history of myself. My father a graduate of Harvard always was fond of Latin and as soon as any of us children could read English, he would take us on his knee and there study Latin so thus at 5 years old my study of Latin commenced and at 10 years I had read the 12 books of Virgils AEnead, as my father was anxious for me to go to college and in the end to study medicine. "Man proposes and God disposes": we will see how it turned out. My first appearance in a public School was in a little old fashioned district school that stood on the old burying ground on the south side of a brook where the burying ground gate now is: opposite this school house in 1831 was the Town Pound, where stray cattle & hogs were empounded, until their owners paid the fee for their discharge. In 1832 this Pound was removed to the training field (where Linwood St now is) near the

school house then existing in the Southeast district. Well my first teacher under the old system of district Schools was Rebecca Whittemore daughter of Jonathan Whittemore who lived in a Brick House now standing, the first house on Southwest side of Massachusetts Avenue, after crossing Alewife Brook from Cambridge. Successively I had Rebecca, Sophronia & Julia Anne Whittemore all sisters as my early teachers.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/24/00

Wednesday, January 24, 1900

A clearing morning with snow flurries, but warm and muddy. I went to Boston, returning at 10.40, and then to work: in my office. it clouded up towards night and grew cooler, but I went to the Savings Bank as usual, reaching home a little before 10 PM. In 1832 I had for a teacher Miss Mary A Locke. in another year or in 1834 she married John A P Peirce. they are the parents of Warren A Peirce the present Treasurer of our historical society. Even with riding with my father, my early education was not neglected, yet I was not a strong child, from swelling of the glands in my throat I was often deaf, so much so I was taken from School, but my Latin, learned on my father's knee was not neglected. The School house I first attended was built in 1801 and located about half way between the present Unitarian Church and the Public Library Building but was removed in 1810 to beside the brook in the old burying ground and was torn down in 1838.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/25/00

Thursday, January 25, 1900

This is a dark morning and about noon it rained and from that on through the night there were heavy showers. I went out in the lower part of the Town on business in the morning and spent the rest of the day in my office it was about as dismal a winter day as one ever experiences.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/26/00

Friday, January 26, 1900

The clouds early this morning broke away the wind went into the northwest and it is growing colder with a high wind. I went to Boston and returned as usual at

10.40, and spent the rest of the day in my office.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/27/00

Saturday, January 27, 1900

Well it was cold this A.M. thermometer about 10° above zero, but how the wind blew. I went to my office in the morning, and about 10 A.M. went on business in the lower part of the Town, and right glad I was to get back in my warm office about 12 M. I spent the afternoon writing and as this is Saturday ("Bank night") I went to the Bank in the evening reaching home about 9.30 P.M.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/28/00

Sunday, January 28, 1900

This is a clear cold morning thermometer 12° above zero but the wind was in the south and the weather moderated and toward night it clouded up and looked like a Storm: it snowed a little early in the evening & that turned later on to rain. I made my usual Sunday visits and the rest of the time I spent at home

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington diary - 1/29/00

Monday, January 29, 1900

Well it rained hard after midnight and rained hard as I started for Boston at 7.40 A M though the wind was in the West: but about 10 A M the clouds began to break away & in the afternoon it was clear & pleasant. I came home from Boston at 11.40, had my hair cut and was glad that was done. the rest of the day spent in my office, as it is a busy time with me, always, on the last & first of every month

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/30/00

Tuesday, January 30, 1900

This morning was clear & cool, though not very cold, and it remained so all the day, I was at work in my office all day. In the evening there was a regular monthly meeting of the Arlington Historical Society and Warren W Rawson one of the ablest Market Gardeners in this Town and a member of the Society read a paper

on the evolution of the Market Gardens for the past 30 years: it was quite interesting & the paper was given to the Society. at 10 PM I went home to bed.

From: Kaj Telenar <redlum\_jak@yahoo.com>  
Subject: [arlington] Wellington Diary - 1/31/00

Wednesday, January 31, 1900

Was a cloudy morning but pleasant, but cool. I had so much writing to do I did not go to Boston, my son Frank going, so the whole day, I was at work in the office. It began to be right cold in the P.M. and after supper I went to the Bank & did not get home after a call on my sister until nearly 10. P.M.

From sch@wjh.harvard.edu Wed Aug 25 20:15:29 1999  
Date: Wed, 25 Aug 1999 19:11:16 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Shawn Clemens Harriman <sch@wjh.harvard.edu>  
To: arlington@cs.umb.edu  
Subject: [arlington] diary

The description of the diary sounds terribly interesting. Perhaps the historical society, if it eventually does get the diary, could publish it?

A small run of this diary might bring the society some money; I'd certainly purchase such a pamphlet.

Shawn Harriman

>DIARY OF 1900. Arlington, Massachusetts. When at the age of 73, a Mr. Wellington began his diary on January 1, 1900, he declared that it was the  
>first day of the 20th century (in his opinion, which he would not discuss).  
>He proposed to record current events and some history of the 19th Century in  
>hopes "that the diary will be preserved and read in January AD 2000." He  
>recorded weather, reminisced about talking as a boy with a survivor of the  
>American Revolution. He attended local Historical Society meetings and  
>described the burning down of his church building by careless steeple  
>painters. A native of Arlington (formerly West Cambridge, Mass.), he was  
>born in 1826 the son of a physician who had come there in 1809. By day  
>a  
>fire insurance agent, he worked until 9:30 pm as one of the trustees of the  
>Arlington Five Cents Savings Bank and Chairman of the Board of  
>Examiners. He  
>attributed his advanced age to his regular schedule of habits and  
>ability to

>sleep well. This volume should be of interest to local historians of  
>Arlington, Mass. and the Boston area. It is written very legibly in a  
>Standard Diary bound volume slightly scuffed in front, but sound and in  
very  
>good condition.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1900

High wind cold & clear thermometer 4° only above zero, too cold for comfort and the wind blew up clouds of dust on the street, for mind we have had no fall of snow since the snow storm Jany 1st. Having a plenty to do in doors, I tried to keep comfortable there, and so worked in the office all day, and spent the evening at home.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1900

The high wind has subsided but it is cold the thermometer was but 4° above zero this A M. Yet it is good for the Ice Packers and they are at work on Spy Pond cutting 11 inch Ice, for their Houses. I went to Boston this AM at 7.40 and returned at 10 40. the weather continued clear & cold with rising temperature during the day. I spent the rest of the day at work and went home as usual at 4.30

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1900

Slightly milder this AM. Thermometer at 9° above it was clear in the morning but became hazy under a southeast wind. I spent the whole day in my office at work: directly after supper an alarm of fire was given Box 21 the fire was in the house of Catherine O'Brien #67 Decatur St opposite Union St. it was an incendiary fire as the house was unoccupied. the all out signal was given at 7.30, but again at 11 PM another alarm for a fire in the same house was given and as the first fire was inside the last finished up by burning off the roof. It was insured in the Middlesex Mutual for \$1200.

[I think Mr. Wellington's interest in this fire was his role as an insurance agent rather than as a firefighter.]

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1900

Was raw & cold in morning thermometer 20° but the wind was east and uncomfortable. Directly after breakfast I went to 41 Medford St to see Charles Gott Chief Engineer of the Fire Dept to obtain all the information I could about the fire. then I went to my office and wrote a letter to the Middlesex Mutual Fire Ins Co advising them of the facts. then home by 10.30, where I remained until 4.30 then called on Mrs Hodgdon & Mrs Elwell before supper as I do regularly every Sunday. the weather grew much milder in the afternoon and about 8 P.M. it began to rain hard and it rained hard all night.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1900



This morning early it was raining and the wind shifted to a high & furious Northwest wind about 6 o'clock but it was cloudy all the forenoon, and about noon it began to freeze. I did not go to the City on account of the weather, but my son went and I was at work in my office all day. The sun shown bright in the afternoon & the wind was high & the thermometer was but 28° to 30°, yet it was very disagreeable with the high wind. Prof. McVane of Harvard College lectured in the evening upon the South African Boers with whom England is now at War. I did not attend but was at home during the evening with Mrs W. and the rest of the family at the lecture

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1900

This morning was somewhat hazy with thermometer about 22° above zero; there was no snow, and at times one could almost see the sun. I went to Boston and attended to some business returning to my office at 10.40. This morning I took two pictures belonging to my son's wife and her sister as gifts to the Arlington historical society one was a view of the old 1st Parish Church in the center of the Town with the main Ave. as it was in 1817. this church was pulled down in 1840: the other picture was of the Church that replaced this, and was burned down January 1st 1856. these two pictures we hope to preserve in our room at the Public Library.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1900

One hardly ever meets with a more beautiful Winter morning than this. the sky was clear, thermometer about 20° above zero, and no wind and now [sic] snow in sight: so far this winter has been an exceptionable one, only one snow storm of any account and that was on Jan'y 1st The ice harvest on Spy Pond is made, with fine quality of 10 to 12 inch Ice. An old saying is that "winter never rots in the sky" is applicable. so as there are 20 days of February & 31 days of March to come we may have a good taste of winter yet

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1900

This morning was hazy & warm, with a moderating atmosphere, about 2 PM a misty rain which increased in the PM. Mrs W had in Pleasant Hall a meeting in the interest of missionary work in Alaska. well the rain prevented a large audience about 40 in all. A lady spoke of the work there and there was [hot] chocolate coffee & sandwiches for entertainment. It was quite a success considering [sic] the weather and it continued to rain all the evening. As for myself I took a trip on the electric [streetcar] in the morning call'd [sic] on Theo Schwamb also on J.F. Hobbs who was not at home, returned to my office about 11 AM and excepting going to dinner was in the office all day, and wife & I were all alone in the evening the

girls being out

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1900

A cloudy rainy morning & warm. I went to Boston on business and reached my office at 10.40 it rained quite hard some of the time. The weather is quite warm, but from prospects think we may have by Sunday a severe touch of winter. see reports in diary later. One thing curious at Chicago yesterday thermometer 60° above zero in the far Northwest 40° below zero a difference of 100°. What a climate. & now let us see what is coming here. Well it continued warm but it was hazy and no rain in the P.M. I was in the office all day at work, and in the evening remained at home

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900

A hazy morning a little cooler, looked like rain but no rain came. I went to my office as usual and attended to my business, and worked there all day it was a dark dismal sort of day. my daughter with their Aunt Mrs Negley were in Boston all day, so wife & I had our dinner alone, but all turned up for supper. After supper I went to the Bank, called on my sister on my way home, which I reached about 10. PM.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1900

Below freezing this morning and a little cloudy but the sun would come out occasionally. no storm as yet, the weather prophet says the Western Storm has died out, but a rain storm is coming from the South. it clouded up toward night and looked like rain & it was warmer, but no rain came. I made my Sunday morning rounds, to my sister, my son and Post Office returning home about 10.30. In the afternoon at 4.30 went to my sisters, and to see Mrs Elwell and at home to supper at 6 PM and did not go out again that night.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1900

Another cloudy & warm day, threatning rain, but no rain, but it was a darksome day, with no sun yet no snow, what a winter! I went to my office but

not to Boston and there I was busy all day, and being busy is a good thing for an old man like me. I pity an old man that has nothing to do, I hope I shall be a useful member of my family until the day of my death. I got home about 4.30 PM and remained there, although I was most tempted to go to the Town Hall at a public hearing before the selectmen by the Boston Elevated RR, to build a road through Broadway to the center of the Town also from the center on Medford St to Medford line. I think they will get permission for two tracks on Broadway and one on Medford St. no rain today except a little mist.

[From the Arlington Advocate, January 4, 2001 --

Top 1900 story - Town becomes trolley car hub

By RICHARD A. DUFFY

What was arguably the major event of 1900 never appeared in the form of a single newspaper story. Rather, it exists as several ordinary news items scattered throughout the Arlington Advocates of 100 years ago.

Yet hindsight reveals that at the end of 1900, the new trolley car hub in Arlington had emerged as the crucial event that would transform a quiet market-garden town into the residential suburb that we know today....

On Nov. 24, 1900 the streetcars began running on the Broadway line....

]

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1900

Well about 2 AM it began to rain with a South east wind and it rained hard until about 7 A M and then not quite so hard, but it rained and the no school signal sounded at 8.15, so my girls will have a day off with their school today. I went to the office in the morning as usual, and was busy writing

[What a concept - no school on account of RAIN!]

From swg@ralph2.mit.edu Sun Feb 18 14:21:23 2001  
Date: Sun, 18 Feb 2001 14:17:37 -0500 (EST)  
From: Stu Galley <swg@ralph2.mit.edu>  
Reply-To: galley@alum.mit.edu  
To: arlington town list <arlington@bogartz.com>  
Cc: Ron Newman <rnewman@thecia.net>  
Subject: Re: [arlington] Wellington diary, February 14

On Wed, 14 Feb 2001, Ron Newman wrote:

> On 2/14/1900, Mr. Wellington wrote:

>

> >In the morning took a Mystic St car and

> >called on my old friend Stephen Symmes now 84

> >years old he was hale & hearty, but his daughter is

> >in ill health and he is afraid she will not recover.

>

> Did your friend start the Symmes Hospital?

He gave a large bequest to help start it, and I wonder if that action was inspired by his daughter's illness.

Here is some info from "Arlington Celebrates The Growing Years: 1875-1975"

(Arlington Heritage Trust, 1977) --

1901 Stephen Symmes leaves \$35,000 and his farm  
for the purpose of founding a hospital.

1909 Symmes Hospital building completed; drive for  
funds to equip and furnish it starts.

1910 Symmes Hospital Auxiliary launched.

1912 Symmes Hospital opens.

1922 Nurses' training program at Symmes accredited.

1963 Ground is broken for addition to Symmes Hospital.

1965 Symmes Hospital opens new wing.

--- stu

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arlington mailing list

arlington@bogartz.com

List Admin: <http://www.pairlist.net/mailman/listinfo/arlington>

FAQ: <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/enews.htm>

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1900

Bright and clear, thermometer below freezing and dust flying through the streets at 7 AM what a change. I did not go to Boston but was in my office most of the day. In the morning took a Mystic St car and called on my old friend Stephen Symmes now 84 years old he was hale & hearty, but his daughter is in ill health and he is afraid she will not recover. The wind blew strong all day & with the dust was very disagreeable.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1900

Clear and pleasant, wind has subsided, the thermometer little below freezing in the morning but cloudy as the morning came on. Took a car for the Heights and attended to some business and reached my office about 11.20 and from that on was there all day

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1900

Hazy in the morning and I went to Boston was quite busy as I had not been in before since Friday last. I came home at 11.40 and went to the office. it was cloudy all the PM and a heavy snow storm predicted for tomorrow, the weather became cooler in the evening and the wind was high, but the sky was clear.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1900

Another hazy and cool morning wind North and cloudy toward noon wind was in the East and quite chilly, looks like snow, but it is reported that the heavy snow storm is not coming, though I think there will be snow flurries before tomorrow morning. I was in the office all day and it is Bank night and I shall have to stay out until 10 PM. I am glad it is not snowing. Spy Pond is all open has been so since Tuesday's rain, lucky that most of the Ice crop is in. Alas about 4 PM it commenced to snow slightly with a high wind & with the wind the snow increased and though the snow was light by 10 PM the ground was well covered.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1900

All night long, "it blew, it sned and it friz" yes it was quite a snow storm. thermometer about 18 at 8 AM and it staid there all day. the snow drifted badly, though it was not deep, but drifted. No Church in the Orthodox to-day, about 25 went to the Unitarian about 30 to the Baptist Church. It cleared about 10 AM but the walking was bad, no Street paths opened until about 11 A M. My own family were at home all day except Arthur who went to Church and about 4 PM Ethel and Annette went to their brother Franks and remained there to supper, coming home about 8 PM. Mrs W and her sister Aunt Ellie (Mrs Negley) and I did not go out of the house all day. The wind subsided some at night & thermometer was about 15° all night.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1900

A bright clear morning thermometer 17° above paths in the snow had been made and the walking was good. I went to my office as usual and there I remained all day hard at work: went home about 4.30 PM. After reading the paper after supper made a call on my sister for an hour, came home at 8.30 and to bed at 9.30. Weather bright and clear all day

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1900

A little cool this AM Thermometer 10° above zero and no wind. it was bright and clear all day. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40, paid my annual life Ins fee, rather under protest, but cannot get out of it. On my return mailed all my Insurance Expiration notices for March, and then went to writing & at 4.30 went home. It was a lovely day overhead & the snow melted in the sun. the Town had got the sidewalks well cleared of snow, which I think will not last long: after arriving home I remained there all the evening with the family.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1900

Another fine morning, it froze some in the night and thermometer about 11° above zero at 7 A.M. It was a bright sun Shiny day, and the sun melted the snow rapidly. I went to my office as usual did not go out in the morning except to attend to some business for Mrs Negley (Aunt Ellie we call her)

on Medford Street. at 12.45 home to dinner and at 1.45 back in my office again from which I went home at 4.30 as usual. The sky began to look hazy and the Weather Bureaux reports rain tomorrow with high East winds. I am sorry for it being Washington's birth day and a holiday so many looking for a day of recreation will be disappointed. In the evening I went to the Savings Bank as usual, calling on my sister on my way home which I reached about 10 P.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1900

Well "Old Prob" is right. When I awoke this AM the wind was East and it rained, although it was a holiday I went to my office as usual, and spent all the morning writing on a paper for the Historical Society the title of which is the Evolution of Passenger transportation from Arlington to Boston, within my memory, from 1830 to 1900. it would look well to compare present conditions with what may be 100 years hence. I was more interested in this work as I made the first survey and superintended the construction of the Steam RR to Lexington in 1844/45/46, and was the Lessee of the West Cambridge Horse Railroad from 1864 to 1869, and such changes in both these roads since that time. it is surprising & no one knows what the future improvements will be. About 12 M started for home it was a storm the wind blew a gale and the rain poured down. I called on my sister and arrived home at 1 PM, had my dinner and did not go out again all the day, and the rain continued to pour & the winds to blow until way into the night. The snow disappeared rapidly but the drifts are still in sight.

[A hundred years thence... The steam RR is gone and the right-of-way is currently used by non-motor vehicles, though not through to Boston. The horse RR is replaced by motor buses, and the operating companies have been taken over by one state agency. Traffic congestion on the surface has led to subway trains. Personally-owned vehicles are common. From now, what will the future be -- improvements or not?]

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1900

A cloudy, hazy morning with thermometer about 2° below freezing. I caught a fall, slipping upon the frosted plank walk from my door steps. I came down easily & gracefully, but my daughters seeing me ran to the door, but I was there to

meet them and not hurt or jarred. Well I went to my office and spent all the morning there on my paper. there was a little misty rain during the forenoon but it stopped about noon it is cloudy and another rain is prophesied. I returned to the office at 1.45 and was busy there all the afternoon. It gradually became warmer but toward night it was cooler with hazy weather

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900

It was bright & clear this AM with thermometer just below freezing, but after sunrise it became warmer. About 10 A.M. I started on a walk down Broadway to Mrs Gunzenhiser's [?] on North St West Somerville. it was a hard walk but I got there took an Insurance survey of the place, left there at 11.15 AM and took car on Broadway at North St & went to West Somerville Station on the Steam RR & soon a car that landed me at Arlington Station at 11.40 AM I went direct to my office going to dinner at home at 1.15. Our girls with Aunt Ellie had gone to Boston & my wife to see a sick daughter of Mr Artemus Frost on Brighton St Belmont. Mrs W went to Mrs H Y Hells [?] to dinner not getting home until 4 PM. It grew hazy in the PM wind South west. I went home at 4.30 and at 7 PM returned to the Savings Bank where I remained until 9.20. went home with a call on my sister arriving home at 10 PM It began to rain about 10 PM & soon after it rained hard. about 12.30 came a severe clapp of thunder, & the rain poured and it took off nearly all the snow that fell on Sunday the 18th inst

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1900

Was a mild hazy morning thermometer early about freezing, wind moved to west & northwest and cooler. no great change in the weather until toward night when it was much cooler at 10 PM wind blowing a gale, thermometer 22° above zero. About 9.20 AM I called on my sister, then to my son on Wellington St about 10.15 we went for our mail, and I got home about 10.30. The rain in the night was warm with a perfect downpour but about 8 AM it cleared and the wind coming into the North West it blew a gale and at 10 PM thermometer was 13° above zero. I went to Judge Parmenter at 7.30 PM spent my evening there and got home at 10 PM.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1900

A blustering northwest gale all night and in the morning, at 7 AM Thermometer 10° above zero. went to my office at 7.30 and to Boston at 7.40 AM had many errands to do so did not leave Boston until 11.17 train. Called on Frank Nichols about 10. AM had not seen him for some weeks. The wind blew a gale all day & very uncomfortable to be about. I got home at 1 PM had dinner & then in my office at 1.45, but how the Northwest wind did blow and at noon the thermometer stood only 13° above zero, it was the worst day to be out that we have had this Winter. When I went home at 4.30 the thermometer was 10° above and it kept falling until at 10 PM it was 3° above zero, we had good fires & kept the house warm.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1900

The wind whistled all night long and at 7 AM my thermometer was 6° below zero, the coldest night of the season so far, the wind still blows hard and it is hard to face the cold & wind. I have been comfortable in my office all the morning, and dread going hence to dinner. Well it is the worst day to be out we have had this winter. the wind is a gale from the Northwest, and thermometer 6° above zero at noon, the coldest day of the season. I wrote all the afternoon in my office going home at 4.30, thermometer 5° above zero wind still high. The monthly meeting of the Historical Society was held and I was billed to speak subject reminiscences of old West Cambridge, was surprised to find such a large audience on such a cold night, and felt quite complimented. I talked from 8.15 to 10.40 and think I satisfied them all, at least many said so, but I guess I tired them out, for when I get to talking of bygone days I never know when to stop.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1900

Clear & cold, wind somewhat subsided, thermometer 3° above zero. soon after 8 it began to haze up and wind went to southwest & the Weather bureau promises us late to night or early tomorrow snow or rain, it feels like snow just at present. I did not go

to Boston so my son Frank went and I spent both morning & afternoon in my office writing, and my office is the most comfortable place I have found. Wrote to Dr W. S. Bigelow as to a place in Mass. Genl Hospital for Mrs John Locke. went home to supper at 4.30 and returned to the Bank about 7 PM, going home via my sisters about 9.30, cold but warmer than at noon, and a little snow was falling.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1900

A dark cloudy morning, no snow of any consequence fell in the night, the thermometer was 25° above zero and the sidewalks and street glazed with Ice, it was hard work to walk without falling as I went down to my office. About 8 AM it grew warmer and began to rain and about noon it rained quite hard, but the ice melted and the walking improved when I went home at noon to dine. Returned in the afternoon & it rained quite hard all the rest of the day until I went home at 4.30. Wind South and high and it rained nearly all night

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1900

Cloudy this AM and clearing, thermometer was 39° above. I went to Boston at 7.40 AM attended to business & returned at 10.40. Mr Blasdale the Treasurer of the Savings Bank returned with me, he had been sick at his home in Hyde Park since Thursday last. There was plenty of office work but the sun came out, wind high and in the West. Went home to dinner & thence spent the afternoon in my office, going home at 4.30 PM as usual, and there I remained. It became cooler with the wind high all night.

[But, very far away from Arlington ...

"The winter is forbidden 'til December  
And exits MARCH THE SECOND on the dot.  
By order, summer lingers through September  
In CAMELOT!"]

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900

This morning was clear with high Northwest Wind

thermometer 24° above zero so the ground was frozen and the dust on the avenue was uncomfortable. I was in my office part of the morning, went up to Arlington Heights and returned about 11.15 Spent the rest of the day in the office, going to dinner as usual. "Mother" (that is Mrs W) and I dined alone as Mrs Negley, Ethel & Annette went to Boston for the day. I went home at 4.30 and at 7 came to the Bank as usual going home via my sister at 9.45. It has been a real March day, hope it will calm down by tomorrow for Sunday.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1900

It did calm down and this Sunday morning saw the clouds disappearing with thermometer 24° above. As usual we breakfasted at 8.15, at 9.15 I went on my Sunday morning round to Mrs Hodgdon's then to my son Frank and then with him to the Post Office for the mail at 10.15 then home. The family all went to church and I rested. At 1.30 we dined and at 4.30 I took my next round of exercise, going to Mrs Hodgdon's and then as usual Sunday, making my 5 o'clock call on Mrs Elwell and home at 6 PM. To night the annual "No License" meeting was held at the Town Hall, as tomorrow is the annual Town Election for Town officers. None of my family went and the usual Church meetings of Sunday evenings were postponed. We all retired about 10 PM, the weather was much warmer and cloudy at night.

[I wonder if this Town meeting, about whether or not to license the sale of alcoholic beverages, was just a formality.

An important social effort of the late 1800s was the Temperance Movement. As early as 1861 Arlington had a Sons of Temperance group. Advocate founder and town historian Charles Parker, a supporter of prohibition and abstinence, says that a "reactionary wave" of sentiment against the sale of liquor and local licensing resulted after prohibition was repealed in 1875.

Temperance societies -- the Reynolds Reform Club and the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) -- were organized in 1876 after the appearance in Arlington of reformer Dr. Henry A. Reynolds whose motto was "Dare to do right." He must have had a powerful message, because 135 men joined the Reynolds Red Ribbon Reform Club, and two weeks later the women

formed the WCTU which Parker considered the first woman's group which was distinct from the churches.

The legislature in 1881 voted to let the towns determine if they would allow liquor to be sold. Arlington voted "yes" until 1887, when it voted no. The next year a new Arlington resident, Lt. Governor John Q. A. Brackett, addressed the WCTU. His theme was "let well enough alone," since there was no suggestion that liquor would be a local improvement. Prohibition was voted in 1888 and the Reynolds Reform Club was eventually disbanded.

-- Kathryn Jorgensen, writing in "Arlington Celebrates The Growing Years: 1875-1975"]

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1900

The morning was hazy thermometer about 40  
I went to Boston at 8.40 returning at 10.40 AM  
and then to my office, taking time in the  
morning to vote at the Town Hall. my first vote  
for Town offices was cast in March 1848 52 years  
ago I cannot realize it. I spent the day in  
my office as usual, the weather became colder  
and a misty rain came on in the night and  
it began to freeze, and looked like a storm,  
however I was at home at 5 o'clock and  
remained there [sic], retiring about 10 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1900

Snow began to fall early this morning and the  
thermometer was about 20° above. it was a light  
snow storm with considerable wind, and it snowed  
all the morning. in the afternoon it darkened up  
grew warmer and a light cold rain fell which  
softened the snow without melting much. I spent  
the whole day in my office except going home  
to my meals. it was a dull stupid day and  
coming home at 5 PM remained there all  
the evening.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1900

Cooler this morning, thermometer 22° with  
bright sunshine. Walked down to my office  
in the middle of the street as the sidewalks  
were so icy, but the warm sun and thermom-  
eter at 35° at noon softened the ice and im-  
proved the walking. I was in my office all  
day, excepting an hour from 11 to 12 I went to

see an old lady Mrs E W Locke who always has been in my care since her husband died in the Civil War. She is not well, and we are thinking of putting her in an Old Lady's Home. I made up her Pension Papers, cheered her up a little and then to dinner. In afternoon at the office and in the evening at the Savings Bank, and home by 9.45. To day in our Pleasant Hall, the family were busy with a fair for the Home Mission Band both in afternoon and evening. they came home or in from the fair about 9.30 to 10 PM tired out but made about \$75, which for a small affair or Fair was doing well

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1900

A bright sunny morning thermometer 22° a little icy but the sun will soon melt it, it is getting so high now. Now I do love to see the days begin to show that they are longer. My ideal would be to have the sun rise at 6 AM and set at 7 PM the year round, what a nice arrangement! I went to my office as usual for the day, and it is a busy man I am. I never find a moment to be idle in. This day is a repetition of every day, except I had no business to attend to in Boston. Worked in my office all day as usual. The sun reduced the ice & snow and made the walking good. In the evening I went to see my old friend Mrs Almira T Whittemore (nee Fessenden) she is now a well preserved old lady of 71 years. We talked over old times and old people of this Town whom we both had known, and to the enjoyment of us both so that I did not leave for home until 10 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1900

A beautiful clear morning thermometer 24° and wind light from the West. Went to my office as usual: and in the morning went to our sub agency at Arlington Heights. the sun was out warm and the walking was muddy when off the concrete sidewalks, returning to my office at 11. I remained there all day, going to dinner as usual and home by 5 PM. It was a lovely day, but clouded up toward night, in the evening, the family were all out and I "held the Fort" spending my time in reading

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1900

The sun rose clear & bright thermometer 30° at 7 AM,  
Weather bureau reports cloudy weather with some rain.  
Will wait results, does not look like it at the present  
writing. A most beautiful day, melting in the warm  
sun. I went to my office in the morning, then at 11.20  
took steam train for Boston, going to my Boston office.  
I had some business at several Ins Offices, then went for  
the first time for nearly 1 1/2 years and got my dinner in  
a restaurant. At 2 P.M. went to the Assembly Rooms of the  
Boston Board of fire underwriters, wher the Fire Ins. Agents  
organised the Mass Association of Fire Ins Agents, such  
an organization has been thought of for sometime and  
about 125 agents from all parts of the State were  
present and a Constitution & By-Laws were adopted  
and signed, thus launching forth a new Element as to  
Fire Ins. in this State. About 4 PM we finished and  
then I reached home about 5 PM. in the evening  
I was at the Bank returning to my house about  
9.45. the weather was growing cooler, with a North  
West brisk wind, coming up during the night

["On March 10, 1900, Fred Chase bought the first auto in  
town -- a one-cylinder Locomobile; and shortly after,  
Dr. Stickney purchased a Stanley Steamer."  
-- Charles W. Blackmon in \_Arlington ... \_1875-1975]

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 1900

A clear cold morning with fresh Northwest wind  
and thermometer at 16° it was cold all day & the  
wind was high and very uncomfortable all the  
day through and into the night. the thermometer  
was only 22° at the highest and toward night  
began to fall, and the wind continued high.  
I made my usual Sunday morning calls and returned  
home by 10.30. My wife did not go to church but  
sit on the sunny side of the piazzar well wrapped  
up, and obtained the benefit of the fresh air and  
the sun. About 4.30 I set out for my afternoon outing  
to my sister's and to Mrs Elwell's, her sister Mrs Hill  
from New York has been with her the past 10 days  
and the two seemed to enjoy being together. Mrs  
Elwell was quite proud that her oldest son Willie  
(born in China) would be 21 years old on the 12" of  
March (tomorrow). I reached home at 6 and  
remained there all the evening reading,  
but by 10 o'clock the wind still high thermometer 9°  
above zero only.

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 1900

A cold morning. Sky clear. Wind high thermometer 7° above zero, and very disagreeable to be out I went to Boston at 7.40 attended to some business there and returned to my office at 10.40 where I remained until noon recess, then home to dinner. While eating dinner we were reminded that it was our old friend Judge Parmenter's birth day. 84 years old to day, and so we will all have to go & see him. the dear old Judge his mind is perfectly clear but phisically he is weak, but not one day does he lose from his duties at the Court House. So I called on him and spent a pleasant hour with him between 4 & 5 PM. he lost a very dear wife just 2 years ago March 31" 1898 & and she was the 1st member of our historical Society to be called hence. her death was a severe affliction to the Judge, but he has borne up from it with great courage for one so dependent as he was on her. I arrived home soon after 5 PM & remained there all the evening. Ethel & Annette went to see the Judge in the evening, but it was so cold & the wind blowing still so high Mrs W did not go. I was glad my girls went as the Judge is very fond of them.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1900

Another clear morning thermometer only 14° above zero but the wind is going down and we are promised warmer weather tonight and tomorrow. Went to my office as usual, and as this day is a duplicate of other days, I arrived home at 5 PM and took my regular afternoon siesta, and at 6 PM prompt tea & toast I was at home all the evening and so was the family. Poor wife well she went to the Baptist Home for old ladies in the morning and coming from there at noon, in going down the steps caught the heel of her boot and fell she was quite prostrated at first & for a wonder no bones were broken, but she was taken in at the home & when she really came to herself came home in charge of one of the old ladies. I think hereafter Mrs W. must have a companion on her Charitable outings. Well we were all at home in the evening and to bed at 10 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1900

Well it is warmer Thermometer 25° this AM wind East. Mrs W. feels the effects of yesterdays fall but as no bones were broken, we as a family

are glad it is no worse. I went to Boston this AM & returned at 10.40 A. M. This is a beautiful spring day no high winds and it is thawing in the sun. I went to dinner as usual and spent the afternoon in my office, going home at 5 PM. At 6. PM I went to a fair in the vestry of the Unitarian Church, and there had a nice supper with a good cup of coffee to top off with. I did not stay long as I had to be at the Bank by 7 P.M. where I remained until 9 then going home with a short call on my sister, on the way. The Fair was fairly successful, will net some 350 or \$400 for the Church and I guess they need it

["The first Menotomy meetinghouse was built on this site in 1734.... the fourth meetinghouse, dedicated on January 1, 1857, was designed by Richard Bond in the Italianate revival style. Its steeple, the second tallest in New England, housed the Town Clock, a last reminder of the early union in New England of the church and the secular government, dissolved in West Cambridge in 1852 with the construction of the Town House. The fourth meetinghouse was destroyed by fire on March 7, 1975."

-- \_Mill \_Brook \_Valley, Arlington Historical Commission, 1976]

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1900

It grew colder in the night and thermometer was 17° above zero, and wind Northerly and hazy. I went to my office, as usual & remained there all the morning, excepting a short time I spent in the public library; home to dinner & the afternoon in my office. The air is raw & chilly and cloudy; if I were to guess now, would say a good sized snow storm is on the way, of this will write later. I had a lot of photographs brought in to day of Arlington 1817, it looks exactly to me as the Center of the Town looked to me in 1830. Several members of the historical society want a copy, so I shall distribute them. Well when I went home with wind northeast, I said snow and about 5 PM a little drizzle of snow came, and in the night perhaps a couple of inches, but no big snow storm

[

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1900

A dark cloudy morning, wind Northeast early in the morning but about 7.30 flopped round to the South



west with high gales, and warmer thermometer 45°. I went to Boston but about 8 AM the rain just poured down in torrents, and I wished I had staid at home. I went to my Boston office, got my mail and went out in the storm to transact my business. I did keep my umbrella intact but how the wind blew and rain in torrents. I took Electric for depot and 10.17 train for home, arriving [\*] at 10.40 AM, and found as I expected Mass Ave flooded, but at this time the storm seemed to be waning. Well it rained when I went to dinner, but at 1.30 the wind went to the West and it was a bright and clear afternoon; the streets were well washed, especially the hillside streets. Went home at 4.30 and there remained, the weather grew cooler in the night.

[\* from Union Station (where North Station is now) to Arlington Center in 23 minutes!]

["Around [1900] there were 38 trains a day through Arlington, and the fare to Boston was 13 cents. In addition to passengers, the line carried Arlington products: oval picture frames from Clinton Schwamb & Son, piano cases from Theodore Schwamb Co., flour from Fowle's Arlington Mills, coal to Peirce & Winn, ice from Gage's ice houses along Spy Pond, saws from Welch & Griffith, ice tools from William T. Wood & Co., ... as well as products of the extensive market gardens, which operated year round in greenhouses." -- \_Arlington's \_Little \_Local \_Railroad, John L. Worden III, 1991]

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900

Wind West cold & clear thermometer 24°, but soon the wind arose and it was a raw cold March day. I remained in my office all the morning, had a call from Miss Susie Winn on business. Went home to dinner and spent the afternoon in my office it became somewhat cloudy and it is reported that it will be warmer tomorrow. In the evening I went to the Bank as usual and when I went home it was cold and windy and no warmer

On Sat, 17 Mar 2001, Diane Mahon wrote:

> Wonder what banking business he could do on Saturday in 1900?

While browsing in \_The Arlington and Belmont Directory 1900\_ at Robbins Library, I saw an ad for First National Bank of Arlington that listed hours as "9-3 Daily / Wednesday & Saturday to receive Deposits 7-8.30 P.M." This bank occupied space at the same address as the Cooperative Bank and the Five Cents Savings Bank, at the east corner of Mass. Ave. and Pleasant St.

Apparently the Savings Bank kept the same evening hours, and Mr. W. felt obligated to be there, maybe to meet insurance clients in his rented office. I don't yet know why those particular evenings had open hours; maybe it was because they were typical paydays, or there was some quirk in the method of computing interest that gave depositors a little bonus.

/s/

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1900

Sunday morning clear cold and windy Thermometer 16 the cool dusty weather for we have no snow has caused an epidemic of grip in Boston & vicinity. I do not look to being a victim, as I tell them I am too poor to get even as mean a disease as the grip. I went round my usual Sunday morning calls returning home about 10.30 AM where I Kept housed until 4.30 when I took my afternoon round returning home about 6. it looks like snow, and was chilly. did not go out again.

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1900

Cloudy and warmer thermometer 32°. I went to Boston at 7.40 returning home at 10.40, the day was pleasant with brisk south wind. I kept at work as usual in my office and at 4.30 it had clouded up and was sprinkling slightly. I did not go out again all the evening

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1900

Quite warm thermometer 45° above, it must have rained in the night. it was cloudy in the morning with wind veering to the North West, from South West and grew cooler, but it broke away about noon. Mrs W & her sister started in the forenoon for Malden to lunch and dine with our friends Mr & Mrs Joseph Stanwood, so they have a days outing. At 4.30 I left Arlington to meet my wife and sister, the weather was fine but growing cooler at 5.15 I reached Mr Stanwoods and was greeted Kindly by Mr Stanwood & his wife Mary. At 6.30 we sat down to dinner with two ladies the Misses Lovejoy and after the repast we did not leave until 9.30 PM and via B & M R.R. to Boston & out to Arlington we reached home about 10 45 P.M. had a pleasant time and for us three old folks it was a late outing On our arrival home we met with sad news of

the death of Mrs Florena Wellington wife of our nephew W. H. Wellington son of my late brother Dr W W Wellington. it was sad as she leaves two stalwart boys both in Harvard College and one graduates this year also a daughter about 15 years old. It was a shock to us for we all loved Florena as she was a good wife and mother, and truly loyal to the Wellington family into which she married.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1900

A bright clear morning but cold, thermometer 22° above, yet I went to Boston at 7.40 AM and attended to my business, returning home at 10.40 as usual. Thence the rest of the day in my office; in the afternoon the March wind blew and it was uncomfortable out. After supper at 7 PM I went to the Bank as usual and at 9 left via my sister's for home where I arrived at 9.45.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1900

It is clear this AM thermometer 30° ground froze went to my office as usual, got my mail answered some letters and at 10 AM took Electric for Arlington Heights returned at 11.25. the same old March wind is blowing again and it is not comfortable, however with the steam heat in the office there is a good chance to keep warm. Home to dinner at 12.45. Spent the afternoon in my office as usual going home at 5 PM and did not go out again

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1900

Cloudy morning, thermometer 35° warmer and looks like rain: the morning weather report however predicts warm & fine today, fair & cooler tomorrow, we will see. Went to my office as usual and remained there until 11 o'clock, then home to early dinner. My wife, Mrs Negley & myself took the 12.24 train for Boston and then the Electric Cars to Roxbury, to 320 Walnut Ave to the funeral of my niece, Mrs Florena G Wellington. We arrived my wife Mrs N. and my two daughters Ethel and Annette at my nephew's house at 1.30. the services commenced soon after 2 PM conducted by Mr Plomb of the Congregational Church and ended just before 3. the body of deceased was not shown, but the bank of flowers in and around the coffin were marvelous, so many and so beautiful, and the attendance was large, as she

had made many friends by her charitable work. her husband and his dear good mother now over 80 years old must have felt heartbroken, as well as the 2 sons & the daughter. We left about 3 PM for home by the same route that we came, reaching home just after 4 PM. The body was to be cremated at Forest Hills Cemetery. Cremation is new with us at the present time and I think public opinion is growing more & more in favor of it, and by the next century I think cremation will be general. After reaching home remained there all the evening

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1900

A bright clear morning, but colder, thermometer 22° and it froze quite hard during the night. I went to my office as usual, and spent the day there, going home to dinner. All the family except the servants went to Boston for the day, and it was disagreeable with a high wind and much dust. Nellie the cook gave me a good dinner and then I went to the office & remained until 4.30 then home and at 7 P.M. I went to the Bank and remained until 9.15 then via my sisters got home about 9.45 the weather continues cool and at night it is freezing. We hope for more moderate weather soon.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1900

A clear cool morning with thermometer 28° at 7 AM after a little had March wind addition. the air was bracing, but the wind and dust disagreeable. Mrs W ventured to Church for the first time for several Sundays. At 9.30 took my usual morning outing to my sisters then to my son Frank and then with him at 10.30 to the Post Office returning home at 10.30. there I remained until 4.30 and from then to 6 was out calling at my sisters and on Mrs Elwell as usual on Sundays. After supper the family were all at church but I took care of the house retiring about 9.30 the family coming home at 9 P.M.

MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1900

Another clear cool morning Thermometer 28° but no high wind. I went to Boston at 7.40 and while there had my hair cut. on account of this I did not get home to my office until 11.40, where I was all day excepting my noon hour. In the

P.M. the wind shifted to South west and it began to cloud up so that it may rain before tomorrow morning. I went home about 4.30 as usual and just then a light snow began to fall and by 6 PM the ground was quite white. I did not go out again in the evening, spent my time reading as usual

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1900

Clearing with thermometer at 32° and rising. about 2 inches of snow fell, but very light. I went to my office & spent the morning there. at noon when I went home the thermometer was 45° and the Snow had nearly all disappeared. It cloudied up at noon but I think there will be no rain as the wind is West. I spent the afternoon in my office going home at usual time, and did some writing and in the evening, there was the regular meeting of the historical Society at 8 PM. Rev Geo W Cutter read a paper on Abraham Lincoln, giving some account of his character and how close his interest was in the welfare of the common people. it was quite interesting. about 9.30 went home for the night

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1900

This morning thermometer 40° and warmer it was cloudy early but cleared up cool and windy. I went to Boston as usual returning at 10.40 and the rest of the day was busy writing Ins Policies, going home as usual at 4.30. I returned to the Bank at 7. PM and went home a little after 9. it was cool & windy & freezing.

[I suppose Mr. W. means it literally when he calls it "writing" policies. Probably he used printed forms and filled in the blank spaces by hand, but in special cases he may have used longhand. In January he mentioned "my typewriter" in his office, but in 1900 that could have been either a machine or a human typist, who worked when needed. Of course there were no photocopiers or computerized printers.]

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1900

Clear & cool thermometer 28° went to my office. about 10 went to the upper part of the Town on Insurance business did not get back until about 12. to my office. Went home to dinner, and returned to my work

in the PM and at 4.30, went home and remained there all the evening. had plenty of callers for the family, but retired about 10.30

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1900

Clear with thermometer at 32° I went to Boston this AM and returned at 10.40 to work in my office. going home at noon found a bustling family, as my daughters Ethel and Annette with their Aunt Mrs Negley leave at 4 PM for a 10 days excursion trip to Washington. they had school in the morning and now have 10 days vacation. this leaves only Mrs W. and Arthur and myself at home. so small and quiet a family I am not used to. I saw the girls off at 4 PM then went home, and Mrs W & I spent the evening in peace & quiet, Arthur being out on business.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900

Cloudy wind Northeast thermometer 26 raw & chilly looks like snow but think it may clear up by noon. Well there was a little snow flurry in the morning but not much, but in Boston it was heavier and about 1 inch of snow fell. The weather was raw, chilly and uncomfortable all day. I spent the day in my office as usual and in the evening went to the Bank and did not arrive home until nearly 10 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 1900

A clear morning, thermometer about 40 and a light Northwest wind. I went my regular Sunday morning rounds, coming home at 10.30. A great hole in my family with my daughters & sister in law out, but we heard from them at Philadelphia, where they met old friends and visited Independence hall and Wanamakers store, and at 3 PM left for Washington At dinner there was Mrs W and Arthur & myself only, very seldom do I sit down to a table with only three. I took my usual circuit at 4.30 and the weather was lovely and after arriving home at 6 PM did not go out again.

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1900

A lovely clear morning thermometer 42  
and I went to Boston at 7.40 returned  
at 10.40 to my office, where I was busy  
all the morning. Mrs W. was sick when I  
left in the morning, had taken some medicine  
the night before for a headache, so I told her  
to keep in bed, and so I found her at noon  
it it always happens thus when the girls go  
away, and I despise this habit of taking med-  
icine for every little bad feeling. When I  
came home at night she was a little better  
but ere I retired she had improved. The  
weather clouded up in the P.M. and it  
looks like rain before morning

["The late nineteenth century saw an unprecedented rise in the number of new pharmaceutical products on the market. One physician in 1889 commented: 'Every week, almost every day, brings its new drug, each in turn praised as being the greatest discovery of modern therapeutics.' McTavish attributes this tremendous influx of new products to 'the increasing industrial role of the laboratory, especially in the drug industry.' However, the utility of these novel therapeutic products in medical practice was a source of great debate. Certain physicians staunchly opposed what they saw as 'the growing tendency among German medical men to convert the "Republic of Science" into a commercial oligarchy for the benefit of plutocrats at the expense of suffering humanity.' Others were more accepting of the new developments, but remained wary of those who hailed new compounds as milestone drugs or panaceas, 'lest they bring into discredit both their own calling and that of the pharmaceutical chemist.'"]

--- <http://www.med.mcgill.ca/mjm/issues/v02n02/aspirin.html> ]

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 1900

Well rain came in the night and it rained quite  
hard when I went to the office in the morning  
Mrs W. was better and thought she would be up and  
about ere I came home at noon. it is not cold  
though the wind is Northeast but the thermometer  
was 45°. At noon wind went to North west but all the  
afternoon it showered and about 6 PM it cleared  
up. At 6.30 went to the Bank & made the quarterly ex-  
amination, and was home by 8 PM where I remained  
Mrs W is herself again and we heard from the absent  
ones of our household who were enjoying  
Washington of a Sunday, going to Church but  
not to see the President [McKinley], then in the PM to the

Arlington Soldiers Cemetery, they are bound to put in their time in sight seeing

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1900

A clear morning Thermometer 40° and promises a fine day. Went to Boston 7.40 returned 10.40 and spent the rest of the day writing Insurance Policies. After supper went to the Bank and came home about 9.30. Mrs W went to Baptist sociable in the evening, and came home soon after I did Our girls went to the Congressional Library Monday morning and to Mt Vernon in the afternoon and seem to be enjoying themselves

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1900

A beautiful morning Thermometer 32° but it warmed up and became a fine spring day, such an one as we have been looking for. I spent morning in my office and by invitation, wife and I dined with my sister Mrs Hodgdon and her daughter Nellie, returned to office at 2. PM wrote a letter to my girls, we had one from them to day. Tuesday they went to White House with many school teachers waited 3/4 hour to see the President, got tired, then to the Corcoran Gallery thence to the Capitol, to the Senate Chamber where one of the pages an old scholar of Ethel's in gymnastics at Canton high school, had reserved seats for their party and they listened to debate on Porto Rico, thence they returned to Ebbitt House. At 4.30 I went home and did not go out again, the weather continued delightful.

[From the Web site <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/1900/> --

In April, "the status of Puerto Rico as an unconsolidated US territory was confirmed by the Foraker Act. Under the act civil government was established in Puerto Rico, with the US appointing the governor and an 11-member executive council made up of 6 department heads and 5 other Puerto Ricans. Additionally, a tariff was placed on goods shipped between the US and Puerto Rico."

And --

"McKinley was re-elected in 1900 by the largest plurality up to that time. The following year during a public appearance in Buffalo, New York, McKinley was using his famous "McKinley grip" handshake to work a receiving line when he was shot by an anarchist and later died of his wounds."]



FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1900

A bright clear morning thermometer 42° and I went to Boston on 7.40 train did not return until 11.40 as I had much to do. The weather grew warm and thermometer must be near 70, but there is a fresh South west wind blowing and Oh, how dusty. Went home to dinner and back to office at 1.30. Just before 2 Fire Alarm Box 35 rang in as that is by my house I started, but found it was a grass fire above my house between Pleasant and Academy St. So not being interested went back to my office again. Heard from Annette, their party left Washington Wednesday afternoon for Baltimore and reached their friends the Martiens (?) that evening and were heartily greeted and no doubt will have a good time with them. A quarterly meeting of the Trustees of the Savings Bank was held in the evening the report of the Examining Committee was read and approved, no other special business & the meeting adjourned after three quarters of an hour meeting, then I went home, the night was clear but breezey.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1900

Clear and windy thermometer 42° the weather would be all right except for the clouds of dust down the Avenue before a strong West wind, that makes it very disagreeable to be out. Went to my office and spent the whole morning writing Insurance Policies, home to dinner which "Ma" & I had alone. shall be glad to see the girls back and disturb the quiet with their chatter: heard from them to day, they were being well cared for by the Martiens (?) and friends in Baltimore & probably left there for New York this A.M. where there will be again another merry go round. Thermometer 65° at noon, but so windy, spent the afternoon in my office, and being Saturday evening spent that at the Bank arriving home at 9.45. Soon after 2 PM an Alarm of Fire Box 4 Jason St sounded, it proved to be a grass fire in Menotomy Park. Just as the "all out" signal was given another alarm Box 28 Mystic St, this was in addition to Barn of J. H. Shedd 28 Draper Ave, small damage not interested in it. The high winds continue, everything is dry and thus wood & grass fires are prominent

SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 1900

A beautiful morning Thermometer 38, Northwest wind blowing fresh. that made it dusty, the

Town have started through the Center, Watering Carts to day and even on Saturday but they do but little in laying the dust. I took my usual Sunday morning rounds, but got no letter from the absent ones who should be in New York Saturday morning. I was at home at 10.30 and at 4.30 started out on my usual stroll and returned at 6 PM. The wind blowing hard and weather cooler. No letter from my girls in New York, but I know if anything had happened they would telegraph. Ma went to Church Sunday evening & I kept house, we retired about 10 PM

[The \_Arlington \_Directory \_1900 says that "mails" arrived and "closed" at the post office (which was very near to the train depot) eight times a day -- except Sunday, when mails arrived at 9.40 AM and closed at 3.00 PM, and the post office was open from 10.15 to 11.15 AM, so you could pick up your mails.]

[Free postal delivery began in 1897, but apparently not on Sundays.]

MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1900

A clear cold Morning Wind North west Thermometer 28°. Well I do wish the wind would go down. Would like to see a good rainy day to settle the dust, and then to have it clear warm & pleasant, \_without\_ a high wind. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned 10.40 then to my office where I was engaged in writing until noon then home to dinner & back to the office again by 1.45. So it goes one week after another the same old story. it is getting monotonous in this Diary, but still regular habits lead to a long and healthful life so it is said. No word from my girls to day, but they are in New York City, and tomorrow morning about 8 AM they will no doubt arrive and step from the cars to the School House as there last session of the School year begins tomorrow. Well I went home from busines at 4 30 and did not go out again.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 1900

Another one of these clear cold mornings with brisk northwest wind thermometer 26 ground froze

and disagreeable to be out. Went to office at 7.30 and kept an eye out for Electric cars and about 8.10 had the pleasure to welcome back my two girls with a kiss for each, and then they started for home & the school house. At home at noon found Aunt Ellie (Mrs Negley) and once more my household rounded out to its full size, but not so quiet as with Mother Arthur & my self. The Telephone was in use and talk, talk, talk about the trip, and then callers in the evening, but Ma & I were glad to have a little excitement. After coming home at night did not go out again, and the weather was raw & chilly

[I guess the Misses Wellington took a "red-eye" train from New York.]

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1900

Another bright morning & with but a little wind, thermometer 32° and looks like moderating. Weather Bureau says warmer with rain in the night. I went to Boston 7.40 returned 10.40 and then to my office to work and indeed it is good to have something to do. To night the ladies of the Historical Society give a Dramatic Entertainment of the English Story of Cranford [\*] which has been dramatized. this entertainment is given to obtain Show cases to exhibit in the Public Library old antiquarian objects that have been given or deposited with the Society. The [old] Town Hall will not hold but 450 crowded and all the tickets at 50c each have been sold, and they could have sold 800 tickets if the Hall would have held them. I with my whole family will be there and will report anon. Went home at noon returned to office 1\_45 PM then home at 4.30 and at 7 PM to "Cranford" at Town Hall. Well the Town Hall was full, not even standing room. Arlington's "400" were there & the play was a great success, it lasted from 8 to 9.40 then general conversation while the hall was being cleared from settees, then a series of old time dances to 12.30 AM Refreshments served from 11.°clock. It was a success in every way, a large portion of the audience were dressed in old clothes of their grandfathers & grandmothers and it was an interesting spectacle to see the fashions of bye gone days from the present to over 100 years ago. Mrs W. Aunt Ellie & myself left about 11 PM with others of the older persons, making more room for the young people to have a good time & they had it.

[\*] [http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/Elizabeth\\_Gaskell/Cranford/](http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/Elizabeth_Gaskell/Cranford/)

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1900

Cloudy this morning, thermometer 40° and growing warmer with a Southerly wind. Weather bureau reports showers during the day & night, and clearing weather & west wind for Friday. Came to the office as usual in the morning where I remained during the forenoon writing. Saw in the paper telegram [\*] at 3 AM to day that the Old Parish Meeting House (Unitarian) was on fire and it was feared it would be a total loss. the Church was historical, built in 1794 and now 106 years old, it had been kept in good repair and the Oration for the 125th anniversary of "Concord Fight" was to have been delivered there next Thursday. As to my self nothing occurred except a Mr Mason Ins Inspector came round, representing the Traders & Mechanics Ins Co of Lowell and he kept me busy until 4.45 PM when I went home. It rained from 10 AM (April Showers) during the rest of the day, and night. Went to bed at 10 PM as usual

[\* Even though Mr. W. did not capitalize "telegram," I think he refers to the Boston Telegram, one of several daily newspapers in Boston. I wonder how the Telegram reporter got this story from Arlington to Boston in time for the morning press run? A hundred years later, a similar fire might be covered by remote TV crews with satellite uplinks - and the same content!]

Good FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1900

A rainy cloudy morning wind North East and thermometer 45°. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40 AM then to my office as usual. It was rainy all the day and but light rains, toward night it stopped raining and in the evening the clouds rolled by and the full moon came out. after coming home at 4.30 I remained there the rest of the evening

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1900

A beautiful clear morning wind Southwest thermometer 35°. Yet in the forenoon dark clouds came up but no rain, about 2 PM the wind was West and it cleared up and it was fine. Went to my office in the morning, also went out most of the time on Insurance business, home to dinner at one. Aunt Ellie & Annette had gone to Boston, and Ethel was not well, was lying on the lounge so Mother & I had dinner by ourselves. After dinner went to the office and remained until 430 as usual. At 7 PM went to the Bank, coming home about 9.45, with usual call to my sister

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 1900 Easter Sunday

This is a beautiful morning Thermometer 45 an ideal Easter morning; of course the Churches were full to hear the Easter Music, as I do not have a musical Ear I did not attend. At 9.30 went to see my sister then to my son's on Wellington St then to the Post Office then home by 10.30 there I remained until 4.30 thence to my sisters & my friend Mrs Elwell's thenc home at 6 PM where I remained. This is an ideal day for the Season at noon thermometer 65° and there was much riding & bicycle riding in the Streets All the world (as one might say) were out and enjoying the day, & why not! Lent is ended, the Lord has risen and we are all content. No more beautiful Easter Sunday can be recorded

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1900

A beautiful morning after Easter Thermometer 45° in the AM. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40 AM, after attending to some business. Well this like yesterday is a lovely day, thermometer 65° at noon. after coming from Boston I worked all day in my office going home at 4.30 where I remained all the evening; in the evening the balance of the family went to my son's getting home about 9.30 and at 10 PM the house was quiet. In the evening it hazed up with a southerly wind, look out for rain tomorrow

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1900

A cloudy morning and threatning rain thermometer 43.° Weather bureau says threatening rain to day and rain tomorrow, and I hope clearing by Thursday the 19" as this will be "Patriots Day" and the 125" Anniversariy of Lexington Battle, Concord Fight and the slaughter on the retreat of the British in the afternoon in this Town, of course we want a pleasant day then. Well I went to my office at 7.30 and there remained all the morning at work it was showery all day, and I worked in the office all day, went home at 4.30 and there stayed until bed time, it was showery during the night, nothing occurred to day worth

writing about.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1900

A cloudy rainy morning thermometer 45 southwest wind, went to Boston at 7.40 returned 10.40 and found plenty to do in my office, it was showery and warm all day, but the weather bureau says it will be fair & cooler to morrow and as it will be Patriots day, it is a holiday and for the clerks and others a pleasant holiday is appreciated. Well I was hard at work all day and in the evening at 7 went to the Bank, then via my sisters home by 9.45. it was raining and did rain quite hard all night

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1900 Patriots Day

Cloudy & raining in early morning, though it held up about 7 AM. at 7.30 went to my office and remained there until 10 AM as the clouds rolled away and it was an ideal day to its close. thermometer reached nearly to 70° and I threw off even my thin overcoat. The Streets were crowded with people & both steam and Electric cars were packed with people going to Lexington & Concord. The new Electric Street RR from Arlington Heights to Lexington & Waltham is now in running order and is a great convenience. In the [old] Town House here at 10 AM was an entertainment for the school children of Music dancing & speaking. At 1 PM a procession of cavalcade escorting 4 Cos of Veteran Firemen with their machines & they had a "play out" near Marathon Street and the "Eureka" of Arlington played 205 ft 5 inches & won a \$50 prize. In the evening at 8 PM Mr Harry McGlennan gave a lecture with stereoptican views of the streets from Boston to Concord showing old buildings on the route of Paul Revere's ride also the Streets of the march of the British troops to Lexington & Concord through Arlington & their hurried return when they slaughtered inoffending citizens in our Town I got home at 10 PM and thus the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Lexington & Concord fight was celebrated. in Lexington & Concord, the celebration was more elaborate

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1900

A bright clear morning thermometer 55° and a light northwest wind, an elegant day, and the grass

on the southern slopes looks so green after the recent rains, it seems as if Spring had come and the beating of carpets is in the air, and that means housecleaning. Ugh! how I hate this disturbance. Well I went to my office and was there until 4:30 PM except going home to dinner, and I was busy too was writing all day. very quiet it was after yesterday's racket. at noon my thermometer was 68° and with steam heat and two windows wide open this 4 PM thermometer in my office is 80. The day has been a balmy Spring day, and everybody was out enjoying it. I remained home during the evening, but my family were out

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1900

A little hazy this AM thermometer 50° but it climbed up to near 68° by noon. Weather bureau reports that it will rain either to night or tomorrow with East wind. at 3 PM it is cloudy and quite warm. This morning after an hour in my office I went out first called on the Misses Georgiana & Susie A Winn they go on a Washington trip Monday. Miss Susie is quite an excellent Amateur painter especially good on small animals such as cats & dogs, even pigs. Also on her hens & chicks and essays to paint portraits, and some of them are very good, as she exhibited them to me this morning. after leaving the Winns I took Electric for Arlington Heights and there saw for the first time the Bedford & Lexington Cars now running. Walked the most of the way home made a few calls getting back to my office about 11.30. Went to dinner at 1.45 then returned to the office & home again at 4.30. In the evening as usual I was at the Bank coming home at 9.45 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 1900

Cloudy & threatening Thermometer 50° but no rain As usual at 9.15 called on my sister then on my son then to Post Office then home at 10.30. the family all went to church. at 1.30 we had dinner and no company. at 4.30 I started for evening calls it looked threatening so took Umbrella and a northeast rain set in. got home at 6 PM and staid there, and it rained all night to next morning

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1900

A cloudy threatening morning thermometer 50° not raining I went to Boston at 7.40 & returned at 10.40 AM. had no umbrella and did not need it went home at 12.45 returned 1.45. then home at 4.30 did not use an umbrella all day yet between times it rained hard, regular April weather and it continued intermittently to rain all night. After Supper had a call from my cousin Francis H Nichols, but had to leave him at 7.30 to deliver a few remarks on Arlington in the past before the Arlington Improvement Society arrived hence from that at 10. PM then to bed

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1900

A cloudy threatening morning thermometer 50° went to my office at 7.30 and remained there all the morning. home to dinner & at my office until 4 P.M. thence to Stephen Symmes on Mystic St to swear him in on administration papers for his deceased daughter Harriet L Symmes who died March 30" 1900. from there I went home At 7.30 went to Pleasant Hall to the last meeting of the Arlington Historical Society for the season. There were some surprises. first of all, the subscriber was elected against his wishes as President. again one of the members Miss Susanne A Winn had painted a portrait of the subscriber and presented the same to the Society in an elegant gilt frame presented by her sister Mrs Georgiana Winn. The meeting was large and enthusiastic and though the subscriber regrets that the Presidency did not fall to the lot of some younger man, he accepted the office as the office sought the man & the man did not seek the office The members of the society seem to appreciate the portrait & frame it is a good likeness and a fine portrait by an amateur it was very kind by the Misses Winn to do this thing and personally I feel highly complemented, both for the gift of the picture to the society which I hope will be preserved also for what I did not care for the presidency of the society, and I hope that the society will thrive during my reign, at least I will try and keep up its working qualities, equal to the past.

[From "The Arlington Historical Society Centennial Season Souvenir Program" by Richard A. Duffy (1997) --

"Pleasant Hall"  
14 Maple Street

Pleasant Hall was designed in 1897 by Arlington architect William Proctor, as the new schoolhouse for a private kindergarten operated by Ethel and Nettie Wellington. It was adjacent to the home of their



father, George Y. Wellington, who invited interested townspeople to gather there on November 16, 1897 to organize a local historical society. Meetings of the Society were regularly held in Pleasant Hall until 1910, when it was converted to a residence.

]

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1900

A beautiful clear morning. all the clouds rolled away about 6 PM yesterday. the thermometer was 42° and a cool Northwest wind. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40 and was in my office all the rest of the day until 4.30, then home, and at 7 PM to the Bank, arriving home again at 9.45. Nothing but work to day, as it is every day and am thankful that I am in such good health that work is a pleasure

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1900

A Cool morning thermometer 42 but I went to my office as usual, and as it is the last of the month, there is plenty to do in writing policies to renew those expiring May 1st. For this purpose I use my typewriting machine which is a great convenience, and so it was an all day work for me in my office, and as the day is a counterpart of every working day there is not much to write about. the weather was cool & windy, after coming home at 4.30 PM I remained there all the evening

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1900

Was cool and cloudy but it was showery. I went to Boston at 7.40, without an umbrella did not need it, returned at 10.40, it rained after I returned, but did not rain when I went home at noon. I was hard at work all day and the weather continued showery. After arriving home at 4.30 remained there all the evening

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1900

A hazy cloudy morning went to my office, spent the day there, as usual. About 6 AM a nice old lady Mrs Wiggin that lives at 15 Maple Street died. her death was sudden as I was talking with her on the street on

Wednesday, it was sad as she was all alone had an old lady friend with her for company and when the funeral is over there will be an empty house. her late husbands sister died just 10 weeks ago, in the same house which is opposite mine. It was hazy all day but grew warmer. I went to the Bank at 7 PM coming home a little before 10 PM.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 1900

A glorious morning, fair and thermometer 56 and rising. this is an ideal Sabbath day: of course I took my usual Sunday morning walk, winding up with the Post Office then home by 10.30 AM where I remained until 4.30, and then took my afternoon stroll coming home at 6. the thermometer was up to 70° at noon and the air balmy. I notice one of my neighbors cherry trees coming out in blossom. In the evening I went to make a call on my old friend Judge Parmenter. dear old man, he was very glad to see me and we chatted away about the old times until 9.30 when I went home

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1900

Another beautiful morning thermometer 60° and at noon it was 78° warmest yet. Went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40, then to work and it was very warm, after coming home at 5 PM I did not go out again for it turned showery and between 7 & 8 a hard rain fell but the wind blew strong and at 10.30 when I retired the stars were shining and high Northwest wind  
TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1900

A clear morning thermometer 50° and windy I went to my office after breakfast, and down to my work, the dust was in clouds outside and the air cooler than yesterday, 12° cooler. Mrs Wiggins funeral was at 11 AM, and at noon her friends took the body to Beverly for burial, and her home was left empty. The weather was cool and high Northwest winds during the day. the streets were watered then saving lots of dust. I was hard at work in my office all day. had a call in the morning from my old friend Stephen Symmes now 84 years old. on March 30" last he lost an adopted daughter Miss Harriet L Symmes thus leaving him alone in his old age, his wife dying some years ago. I promised

to go and see him on Thursday if I had the time. Well at 4.40 I went home and there remained not going out in the evening, but my Son and his family called also Dr E P Stickney and wife and we lacked nothing for company.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1900

A cool hazy morning. Thermometer 44.° wind Northwest early about 7 PM went to Southeast & grew warmer I went to Boston at 7.40 Returned 10.40 and to work in the office. home at noon. returned at 1.30 To day the workmen commenced on a new plate glass front to the Bank building. hope to have it all done by June 1st. Arthur L Bacon is the contractor and his father Jesse [sp?] Bacon now dead was and old Mason in this Town. It was quite warm all day and a little hazy, it being Bank night I was there in the evening, getting home about 9.45.

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1900

It was cloudy at 4.30 AM as I looked from my bed with one eye and by 6 AM it was raining and East wind it was cool, but how the rain poured down. I spent the whole morning in my office, and it rained hard when I went home at noon, but the wind shifted to the North and thence toward Northwest and by 2.30 the rain had ceased, think our Market Gardeners liked it but the rain was pretty heavy for light seeds. Such a day is a quiet one in the office a few callers and a good time for writing. I wrote several letters, on business and otherwise, and at 4.30 went home and the clouds were breaking away, yet it was hazy when I went at 7.30 PM to Mrs Damon's Secretary of the historical society, where I called a meeting of the Directors to be held at the house of my Sister Mrs M W Hodgdon 86 Pleasant St on the evening of May 15. While there I heard it thunder and at 9 PM walked home in a heavy rain, it showered during the night.

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1900

A hazey cool morning thermometer 42° wind northwest, but at 8 AM the clouds cleared away and the sun came out. What a grateful rain this has been. Just when grass and other small seeds have been sown into a dry soil, it has been a soaking rain that will help in every way. the trees are just breaking

out into their summer foliage, not leaved out: but the cherry trees are in blossom, a warm sun will soon make a transformation and in about a week we can seek the shade of our trees. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned 10.40 and spent the rest of the day in the office, at work. it has been cool so that a thin overcoat was comfortable. Mr Bacon has his men propping up the front wall of the Bank Building preparatory for the new plate glass front for the ground floor. I went home at 4.30 as usual and did not go out again.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1900

A cold raw chilly morning thermometer 41° and it is more or less cloudy with a Northwest wind blowing so that it is uncomfortable to be out, and needs a good fire within. Weather Bureau reports much warmer to morrow and Southwest winds. hope it will be a repetition of last Sunday. I went to the office as usual and remained there all day. in the evening went to the Bank as usual coming home at 9.30 it was not an agreeable spring day and I was glad to be busy in my office.

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 1900

This was a chilly morning Thermometer about 46 at 8 A M it did not get above 60 all day and was more or less Cloudy. at about 5 PM for an hour there was a light misty rain. the wind was South West & West all day. I went at 930 my morning rounds and at 4.30 my afternoon walk. I did not go out after supper, had a quiet day and am at such an age that I enjoy quietnes. In the evening the moon came out clear think [?] a frost on the lands back in the country, too cool for the season

MONDAY, MAY 7, 1900

Clear cold morning thermometer 40° I went to Boston at 7.40. Well the train was 2 or 3 minutes late, and from the time we started from Arlington until we stopped in the Depot in Boston was but 8 minutes. I think this was the quickest trip I ever made. I had much to do so did not return until 11.40 and then remained in my office the rest of the day, going home at 5 and not going out again. We had our furnace fires going so it was comfortable but I think there was frost back in the country, hope we will have none here for I anticipate a good fruit & berry

year.

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1900

Wind southwest & thermometer 44. a chilly wind it is and about 8 AM it began to rain and it showered all the morning. at noon it brightened up and it is warmer and I think we may have some warm sunny days. I spent the whole day at work in the office only going to my dinner as usual and home at 4.30 . In the evening I went to the rooms of the young mens club and gave them a talk on the changes in Arlington within my memory especially the difference in our Schools and our Educational methods arrived home about 10 PM it was showery all the evening

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 1900

This morning the clouds look like breaking away, the thermometer was 68° so warm, but as I was going to Rockport Mass. to see my ward Mrs E W Locke I took both overcoat & umbrella. It was warm enough while I was attending to my business but by 10 AM wind went Northeast thermometer dropped 20° in just hours. left Boston 10.45 and arrived in Rockport at 12 and needed both overcoat & umbrella. Went to Granite Shore Hotel where Mrs Locke boards found her sick & in bed took dinner and had a chat with Mrs Adams the landlady and about 2 left on Electric for Gloucester. there called on the family of D. Elwell Woodbury, found them at home, left there about 4 then arrived in Arlington about 5.30. in the evening went to Bank and then home about 9.45. thermometer 38 just 30° lower than in the morning

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1900

A cold morning thermometer at 7. 36° frost in the night. I went to my office as usual, and about 10 AM went over on Mystic St in the Electric to call on my old friend Stephen Symmes, and returned to office about 12. It was windy dusty cold and disagreeable all day. I went home at 4.30 and remained there.

FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1900

Clear but thermometer at 7 AM 32°. this has been quite a cold wave and I fear in some parts of the country fruit & vegetables have suffered. I went to Boston at 7.40 and returned at 10.40 it began to moderate and it was quite comfortable at noon & at night thermometer at 50° I was busy in the office all day and did not go out after coming home at night

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1900

A beautiful clear morning thermometer 50° and wind No West, but it soon came into the East yet the thermometer was only 60° at noon I went to office in morning, then at 10 A M took Electric to Theo. Schwambs, then down to Winter St. thence walked over to North Union St. to attend to some business, then walked back to my office arriving there about 11.30 I was engaged in the office all day going home at 4.30. In the evening I was at the Bank as usual arriving home at 9\_45\_ PM

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 1900

What a beautiful morning this thermometer at 60° and rising A more perfect day in the spring could not be devised. the thermometer arose to 80° at noon, yet personally I spent my Sunday as usual 9.30 to my sisters & son's. home at 10.30 . staid there until 430 then to my sisters & Mrs Elwells till 6 PM then home for the evening. what can I say more it is my regularitory of life that keeps me young.

MONDAY, MAY 14, 1900

Cooler this AM Thermometer 50° and I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40 and then spent my day in the office hard at work. went home at 5 PM and remained there it was a delightful day but clouded up in the evening & was cooler

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1900

Hazy this AM but thermometer at 50° Easterly wind and I went to my office. it grew warmer during the day, but I with a little outing on the Electrics in the morning spent the whole day in the office, but the weather grew warmer and at 12.15 my old cousin and schoolmate Wm C Nichols of Chicago appeared and although I had not seen him for 15 years he could give me but 2 hours as he must go then and he had to dine with my sister all he wanted was to go over the old grounds we went at 10 years old. this I did with him & when at 1 PM I came to my house the thermometer was 93°! it was hot, at 2 PM Mr N appeared & I sent him to Boston on the Electrics, and that was all. Oh, if he would have staid 24 hours I would have enjoyed it, as it was I was disgusted.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1900

A beautiful morning Thermometer 65 but it grew warmer. I went to Boston at 7.40 and about 9.50 was at the Northern Depot and met Mrs Eliza W Locke an invalid and an old schoolmate of mine, she had been for a few weeks at the Granite Shore Hotel Rockport Mass. but getting sick, we arranged for her to come to Arlington, and placed her in care of a Mrs Grant (formerly a trained nurse), and with an attendant. Poor old Lady sick with no friends but my own family how I pity her. Well I landed her safely at Mrs Grants corner of Jason St & Mass Ave, and the poor thing smiled at her good accomodation. Well the rest of the day I was in my office and in the evening at the Bank the weather was delightful all day

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1900

Wind Easterly & Cooler thermometer 50° and it was cloudy & hazy all day I went to the office and home to dinner then to office then home at 4.45 and there I staid. Busy all day and tired at night that is all there is to be said. it began to rain in the PM and it was showery during the night

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1900

Thermometer 50 at 7 AM cloudy with a misty rain and continued so during the AM  
I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40  
was very busy in Boston then came to my office where I was busy until I went home at 1245 to dinner. About 3 PM  
Mr Geo W Eastman, Special Agt of N E Ins Exchange appeared and I went with him to inspect Wood's Ice Tool Factory after doing so went to lower end of Broadway near Somerville line to rate a new slaughter house of Frank Bowmans built in place of one burned last October. returned to office then home, rather tired with my long walk. It was a misty rain off & on all day, but at 5 P.M. a heavy thunder shower came up, and how it did pour, for a while, in torrents, and it continued with showers off and on all night

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1900

Wind Northeast, with a misty cold rain Thermometer 48°  
and I went to my office as usual, and remained there all the morning at work, it was too disagreeable to be out and there is always work in the office.  
went home at 12.45 as usual & returned at 1.45. no signs of clearing weather, but weather bureau prophesies, that it will clear off Sunday cooler with Northwest wind  
Well it rained hard all the afternoon and evening.  
I went to the Savings Bank as usual coming home at 945

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1900

This morning the clouds are breaking away and it promises to be a fine day, wind turned to North West, thermometer 55°. I took my usual Sunday morning rounds at 9 AM came home at 10.30 and remained there until about 4, when I went to see an old lady under our care, Mrs E W Locke and then my usual Sunday afternoon calls, arriving home at 6 PM and did not go out again this evening. it was a fine day though it looked showery in the evening

MONDAY, MAY 21, 1900

Cool morning thermometer 50, clouds passing in the sky wind North West then North East. I



went to Boston at 7.40 returning home at 10 40, and spent the rest of the day in the office it showered some, and at 1.15 PM the Lightning struck the Baptist Church doing a little damage. After arriving home at 5 PM remained there. it rained during the eveng.

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1900

A clear cool morning. I went to my office in the morning, then up Mass Ave to Baptist Church Theodore Schwambs and to the new Cutter School house site, they have commenced digging the cellar. returned to office at 11.30, home at noon in office until 5 PM, and in the evening gave an account of some of the old Arlington Stores [sp?] of 1830 before the Arlington Traders [sp?] Club, arrived home about 10.30 PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1900

A fine comfortable morning thermometer 55° went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 11.40 to my office, was very busy attending to Insurance business all day and in the evening was in the Bank arrived home little before 10 it was a perfect day but little too breezey

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1900

A fine morning a little hazy, thermometer 55° and growing warmer. went to office as usual and was very busy, all day. the weather was fine, though the wind went to the East in the afternoon. did not go out after I came home at 5 PM. nothing of interest today

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1900

Cooler this morning thermometer 50 and I went to Boston at 7.40 Returning at 10 40. had much to do, but more to do in the office it was hazy and it did rain a little toward night. I spent the day about my business going home at 5 PM and remaining there

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1900

The weather on the average is cool for the season the nights in the country back from here have frost, nearly every night. thermometer 45 this AM, weather pleasant, but steam heat in my office agreeable. I spent the whole day hard at work, and went home tired, but had to go to the Bank at 7 PM and did not arrive home until nearly 10 PM. was glad it was Saturday night, and a Sunday was coming on the morrow for me to rest in

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 1900

An ideal morning thermometer 58° and weather clear & no wind. I took my morning walk at 9 then coming back at 10.30 remained at home. it was delightful to see the thermometer rise to 75° with a light East wind, and to have all the windows open. In the afternoon so many were out riding and there were Bicycles galore women & men, single & in groups. they all seemed to Enjoy the day for it was perfect. I remained at home until 4.30 then for an outing until 6 then home for the evening, had a good restful day

MONDAY, MAY 28, 1900

This is the morning when the sun is totally Eclipsed in the southern portion of the country, here about 8/10 of the suns disc covered. Eclipse begins at 8 AM ends about 10.30. Well it was cloudy thermometer 45° and cold. Early the clouds would break away but with a cold East wind a little after 8 it was over cast & looked like rain, and with the clouds & the Eclipse, a little after 9 it was quite dark I was in Boston on business & came home at 10.40 directly to my office where I worked all day hard. it did not rain but was cloudy cold & disagreeable. Went home at 5 PM and remained there.

TUESDAY, MAY 29, 1900

A beautiful clear morning wind Northwest Thermometer 50°. wind soon turned towards the south and it grew warmer, but I am busy and remain in my office at work. Last night there was a black frost but it grew warmer in early morning, but the frost

damaged beans & tomatoes & corn, some places badly. Well I had quite a hard days work writing and at 5 PM was quite weary when I went home, but I did not go out again & the weather was warmer and very agreeable, it bids fair to have a delight full day to morrow, which is Memorial day. The soldiers of the Civil War whom I remember so young & full of life are becoming old & gray headed, but when in 1845 I as civil engineer had charge of building the Lexington & West Cambridge R.R. the road went through the land of Jonathan Harrington the last survivor of the Battle of Lexington. I used to sit down on the grass beside him while he watched the men grading the RR and he would tell me the story of that battle for he was the fifer in Capt Parker's Co. yet at that time he looked back to that day and it was 70 years. now when I look back and remember what happened in this Town 70 years ago it does not seem long, yet when talking with Old Dorrit [sp?] as he was called I thought it wonderfull that he should be alive.

[Obviously this was not Jonathan Harrington Jr. -- who was mortally wounded in the battle, crawled to his home next to Lexington Green, and died in his wife's arms -- but a young man of 16 with the same name, who survived until 1854.]

Memorial WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1900 Day

A most beautiful morning thermometer 67° a most perfect day, and I was glad that these soldiers of the Civil War had such weather for their task in decorating the graves of their comrades that had passed on. The "Boys" of 61 are becoming "old Boys" now, and in going from on cemetery to another they used barges [?] as the long marches both in Arlington & Belmont were too much of a task, so they rode. I noticed them in their short parade in the Center of the Town, their ranks are growing thin, and it will not be long ere their labors are oer. After decorating the graves and a lunch at the house of Mr E Nelson Blake, they went to Belmont and were entertained in the Town Hall with a dinner, returning to Arlington they broke ranks, for supper in the Grand Army Hall and in the evening were addressed by Chas S Parker editor of Arlington Advocate an old soldier: at the Town Hall, nothing occurred to mar the ceremonies of the day. The weather was so fine that the Electric cars were crowded through the day & evening, people going everywhere. I had much to do, spent the morning and a good part of the afternoon in my office and the evening at home. the thermometer rose to 80 about noon

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1900

Another beautiful morning the thermometer 70° at 7 oclock there were more clouds than yesterday wind being South it became hazy, perhaps there will be a shower by night. I spent the whole day at work in my office the thermometer mounted to 87 by noon and it was hot. Went home at 4.30 as usual and in the evening went to see my old friend Judge Parmenter, and spent the evening talking over old scenes, especially the breaking out of the civil war April 1861, recalling the excitement in our own Town and the fitting out of our Co of volunteers under Capt Albert E Ingals. poor fellow he had more impulse than judgement, and after many disappointments this Co was taken into the 40<sup>th</sup> N Y Regiment, which was unfortunate for them, and poor Ingals, out one night among the sentinels on guard at the front, was shot by one of his own men, not giving the countersign, he rushed on to the Sentinel & was killed. Well I got home about 10. it was a little cooler

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1900

It was warm thermometer 68° in morning, I went to Boston on business, and found it hotter & hotter. I came home by 10.40 A.M. and went to work in my office, the weather was clear, and floating clouds, but no showers came all day. I went home at 5 P.M and did not go out again the thermometer was 87° at noon, and continued high all the evening.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1900

A clear pleasant morning thermometer 66° I went to my office as usual, but the wind was So East & warm, and humidity high so that although the thermometer reached 84° it was a hard day to work in. I was very busy writing all day and in the evening at 7 went to the Bank as usual arriving home a little before 10 PM the weather was cooler & bids fair to be cool on Sunday.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 1900

A cloudy morning thermometer 55° and wind North East & cold. I started at 9 and took my

usual Sunday morning rounds, coming home at 10.30. the family all went to Church, about 12.30 down the rain came in torrents, it held up a little after one, when they came from Church, but light showers in the PM. at 4.30 I started out for another round of calls, but little after 5 it poured in torrents again, during a lull a little before 6 I came home, but it rained nearly all night and a cold Northeast wind, what a change from yesterday.

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1900

Clearing & Cool, thermometer 48 at 7 A M. I went to Boston at 7.40 and having much to do did not return until 11.40 but it was cold thermometer about 60 at noon wind North East but clear. This is pension day and I had several papers to make out during the day but it is a pleasure for me to save these pensioners a 25c piece, in making up their declarations, for I never charge an old soldier or his widow for this work, which has to be done by a Justice of the Peace. Busy all day I got home at 5. PM and remained there my son Frank with his family spent the evening with us

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 1900

A beautiful clear morning wind West thermometer 48°, but as I learn out in the outskirts there was a light frost last night, indeed with such cold weather vegetation is very backward and some tender vegetables have been killed by the late frosts beans, corn & tomatoes have suffered. The wind turned to the Southwest about 9, then roamed round to a mild East wind with the thermometer 70 to 72 until night when it dropped during the night to 54°. This was a comfortable day, just right for a working man, and I was busy writing all day in my office. The Electric Road (Boston Elevated) commenced Saturday to complete their double track crossing over the Steam R R on the Avenue in the Center, it was quite an undertaking and over 100 men were at work over Saturday & Sunday and Saturday night until to day when the work with exception of some little finishing was completed This gives a full double track across the steam R R where it was a single track before. I went home at 5 PM & remained there

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1900

A beautiful clear morning with Southwest wind and thermometer 68°, but growing warmer. I went to Boston & was very busy until I left; coming home at 10.40 and then was busy until 12.40 when I went to dinner, the thermometer mounted to 80° at noon with a mild East wind which became South in the afternoon, but it is a delightful day. Quite a party, the Russell School eighth grade scholars went to Boston this noon to go over the new Cunard Stmr Saxonia [\*] the largest Stmr that as yet entered the Port of Boston, and being over 600 feet long, she is a big one. Dr Reed of the School Committee has the party in charge. I was busy all the afternoon in my office going home at 4.30. At 7 went to the Bank as usual going home at 9 PM, did not stop at my sisters as usual, as the old lady with her daughter Nellie were at a wedding reception of Dorothy Adams daughter of Ephraim Adams 10 Addison Street, who married a Mr Smith clerk of Superior Court

[\* According to [http://www.norwayheritage.com/p\\_ship.asp?sh=saxon](http://www.norwayheritage.com/p_ship.asp?sh=saxon) this was the ship's maiden voyage.]

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 1900

A fine clear cool morning thermometer 56° and wind Southwest. went to office in morning and was busy writing Insurance policies all day. the weather grew warmer and thermometer mounted to 80° during the day, though the wind was Southwest it was cool from that quarter. Nothing occurred to day worth noticing I went home at 5 P M and there remained In the evening my son Frank with his wife and sister Annie Proctor came round & spent the evening. We all retired about 10. P M. the evening was too cool to sit out on the piazza, thermometer about 60°

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1900

A hazy morning thermometer 60° with a warmer Southwest wind than yesterday. The weather reports probable showers by night, and I hope the report will prove true. I went to Boston at 7\_40\_ and returned at 10\_40\_. was busy the two hours I was in the City. On my return went to W.

T wood & Co Ice Tool factory on Insurance business and then back to my type writer where I worked until 12.45, home to dinner back at 1.45 then to work and home at 4.30. Showery conditions and a slight shower between 5 & 6 oclock, and though cloudy I do not think there was any rain to speak of through the night. I remained in the house all the evening, and the weather was warm all night with So West wind.

[Wm. T. Wood and Co. was located between Mass. Ave. and Spy Pond, opposite Palmer St.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1900

Warm & hazy morning with So West wind and thermometer at 68°, much humidity in the air, and though not very warm it was uncomfortable. I went to my office at 7.30 and there remained, at work. A breeze coming through the office made it comfortable, although the thermometer went to the 80\_s\_ and humidity high. Was at work all day and in the evening went to the Bank as usual, leaving at 9 P.M. went to my sisters Mrs Hodgdon and there found my other sister Mrs Stanwood who arrived from New York that afternoon. of my fathers family only 3 children out of 5 left, and Mrs Stanwood is the youngest. I arrived home at 10.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 1900

A most perfect morning thermometer about 70.° all day and mild Easterly wind. This is a day, one of those rare days in June, when it is a pleasure to be out and about. People who went to Church in the morning were riding or strolling round in the afternoon. As for myself, am content to make the Sabbath a day of rest, for at my age, and the work I do in six days, I feel the need of rest to body & mind on the seventh. Each Sunday, I make a short round of calls from 9 to 10.30 AM, & from 4 to 6 PM, and at home all the evening. Well i did the same today and looked from my windows, seeing others riding and walking. The Electrics with the outpour of those from the City seeking the fresh air and wooded fields of the country, are crowded all the day in passing through the Town.

[Can you envision a musical play called "Sunday in the Town with George"?!]

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1900

Another beautiful morning thermometer 60°  
I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40, and  
spent the rest of the day at work in my  
office. the thermometer went to 80° and a  
South west wind, but the weather was not  
oppressive. Between 6 & 7 oclock, heavy wind clouds  
rolled up, black & threatning, but passed by with  
only a slight gust & dark of rain and at the  
sun set, there was a beautiful rainbow in  
the East. This evening there was a reading in  
the Town Hall for benefit of the Famine stricken  
people of India. I think a large sum will be  
raised in this country, for those poor sufferers.  
My family all went but I remained at  
home

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1900

A beautiful morning wind So west thermometer  
68°, and it looks as if it would be fair all  
day. fleecy white clouds float through the  
air lazily. I went to the office as usual  
and there I worked all day, going home as  
usual & remaining there. It was too cool to sit  
out on the piazza, and we had several callers  
and it was quite lively in doors.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1900

A fine beautiful morning thermometer 64°  
winds variable. I went to Boston & back returning  
to my office at 10.40. went home to early dinner as  
my wife is leaving on the 1.00 PM train for Rutland  
Mass. where she spent Sept & Oct last year. she  
has not been feeling up to the mark, lately so  
we have persuaded her to try two weeks at Rutland.  
She has Mrs Wells, wife of H J Wells Esq Cambridge  
with her and I hope both will be benefitted  
South Middlesex Unitarian Conference met in the  
Unitarian Church to day, and they lunched in  
the Town Hall, a very successful & pleasant  
meeting I understand. The weather was very  
fine all day. I went home at 5 and again  
at 7 PM went to the Bank arriving home  
a little before 10.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1900

A hazy morning, with Showery conditions, thermometer



60° at 7 A.M. well it does not rain much, but every few minutes comes down a little spirt, just enough to make things unpleasant. I have been at work in the office all day, and it was the most comfortable place I cound find. the thermometer went to 78, but the atmosphere was juicy. In the evening I remained at home, and went to Bed at 10. with 3 windows open, but it was warm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1900

Wind Northwest clear and cooler thermometer 65° at 7 A. M. I went to Boston and attended to my business and came home on the Electric arriving about 10.30. this is the first time I have come from Bowdoin Sq out for over a year, and we came via West Boston Bridge, Beacon St Cambridge thence to Mass Ave. home. Well it was a very busy day with me and I did not get home until 5 PM. After Supper I went to Mrs Hodgsons, and congratulated my younger sister Mrs Stanwood on her 66° birthday. I told her I remembered the day 66 years ago when she was shown to us children. how times do fly well we three are left and all in good health. The day was fine and my daughters had graduation exercises in closing their School and the children as well as their parents enjoyed it.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1900

Another fine day thermometer 63° this AM but it is warmer to day than yesterday. I went to my office and was hard at work all day there. It was a fine June day, and I was in my office, and wished to be out. went home at 5 and back to the Bank at 7. Was all alone in Trustees room tonight. Mr Peck the Pres'dt went fishing, Mr Fessenden of investment committee at the seashore, and Mr Tuttle had taken his family to diamond Island Portland Harbor for the summer. Went home at 9 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 1900

A beautiful morning clear & cool Thermometer 62°. This is a lovely day, and the 125" Anniversary of the battle of Bunker's Hill, which will be

duly celebrated tomorrow at Charlestown.  
I went my Sunday morning rounds, coming  
home at 10.30 remained there till 4. then  
another round until 5.30 then home  
where I remained all the evening. It was  
a great day for driving, car & bicycle riding  
and some Automobiles. they are not plenty  
yet but will be in time.

MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1900

125 Anniversary of Battle of Bunker's Hill (A Holiday)  
[This line was written with a broader pen, like bold face.]

A cool clear morning thermometer 60. and then  
the wind went East and it was a cool day  
thermometer not over 65° all day. It being  
a holiday it was just right for people out  
exercising, but riding in open Electric Cars  
was cool. I went to my office as usual and  
remained there until 11. then made a few calls  
and home by one. At 4 I went to my office and  
wrote until 5.30 then home for the day. There  
were crowds out and no doubt enjoyed the  
day, but it was too cool to sit out on the  
piazza so I was in the house reading

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1900

Wind Easterly and hazy, thermometer 62°  
I went to my office as usual and was busy  
there all the morning. Wind East & cool all  
day thermometer not over 70. well I was busy all  
day in the office, and after coming home at  
5 P.M. did not go out again. It was too cool to  
sit out on the piazza and I remained in the  
house. My Son Frank & his family came over  
& spent part of the evening with us.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 1900

A hazy morning, wind Northwest. Thermometer 56° at 7  
A.M. so one can judge how cold for the season the  
weather is. the cool nights retard growth of vegetables  
corn especially. we have had no warm weather yet  
except 2 or 3 exceptionally hot days. I went to Boston  
at 7.40 AM, the first time I have been in since last Friday  
Well it was a good day to run round, and I got home  
at 10.40 and went to work in my office, and  
except my noon hour was there until 4.30, then  
home and at 7 PM again to the Bank for the

evening. went home at 9 PM

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1900

A clear cool morning Thermometer 60. Went to my office as usual. was busy but stole off for an hour or two to Arlington Heights returned at 11 A M. went home at 1245 and in the afternoon was at work in the office. went home at 5 PM. After supper went to Mrs Hodgsons (Aunt Lula) we all call her, and there found Jos Wilby who is the husband of my niece Miss May Stanwood, with his oldest daughter Ruth now a girl of 16. Mr Wilby is a leading lawyer in Cincinnati and comes on to celebrate the 25" year since he graduated from Harvard, and tomorrow is class day & Ruth feels that she is in it. this year will be the 50" anniversary of the graduation of J. C. Carter now the leading lawyer of New York City, and my brother Dr William married 2 of his sisters and the last one a widow still lives, very active and over 80 years old. Well he (J. C. Carter) was the orator on his class day in 1850, and my two sisters and myself were there, and after 50 years we expect to be present tomorrow at the class day of his as well as our grandnephew Stanwood Grey Wellington who graduated this year. We anticipate a pleasant time however it depends on the weather.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1900      Harvard Class Day

Well this morning opened fair & Warm Southwest wind Thermometer 65° at 7 A M. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned 10.40 and was at work in my office, going to dinner at noon and on my return the black clouds came up in the West and at 3 PM it began to rain. I felt sorry for the Harvard class of 1900 and all the young people invited to enjoy the day. it was a real damper on all their festivities. My family were all invited to Mathews Hal at 6 PM by my grand nephew Stanwood Gray Wellington, who graduated this year and I felt sorry that his dear mother could not be there, who died a few weeks ago, but all was done for Stanwood as he wished and as Mrs W. is still in Rutland I with the family went at 6.30 to the college grounds and to Stanwood's spread. Mrs Negley & myself arrived about 7 and found lots of friends but after an hour of sociability we came home, it still raining, about 8.30 and the rest of the family a little before 10. It was too bad that this opportune rain should come as it did, but it was what the lawns needed, but I

think there was many a fine dress ruined this day  
the rain continued through the night and thus  
with many an outside show stopped did the  
class day of 1900 pass

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1900

Well it rained until about 5 AM and then with  
a cool Northwest wind it cleared with thermometer  
about 60° at 7 A M. It was a lovely comfortable  
day thermometer 70 to 80 and a fresh breeze. how  
different from yesterday. Well I was at work all the  
day in my office. after supper at night went to  
the Bank and with a call on my sisters arrived  
home at 10 PM. the day was delightful and  
everything fresh after the rain

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 1900

A fine morning thermometer 65 wind Southwest but  
it was pleasant & clear with the exception of a few  
floating clouds all day. At 9. AM went to my sisters  
then to my Son's then to Post office then home at 10.30  
where I remained. at 4.30 went to my sisters, and met  
my nephew Mr Wilby, and at 5 went to call on Mrs  
Elwell as usual getting home at 6. After supper  
sat out on my piazza most of the evening. Mr  
Wilby joined me in a cigar then my neighbor  
W. A Peirce sat down with me until near 9 PM.  
the family then came in and at 10 we were  
all abed.

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1900

Wind Southwest, thermometer 68° at 7 A M. it has been  
a warm night, and bids fair to be a warm day.  
I went to Boston at 7.40 returning at 10 40. it was  
hot, but about 11 A M the wind shifted into the  
Northwest which made the air feel better. After  
my return was in my office hard at work for  
the rest of the day. Went home at 4.30 my cousin  
F. H. Nichols came & went home with me to supper.  
he leaves tomorrow for the Adirondacks, to spend  
a month or two with his neices, his sister their mother  
died a few weeks ago and they have a beautiful  
place near Lake Placid. We had company most  
of the evening but I retired about 10 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1900

A beautiful summer morning wind Northwest and thermometer about 68. I went to the office and looked over the mail, then at 9.30 went to Arlington Heights had to take an acknowledgement of a deed, so walked 2/3 of the way up the hill on Hillside Avenue and did my work then to Forest Street for some more Justice of the Peace business then back to my office about 11. and to work. I think the thermometer was about 80 when I went to dinner but a good fresh breeze. Spent the afternoon at work in my office, then home at 5. in the evening went to my sisters for an hour. My daughters had a party in their hall for their cousin Miss Ruth Wilby from Cincinnati, with a lot of young folks she being sweet 16. this broke up at 11 and then I retired.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1900 Harvard Commencement

Warm and clear this A M with thermometer 75°. I think summer has come. I did not go to Boston as it was so warm, but to my office to work. When I went home at noon thermometer 91°, it was hot & sultry. after dinner about 4 PM it clouded up and we had a shower with a dash of rain, but it kept warm, thermometer 88 at 5 PM In the evening I went to the Bank as usual and returned via my sisters, at 9 PM my good wife returned from Rutland Mass to day where she has been resting the past two weeks and beside being glad to see her, I think it has done her good. the thermometer was 80° in my room when I retired. it has been one of the hot days

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1900

Well thermometer was 78° at 7 oclock and rising I went to my office, and then was compelled to go out on business for an hour or so. the thermometer must have been over 90. about 12 it clouded up and at 1 we had a little shower, and I think it is a little cooler, but it is still hot. Spent the afternoon in the office going home at 4.30 and there remaining it was warm but about 6° cooler than yesterday

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1900

Well it is a little cooler thermometer 70 at 7 A M. I went to Boston on 7.40 train

but did not return until 11.40 then to my office to work for it was a very comfortable day thermometer not going to 80, and we have the promise of cooler weather tomorrow. It being the last of the month I am very busy and keep hard at work. I went home at 5 o'clock and did not go out again

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1900

Well a change thermometer about 60° and high cold North west wind and Oh - so dusty a very disagreeable day to be out and was glad it was so comfortable within doors. I spent the whole day in the office going home at 4.30 and then to the Savings Bank from 7 to 9 PM. Well it is cold and 2 blankets and a quilt on the bed was very acceptable this night but it was a good night for a tired man to sleep

SUNDAY, JULY 1, 1900

A clear cool morning thermometer at 60 and wind still from North West but not so high as yesterday. At 9 AM took my usual Sunday morning circuit coming home at 10.30. At noon my wife brought the Rev Dr Watson home to dinner and he seemed to relish it, and remained until about 4 PM. At 4.30 I took my afternoon walk, coming home at 6 PM and did not go out again. It has been a cool comfortable day, and after the hot weather of the past week was quite refreshing

MONDAY, JULY 2, 1900

A cool morning thermometer 65° but very comfortable. I did not go to Boston today as I had work enough to do at home, and in my office the thermometer was at 70 nearly the whole day. I worked all day going home for a rest at 4.30. At 7 PM was at the Bank with the Examining Committee making the quarterly examination of the Bank, we got through at 8.30 when I went home, feeling quite tired

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1900

Thermometer 67° wind West and clear, but

weather bureau reports showers to night and tomorrow. before noon it began to grow hazy, and wind Southwest and clouded up in the afternoon and looked like rain, I only wish it would pour from 10 o'clock PM to sunrise, to drown the racket of the night before the 4th. it is not right in my judgement for parents to allow their children to be out all night. the night before the 4th of July even as a boy my father would not allow me to go out until sunrise, and that is soon enough. It did rain for a little in the evening but not much. it was cool & comfortable and a good night to sleep.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 1900

Well it is a fine clear morning thermometer 64°. was awakened at 4 AM by the ringing of the Church Bells but went to sleep again and got up at my regular hour. after breakfast went to my office, and worked until 10. it was as quiet a fourth of July as I ever knew and the chief of Police said it was the quietest night before the fourth: there were 2 or 3 alarms of fire but no material Damage done. On leaving my office I called on Judge Parmenter, then on my sisters then home, where I staid until 5 P.M. I then made a call on Mrs Elwell and My Son. in the evening the whole family went to the Arlington Boat Club house to see the fire works, and all at home at 10 PM and to bed soon after.

[The Arlington Boat Club was on the shore of Spy Pond. It became the The Middlesex Sportsmen's Club, and then the Arlington Boys Club (in 1943), but I think it was located on a different site from the current Arlington Boys and Girls Club.

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Acres/6298/history.html>

]

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1900

Was a cool comfortable morning thermometer 64° after breakfast went to my office, then in the morning to the lower part of the Town on Insurance business, returning to my office at 12. After dinner went to office, and then home for the evening. it was a comfortable day thermometer not over 80

FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1900

Thermometer 62° in morning and a pleasant day. I went to Boston at 7.40 returning at 10.40 and then to work. had not been to Boston for a week. I spent the day at work and home at 4.30. Soon after Mr & Mrs Joseph Stanwood arrived, who came to supper and spent the night. they are old friends of ours and live in Malden and we often exchange visits. I had to go at 7.30 to the quarterly meeting of the Trustees of our Savings Bank, where we declared the half yearly dividend - of 2% but I think it the last one as interest is so low now that I believe 3 1/2 will be the rule hereafter

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1900

Well it looks like a hot day, thermometer 70° at 7 AM and after breakfast went to my office and it grew hot, up the mercury went and off went my collar & cuffs. When I went home at noon the thermometer was 92° and now 3 PM in my office it is 92° that with a southwest wind and humidity makes it hard to bear. This is Bank night and the quarter day there, when money goes on interest and dividend due, all the evening a rush to the Bank, and the Treasurer & Clerk were busy until 10. oclock counting & squaring up the cash, which balance came out right the first time. I got home about 9.30 and look to a hot night.

SUNDAY, JULY 8, 1900

Well it was a hot night, and it is hot this AM thermometer 75, but the wind is in the West so it is not quite so moist as yesterday. After my regular Sunday morning round I got home at 10.30 and endeavored to keep as quiet and cool as the weather would permit the rest of the day. At 4.30 went to my sisters and at 5 to Mrs Elwells, who has an Umbra or covered platform in her yard and it was the coolest place I struck all day. Came home at 6, took a cup of tea and spent the evening at home.



MONDAY, JULY 9, 1900

Clear and a little cooler thermometer 70° in the morning. I went to Boston and had quite a lot of purchases to make, also had my hair cut & whiskers trimmed, and feel better for it. got home at 11.40 and to my office, then to dinner at noon, and home at 5. Well it cooled off in the evening so that the thermometer was 68 at bed time and I hope to have a good nights rest

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1900

Thermometer 68° this morning and a comfortable day is expected after a good nights sleep I went to my office as usual, but at 9 AM took an Electric Car to Harvard Square and Newton to see an old friend now 80 years old whom I have not heard from for 4 years. on arriving at his house in Newton, found he had gone to his native place Woodstock Vt. his wife died a year ago and he Chas G Fitch had no children, so he went to live with his two sisters in Woodstock On my return was gratified at Harvard Square to see a number of the Cuban teachers now studying under Harvard auspices at Cambridge. to think that Harvard has 1500 of them for 6 weeks, and the trip from Cuba back to their homes and board & instruction all free, it is a great work, both in a missionary and educational view. I got home at 11 AM and spent the rest of the day in my office and at home in the evening it was a very comfortable day to be out and about.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1900

A beautiful clear morning with thermometer at 70° and a Southwest wind, it looks like it would be warm, but the wind is fresh. I went to Boston at 7.40 and returned at 10.40, then to work in my office, where I was all day, thermometer 84° in my office at 3 PM. Well it is warm and "soggy" I did not go out but went home at 4.30 P.M. and as usual at 7 PM went to the Bank getting home soon after 9. as my sister had gone to Dedham for the night so I went directly home, it was cooler in the evening, but yet quite warm

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1900

Well it was warm with Southwest wind this A.M. and I went to my office thermometer about 72° I worked all the morning in my office also in the afternoon, but the weather was too warm for comfort thermometer at 4.45. 82° but soon after 5 a severe gale came up and the sky was dark and by 7 oclock thermometer was 68° quite a fall and after the wind squall we had a nice gentle rain, very much needed all the evening. I went and made a short call on my sister in the evening coming home at 9 PM

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1900

A clear cool morning thermometer 68° and I went to Boston at 7.40 and returned at 11.40. and then to work the rest of the day in my office it was a delightful day to be up and about the thermometer not over 76° all day and a relief from the warm weather earlier in the week. After coming home at 4.30 I did not go out again

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1900

A clear morning thermometer 70° but it did not go above 78° all day, though it grew warmer toward night. I went to my office then at 9.30 went to the Heights on business. I find the Boston & Maine RR have nearly completed the abutments of the Bridge over the RR at Park Avenue and presume in a couple of months the bridge will be completed. they are building a new Street in place of the present Bow St from Forest St to Park Avenue, north of the Railroad, and are building a crossing with the Railroad above Forest St at that crossing. When that is done the grade crossings at Forest & Bow Sts and Park Avenue will be abolished. Besides at the present time they are grading Brattle Street to go under the Railroad and the same at Grove St. All will be done this fall, and 3 Bridges for the RR to go over these highways and the highway at Park Ave over the RR. Well after coming back to my office at 11 A M excepting going to dinner I was there until 4.30. PM and at 7 PM went to the Bank not coming home until nearly 10 PM. It was a beautiful day and very comfortable but grew warmer toward night.

SUNDAY, JULY 15, 1900

A clear morning thermometer 70° but wind South-west and the air close. I took my Sunday morning walk coming home at 10.30 and there remained until 4.30 when I went out for my afternoon walk coming home at 6°clock. Thermometer was 80° all day and not very comfortable with a Southwest wind that changed to Northwest in the evening. I did not go out in the evening.

MONDAY, JULY 16, 1900

Well the wind was Northwest and warm thermometer 76° at 7 oclock & rising. I went to Boston at 7.40 and had some running round to do and noticed the thermometer at Thompson's Spa at 10 AM was 92°! Oh but it was hot. I took car in subway at 10.40 so it was comfortable riding on the Electric and got to my office at 11.40. by keeping my windows closed kept the thermometer down to 82° in my office but it was 92° at my house at 1.30 when I finished my dinner. I expect it will be hot today and tomorrow. I hope there will be a shower. Well there was no shower and the thermometer kept at 92 all the afternoon. it was really too hot to work. I went home, but there was no comfort, and in the evening divided my time sitting on my own & my sisters piazza. My sister Mrs Stanwood returned today with her granddaughter Ruth Wilby from Little Compton R.I. where they have been spending a few days with their friend Mrs Birchard and on their way home took in a drive round Newport. Thermometer was 82 in my room when I retired.

TUESDAY, JULY 17, 1900

Well this is a hot wave sure. thermometer on my piazza at 7 A M 78.° and rising, weather clear, but showers are promised this P.M. I went to my office and worked there leisurely all day, but the thermometer was 92° there but a light Southwest wind was refreshing. I did not go out only between my house & office and when I got home found thermometer 93° at 5 PM. Well all there is to do is to keep cool (?) and not get excited, and the anticipated shower did not come, although way to the North in the evening we could see

Lightning flashes, so someplace had the shower we wanted. at 10 30 when I retired the thermometer outside was 83 in my room it was 86. with 6 windows open high!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1900

No let up from the heat, thermometer 80° at 7. AM and I have to go to Boston, which I did at 7.40 but in Boston the heat was intolerable, and I hastened my business and took an Electric Car for home at 9 A M arriving at 9.\_40\_ and then to my office where I took off my \_surplus\_ clothes and set myself down for quiet work, but now at 12 M the thermometer is 94° on my desk and no sign of rain. Well I went home to dinner and as I left at 1.30 my thermometer on my piazza registered 97, but a shower was in sight and at 2.30 it rained and was cooler the thermometer going down to 85°, but later it went higher yet not much. We can record this as the hot day of the season and the mean of the past 3 days is 85°. -- the hottest 3 successive days for many years. In the evening at the Bank it was hot and in my room at 10.30 the thermometer was 86° and 82° on the piazza. It was hot the little shower at 2 PM was quite a downfall in Boston, but it cooled the air. Well this is Ethel's 40th birth day and she is in Lawrence with Mrs Whiting an old friend of hers. Can it be she is 40? Why, I remember my trials 40 years ago, it seems such a short time that I do not realize it. Well she is a dear good girl & the best of it is she is at home with us and her father & mother with her.

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1900

Clear. Wind Northwest, the air Fresh and invigorating thermometer at 7 AM 68\_°\_ Oh how nice the cool breezes. I went to my office then at 9.30 took [street] car for Arlington Heights, then I walked down, stopping at Theodore Schwambs on business, then through Brattle St. to see the change of grade being made from surface to Bridge across the R.R. thence round to Dudley St where the RR had taken out the old grade crossing, that I put there in 1845. then I came to my office at 11.30 The thermometer was about 85° all day but the wind was Northwest & fresh so it was quite comfortable. I remained in my office until 4.30 on going out found the mechanics setting the plate glass windows in the front of the Savings Bk Building, which they will finish tomorrow. this work has been much delayed by the iron

workers, and I hope ere this week closes the work will be all done. In the evening I was at home, and my son Frank & wife & Miss Proctor spent the evening with us. Retired at 10.30 and was sleepy

[I don't think there was ever a railroad crossing on Dudley Street, so maybe he means Grove Street.]

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1900

A clear morning and thermometer 66° well it is fine to have the weather cooler. I went to Boston at 7.40 and returned by Electric at 11 AM. the wind went to the east, and how delightful & cool it is. I went to the office at work until 12.45 then home and again to office in the PM. It is good weather for work, thermometer at 3.30 in the office 77° quite a difference from 97° on Wednesday last. Am quite busy to get my work in such shape that I can be absent from Aug 4" to Aug 18 on the first vacation of more than three days for 14 yrs. I went home at 4.30 and there remained it was so comfortable after the hot term, that it is a treat to feel cool

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1900

After a comfortable night found the thermometer at 65° this morning and after breakfast went to my office and was hard at work all day then for it was a good day for work, although the wind was easterly toward evening it grew a little warmer, the thermometer went to 78°. but no rain to speak of and the ground so dry. the lawns are brown, and the country farmers who have no water supply, just gaze at their crops drying up. it looked a little like rain in the evening, but no rain came. I went to the Bank at 7 and home a little before 10.

SUNDAY, JULY 22, 1900

A beautiful morning thermometer 68° and it was a very comfortable day, and I think there was a slight shower at night. the wind was easterly and thermometer went to 80°. I spent the day as usual and rested as I do on Sunday, with my morning and afternoon outings. After supper I made a short call on my dear old friend Mrs Myra Whittemore and then spent the rest of the evening with Judge Parmenter, dear

old man how feeble he is but persistent to the last. he will go to the Courthouse in Boston every day, but he told me he had thought it wise to stay at home on Tuesday & Wednesday last, those 2 hot days. I enjoy talking with him and it is always a pleasant evening to me when with the Judge. well it seems at 10 PM to be damp and a little "muggy" what the weather will be tomorrow I don't know

MONDAY, JULY 23, 1900

Well it is a hazy morning and the wind is Southwest and thermometer 70°. Well I am suspicious, will not go to Boston, let Frank go he loves it. I don't. the day was warm and I spent the morning & afternoon in my office, the air was humid, and thermometer at noon 90°. Well it is very uncomfortable, but I did not go home until nearly 5. P.M and after supper I sit out on the Piazza until 10.30. thermometer in my room at that time 84°. had every window open (6 of them) and with but a sheet over me went to bed and slept like a baby all night in fact I do so every night. why is it, when I hear of so many troubled with insomnia, that I cannot get it and lye awake one or two nights. Well it is good to sleep well, and I tell the family I must have a clear conscience and a contented mind. I know of no one of my age, who takes the world more easily than myself, for I will not allow any thing to trouble me if I can help it. Well it was a hot night and very uncomfortable to some

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1900

A clear morning a light Southwest to west wind and it looks as if it would be hot. well I came down to the office at 7.30 & thermometer 72°, but the air was not so humid as yesterday. I had much to do, so after looking over my mornings mail, & writing a few letters for the 9.30 mail I walked out to the East part of the Town, then took car for Arlington Heights, attending to business, then walked down the Avenue as far as Brattle St. making a few calls, then took car for office arriving at 11. oclock. pretty warm out I can assure you thermometer at 88° and hangs there: went home to dinner, and back to the office to work until 4.30 then home. thermometer 4.30. 88° Well it was hot but not so uncomfortable as yesterday,

and the weather bureau reports another warm day tomorrow, but no rain. Oh if it would only rain.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1900

Clear morning wind Southwest fresh. thermometer 68°. I went to Boston on 7.40 train and at 10.15 AM took Electric car for home; on the way the conductor informed me that the Baptist Church in Arlington was on fire as his car came in. Well I was disgruntled, for I knew that the church was being painted and the old paint (mixed with sand) was being burned off by naptha torches, but supposed on my examination, on Monday, that the burning was all done. Yet it seems that 2 workman in the face of a fresh South west wind mounted to the Bell deck and commenced burning off the paint. they found they had made a fire, and without giving an alarm tried to put it out with their extinguishers but not succeeding, then descended and gave an alarm but alas too late. The Fire Dept. were on hand promptly, but could not save the Church, yet saved Houses near by: when I arrived on the spot about 11 A M the Church was gone. I felt provoked that the rules of the building committee had been ignored & as I had stated to them, I would not trust workmen, but wanted an intelligent man to be on hand during any burning, but he was not there, hence this! What a catastrophe ignorant carelessness can cause. Well about 4 PM it commenced to rain, and Ethel had a Picnick of about 150 from Boston Slums by Spy Pond on land of F & D Wyman but that was all over before the welcome rain

[From Mill Brook Valley: a Historical and Architectural Survey (Arlington Historical Commission, 1976):

["The church stands on land [at 819 Mass. Ave.] donated by Mary Cutter in 1827. Her gift also included a privilege to the Baptist Society to use the Cutter Pond, an eight-acre pond which once lay directly behind the church and its predecessors on the site, for the ordinance of baptism. The present structure is the third on this site; the second, an exceptionally handsome gothic revival structure built of wood in 1851, was destroyed by fire in 1900."]

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1900

A cloudy morning Thermometer 68°, and rain promised well it did rain quite steadily all day and it was so needed for the ground was very dry. I went to my office and was hard at work all day. the fire of yesterday was the only thing to disturb my mind. I went home at noon and worked

in the PM then at 4.50 at home where I remained all the evening, listening to the rain.

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1900

A Lowery morning and hazy, thermometer 70° and it was showery early but with clouds around, the rain stopped, and though not hot it was "stickey" weather. I did not go to Boston but was in my office all day at work for I am trying to get off by Aug 4" on my vacation, for 2 weeks at the Quabbin Inn Greenwich Mass. Well there is nothing much to relate about a day's work in ones office. I went home at 4.30 and remained there

[Thre is a map of Greenwich in 1900 at <http://www.foquabbin.org/greenwich.html>

This is From The Boston Globe, Nov. 29, 1992 --

"It was more than 50 years ago that their hometowns were intentionally demolished, or 'discontinued' as the Metropolitan Distric Commission likes to say, so that the Quabbin Reservoir could be created.

"But, still, former residents of the four towns that once dotted the Swift River Valley gather every Tuesday at the modest Quabbin Visitors' Center for tea and camaraderie, sharing memories of the lives they once knew in homes that now lie buried under 412 billion gallons of drinking water....

"Dana, Enfield, Greenwich and Prescott were the towns that died on April 28, 1938, on order of the legislature, after the US Supreme Court rejected the towns' appeals....

"Greenwich, incorporated in 1754, was the oldest and to many eyes the most picturesque town, set in a low fertile valley surrounded by Mount Pomeroy, Mount Liz and Mount Zion -- now islands jutting through the reservoir waters."]

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1900

This was a delightful morning thermometer about 65 wind West and cooler. I went to my office and was at work there all day, going home at noon as usual, except that I took a business walk around Broadway and the lower



part of the Town. I am so anxious to get my August Insurance renewals completed that I spend my time writing up renewal applications and Policies. this was a good day for work and I improved [?] it, going home at 4.30 I went to the Bank as usual in the evening Mr Peck the president was away, so there was but little doing I got home just before 10 PM

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 1900

This morning is lovely, thermometer 65° and not over 75 all day. all the churches are closed except the Baptists and they worshipped in the Universalist Church by invitation. To show the kindly Christian spirit that prevails, right after the fire the Universalist, Orthodox, Unitarian and even Fr Mulcahy the Catholic Priest offered the Baptists their church or vestrys for worship. would this have been done 60 years ago? No. The world moves, and it is only by these long lapses of time, can we realize the changes that came over the community. Well I took my morning walk and coming home at 10.30 AM. remained until 4.30 when I went and spent an hour with my sister, then home where I remained it was a delightful evening to sit out on the Piazza. Did not call on Mrs Elwell for she with her sister Mrs Lovejoy and Mrs E's two sons are summering a few days at Long Pond Plymouth

[From Mill Brook Valley: a Historical and Architectural Survey (Arlington Historical Commission, 1976):

"735 [Massachusetts Avenue]

"St. Athanasius the Great Greek Orthodox Church. Greek revival, 1841, renovated in the Italianate revival style after 1860; architect of the renovations: Rev. Thomas W. Silloway

"Built as a Universalist church, this structure was restyled by a Universalist pastor who was also one of the Boston area's leading victorian architects. Renovations included moving the church back from the avenue, extending it, and constructing its remarkable tower, which was crowned until 1938 by a 90' steeple. One of the area's most notable victorian buildings, it should probably be considered Arlington's finest architectural ornament of any period, in any style, and for any function."]

[There is a photo of the church at:  
<http://www.schlichtman.org/arlington-mass/organizations.html> ]

MONDAY, JULY 30, 1900

A clear cool morning thermometer 65° and at 7.40 I went to Boston on business. At 10. AM I met the Standing Committee of the Baptist Church and the Special Ins Committee on loss adjustment at Field & Cowles office 85 Water St. I did not get to Arlington until 12.20, then to dinner and after that to my office where I was busy enough until 5 PM thence home and tired enough

TUESDAY, JULY 31, 1900

Well it was cool thermometer 62° in AM and I went to my office, still hard at work to win my vacation, to begin on Saturday next so there is nothing but office work, for me to report all this week, and it is fortunate that the weather is so comfortable for me I passed the day in the office and at 4.30 went home & there found that Mrs W. had prepared a family party. well she called it an anniversary party being the 43d anniversary of our wedding, but the 29<sup>th</sup> inst was the day, but for convenience, the supper came off this evening. Well my two dear sisters were there Mrs Hodgdon and Mrs Stanwood & the latter had with her, her 15 year old granddaughter Ruth Wilby from Cincinnati, then my son Frank and his wife & her sister Miss Anna L Proctor. My own family Mrs. W, Mrs Negley (her sister) daughters Ethel and Annette & younger son Arthur Jefferson, and myself. I felt like a patriarch of old, but we had a very pleasant time, the evening was warm, the thermometer at 75° so we sat out on the Piazza all the evening

[There is a picture of the Chase-Wellington house c. 1865 on page 22 of Ice, Crops, and Commuters: South and East Arlington's Historical and Architectural Heritage (Arlington Historical Commission, 1981). The text says, "Perhaps the happiest marriage of transported house and new setting is that of the George Y. Wellington residence at 16 Maple Street. One of the Town's very few Carpenter Gothic cottages, it was moved from Pleasant Street to its present pedestal-like site in 1866."

[The piazza in the photo looks very much as it does today.]

According to the Cutters' History of the Town of Arlington (1880,

1975) George Yates Wellington was baptized 22 Apr. 1827, so in 1845 he was  
18 or more.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1900

A little warmer this A M, thermometer 68°. I did not go to Boston to day, but spent my time in my office for there was so much for me to do. It was an uneventful day. I went home to supper and at 7 PM to the Bank getting back about 9.45 PM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1900 Traders Day

A beautiful clear morning thermometer 65° and wind northwest. I went to my office as usual, but excepting the Banks and the Drug Stores all the other places shut up, even the Post Office after 10 AM. Why? It is "Traders Day" and all our Town merchants had a holiday. Many went to the camp of our Townsman, Warren A. Peirce, on Concord River. they call it Camp Arlington and they had a fine picnic. the Veteran Firemen had a playout with the old Eureka at Combination Park, and had bad luck. I was hard at work all day going home at 5. PM and remaining there

[There is a photo of the Eureka on page 19 of the booklet \_Mill Brook Valley\_ (Arlington Historical Commission, 1976) with the caption: "The Eureka and Cutter's Pond, before 1900. A part of Cutter's Pond can be seen in the background of this portrait of West Cambridge's renowned fire engine, the winner of countless pumping contests, which stands on the pond's Mill St. dam.... The pond was drained in the 1920's, but the Eureka survives."]

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1900

A trifle warmer wind Southwest and hazy thermometer 68°. I went to Boston where I had several errands to do but came home at 10.40. then to my office to put in the last strokes of work, that I may leave with a clear conscience to morrow for my vacation. Well the work kept piling up but at 5.15 I got through, closed my shutters and bid good bye for two weeks to all work (that is if I cand stand it) well I was at home all the evening, Frank & his family came, and it was after 10 when I commenced to look after my packing and after 11 when I got

to bed

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1900

A beautiful morning thermometer 62°. I was up and about, and after breakfast at 7.40 bid good bye to the family & escorted by my 2 sons went to the depot, and took train to North Cambridge at 7.56 and from North Cambridge at 8.20 the cars by Mass Central RR for Ware Mass. 74. miles. At 11 A M reached Ware & found my old friend and soldier Genl Dunham, once Col. of 11" Mass Regt in the war of the rebellion, waiting in his carriage to take me to his summer hotel built for his son, on the Col's farm in Greenwich Mass, 9 miles from Ware He calls it "Quabbin Inn" as it stands on a side hill and overlooks Quabbin Lake, a pretty sheet of water about 1/4 mile wide and 1 mile long. the scenery as one stands on the Piazza looking west across the lake, to the green woods & hills beyond is fine. I arrived there just at 1. PM and in time for dinner, and with a good appetite, and a very good dinner it was, and I believe the Col. wrote me the truth when he stated he had a "professional Cook." She certainly showed she understands her business, and in addition we have an excellent Table girl, of experience and our dinner was well served. In the afternoon the Col. and I sought the cool breezes beside the Lake and we talked over old times, as we have been acquainted for 30 years. Again in the evening he came from his farm house near by and renewed our old stories, while the guests in the parlor had a musicale. the weather was fine and enjoyable

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1900

A beautiful day and remained so all day. I find there is no thermometer [!] at this hotel but judge it was about 75 to 80 all day. There are but about a dozen guests here at present, but more are coming. I begin to feel at home a Mr Griffin wife daughter & son, with two Miss Boyds from Hyde Park Mass also a Mrs Raynes from the same place, and she leaves tomorrow. Mr Griffin came yesterday to spend Sunday only, and there are two or three transient guests and a Mr Fouke [?] a shoe drummer from New York. Of course I came here to rest, and rest I will, so with the exception of several interviews with the Col. I sat round reading all the day, about as I would at home. The scenery around us is beautiful the hills dome like rising from the level ground some 7 to 800 feet covered with green foliage & the mountainous range of hills out toward the west are a delight to the eye, with beautiful Quabbin Lake in the foreground

almost at our feet as we view it from the Piazza of the Inn. is all delightful & restful. I feel I have struck the right place, but for the girls that are here I think life is quite tame, however a couple of nice young men from Springfield Mass in a cottage across the River, amuse the girls in rowing on the Lake where they will spend the most of the day tomorrow without doubt.

MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1900

A bright warm morning and from the signs think today will be a hot one. The Col. with his buggy appeared about 9 AM and took me in for a ride to the Post Office to Greenwich Village about a mile away. I got the Transcript of Saturday Evening, and when I returned the Col showed me about his farm, which is an orchard farm and he has old Astracan Apples ripe now and fine green corn, in fact he supplies the Hotel with fresh vegetables & milk daily. After I got back to the Inn, I kept quiet, for it seemed very hot and sultry, so there was discomfort in exercise, but in the fresh Southwest wind and an Arm Chair on the Piazza, I was a fixture the most of the day. A gentleman with his wife and small boy were expected at Ware so the Col. went for them in the afternoon & the 8 miles out & 8 miles return was a hot ride, and on his return he told me the thermometer was 90° at Ware. he brought with him Mr & Mrs Poole & 6 year old boy, of Winthrop Mass. I found on better acquaintance that Mr Poole was a nephew and named for an old conductor Fred W Poole I employed in 1866 when I was lessee of the Arlington Horse RR. After supper The Col came over for a talk, and huge black clouds came up from the West and between 8.30 and 9.30 we had an electric storm and downfall of rain that cooled the atmosphere, about 10.30 the Col went home, and I to my bed, and had a very comfortable nights sleep.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1900

Well it is hazy & cooler with a northeast wind, so the Col said it was a good day to go fishing. Well we got ready and with the Col. Mr Poole & myself in the Col's dory we started and fished all the morning, it reminded me of my youthful days and fishing in Spy Pond at home, and we caught about the same assortment of fish, brims, yellow perch & hornpouts none very large but quite a good string. We got back and then I cleaned up for dinner, after dinner I wrote a letter to send home as I had a letter in the morning from Ma, which was appreciated. then I had a nap, and from 4.30 to 6 PM read my paper & books, then supper. After supper came the Col. and it was raining lightly, the Col remained until 9.30 and went home and

I to bed, and after that it commenced raining again, of which I knew nothing until the next morning

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1900

This is a hazy comfortable morning, looks like a showery day, at 9. AM I started with the girls, Mrs Griffin, 2 Miss Boyds, and a Miss Dyer who with an elderly lady Mrs Doane from Hyde Park arrived last evening, we went to the Post Office where I got one letter from Frank and my Transcript, returning I sat on the Piazza reading & we had 2 or 3 light showers Well it continued hazy, with an occasional drizzling rain throughout the day. I answered Franks letter to be sent with the PM mail, read my Transcript, and sit on the broad piazza looking over Quabbin Lake in my arm chair, took my usual nap in the afternoon. After supper the girls were frolicking and trying to have a good time, the weather was clearing, and after the sun went down Mrs Griffin & I sat and talked until 9 PM when I retired. Mr Poole was busy on the Lake all day, made a float for the boats in the morning & was fishing in the afternoon. Mrs Poole is quite musical and in the evening there was quite a musicale in the Hall. This is quite a lazy life, but a good rest

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1900

This is a fine morning, cool & comfortable, wind Northwest after breakfast (about 9 AM) Col Tom came round with his buggy and I went with him to the Post Office to get my mail, found the Transcript, and a letter from Ethel. Well I got back about 10. AM, read my Transcript and wrote an answer to Ethel's letter, and sent her a check for 40.75 for Mrs Grant for Mrs Lockes board to Aug 8". dinner at 1. then I took a short nap, but thinking it important to send Ethels letter by the mail leaving Greenwich at 4 PM, I started for the Post Office with it and mailed it in time, and on my return stopped at Col Tom's farm house and had a chat with him & his wife for an hour, getting back about 5.30. A party of people stopping at Enfield, 7 in all, 2 young men, a chaperone, & 5 young ladies all from various places came for supper we had a fine supper such as our professional Cook can get up, I was introduced to some of this party, 2 snippesnappers and one or two girls, they were pleasant, and then after they left at 8°clock we all sat round on the piazza until bedtime, the evening was beautiful but I predict a warm day tomorrow

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1900

Well the sun rose clear and thermometer about 70° but it grew warmer & warmer. I concluded it was going to be hot, so declined the girls invitation to walk to the Post Office, and did some heavy sitting around Well the thermometer was about 90° at noon, and soon after we had light thunder showers with high winds, which were acceptable, but they cleared off about 4 P.M. and it was as hot & sultry as ever. I got a letter from Ma with home news, and I answered it right away, but I guess she won't get it until this P.M. Today I did not step my feet to the ground. Why? it was hot and I was not compelled to. Am I not here to take it easy? So I am. And with the little breeze I was comfortable & so glad I was not tied up in my office writing Ins. Policies. In the evening we all sit on the Piazza and Col Tom came up and sit with us until 9 PM telling yarns about this old Town and then I went to bed. Sleep good? Yes I can sleep at any time

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1900

This is a pleasant morning & will be a scorcher. the wind however is fresh from the Southwest, but I did not go to the Post Office with the girls and about 10 AM Col Tom drove up with the mail, there was a letter from Ma, ever faithful, and the Transcript and between the two I was busy until 12 o'clock. Saw by the Transcript Dr Andrew & Frank W. Hodgdon arrived from England yesterday morning & hope they had a pleasant 8 weeks trip. It is so hot, I am keeping quiet today, and very quiet, thermometer at about 90° but a good South breeze. Took a rest in the PM and done up considerable reading, after supper Mr Otis Dunham brought out a Phonograph and we listened to that. Col Tom was round also at 10 we retired

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, 1900

A change came over the spirit of my dream, [\*] from weather at 90° this AM brought leadened skies and thermometer 58° East wind so that it was uncomfortable to sit out on the piazza, but we all did except 2 or 3 that went to church. We had no new boarders so little & big there are 11 of us and we are all like one family. The table is excellent and, we can all be as lazy as we wish. About 3 PM Col Tom came with his buggy

to show me a farm that is for sale, it is about 1 1/2 miles distant, 100 acres land a good part tillage and the rest woodland, a nice old fashioned house a good large modern farm Barn an old barn and carriage house, large sheds & Ice house all for \$1000.! Well it is dog cheap, as the house is ready for occupancy, and the roads and driving around there are fine. I was glad to see the place. We returned about 6 and in the evening in the hall the guests had quite a musicale; In the night it began to rain.

[\* This line must be a quote from Lord Byron's "The Dream" (1816). Frederick Douglass used it as a chapter title in his autobiography (1855).]

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1900

A lowery misty morning, still cold but a little misty rain occasionally. I walked to the Post Office with the girls in the morning got paper & letters then relaxing. I kept about the house all day it rained some and was cool enough I did not venture out, but had a good book and read all day. After Supper Col Tom came & we reminisced all the evening until 10 PM when we retired

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1900

A cool cloudy morning, and some rain I did not go out all the morning, got letters from home and wrote home as usual, toward noon the clouds broke away, and Col Tom said he would come for me at 2.30 for a drive and to see a new farm. Well we started and went over to the west side of Quabbin Lake and west of Mt Pomeroy, that looms up from Quabbin Inn on the west of the lake. Well this is quite a farm over 100 acres an old house, a good barn just new shingled and has spring water through the house & barn, the price of this is \$800. the house is occupied but not so much of a house as the one we saw Sunday, but cheap enough. We returned about 5.30 - one thing the RR depot is but 10 minutes walk from this farm & about 20 minutes from farm we saw Sunday. the guests had quite a sing to night up to 10 PM when we retired

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1900



A cool morning and showery conditions, and I went to the Post Office with the girls for the mail getting home about 10. then the thunder clouds came up and about 11 to nearly one the lightning & the rain and the lightning was sharp and close by. At noon it cleared and Col Tom took the 3 married women to ride all round Quabbin Lake. It was warm in the sun and the ladies had a nice ride and got home about 5. PM. I kept quiet only going down to the lake for an hour or so After supper the Phonograph was put in operation and amused us much, and about 9 the guests retired but I sat up and read until 10 and then to bed

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1900

The sun set so clear last night, I was so surprised to wake up and find a pouring rain it came right down, it cleared up after breakfast so that the girls went to the Post Office and after 10 it rained again with thunder & lightning, of course we kept quiet and it was after 2 ere it cleared away. I took my after dinner nap then about 4 strolled down to Col Toms farm and there remained until Supper time, then the sun set clear & bright and Col Tom came round & we talked until 10 oclock and then I went to bed

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 1900

Warmer, but very foggy this A.M. but after breakfast the fog lifted, and I went to the farm house and remained an hour or so then home a little after 10. it began to cloud up and about 12 there was a heavy shower but most of it passed south of us, there was some lightning, well it rained some, but as stated there was a big thunder shower went So East and will be heard from tomorrow. It cleared in the PM and the weather was fine. At 6 PM Judge Terry & his wife from Hyde Park arrived, then came supper and the evening we spent on the piazza to bed at 10 PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1900

Up early this bright clear morning, for I leave Quabbin Inn. got up at 6, had breakfast at 6.30 and all the guests sit round looking on, it was kind of them all & I appreciated it. Asa Dunham with a buggy came a little before 7 and I started off with him

for Ware Depot, with a farewell to my Quabbin girls and the other guests. We reached Ware Depot at 8.30 and at 9.10 was on my way to North Cambridge on Mass Central RR then to Arlington where I reached at 11.40. Frank met me and we went to our office, where he gave me an account of his stewardship in my absence, and at 12.45 went home where I met my wife & Mrs Negley, that is all the family left as Ethel & Annette were at Plymouth Mass and Arthur down to Ellsworth Me. and out yachting. All were glad to see me back, after 14 days absence Well after dinner I went back to the office and began my old treadmill life again, worked all the afternoon and in the evening went to the Bank. Mr Peck the President was still away, and business quiet. Got home after a call on my sister about 10 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 1900

A lovely Sabbath Morning, thermometer 65, and rising but it was very comfortable. After 9 called on my sister then my Son Frank then to Post Office then home at 10.30 where I remained. Dr Stickney dined with us, and at 4.30 I went to my sisters then to Mrs Elwells and give an a/c of my vacation then home by 6. PM, and there remained. Home seems like a good resting place after all and I am glad to get back.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1900

Another lovely morning Thermometer 62 and weather comfortable for work. I went to Boston at 7\_40\_ the first time since Aug 3\_d\_ I had not much to do but I came home by 10 40 and went to my office and was at work all day, trying to catch up for lost time & thankful for the cool weather. Went home at 5 PM and did not go out again

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1900

A cool morning thermometer 60 and it did not get above 73° all day. I went to my office in the morning, and worked all day. there is nothing at all to write about. I am in the old rut already. In the evening Ma, Aunt Ellie & I kept house it is dull without the girls

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1900 74" birthday

A beautiful morning thermometer 65° and I went to Boston at 7\_40\_ Came home by 10.30 on Electric did a little business in Boston, and went to my office on my return. Well I am 74 years old today and cannot realize, that a young fellow like me can count off so many years. Ma & Aunt Ellie remembered me with a silk pocket Hkf. each which was very acceptable, and I spend the day at work, and it being Bank night I spent the evening at the Bank getting home at 9.45 Well it was a quiet birth day and just as I wished

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1900

What a lot of fine comfortable days and in the midst of the dog days. I went to my office in the morning and then took car for Arlington Heights on business and walked all the way back, attending to business as I returned, got back at 11.30. After dinner I spent my time at the office and at dinner found my two girls from Plymouth, they had a nice time there. At Supper Arthur appeared so now the whole family are back, but about Sept 1st, Ma & Aunt Ellie will go to Rutland and there will be a gap again. Frank & his family spent the evening with us, and all to bed at 10 PM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1900

Wind South cloudy & hazy. Thermometer 68 looks like rain but I think it will be hazy. I went to Boston at 7 40 and returned on the Electric getting home at 10.10 it sprinkled a little, but as yet no rain. Franks family, Aunt Ellie & Ethel started about 9 AM for an Electric Car ride to Medway, and as the sun is clouded & no rain I hope they will have a good time. It continued hazy all day wind Southwest, no rain to speak of. I was in my office at work until 4.30 then went home and found the car riders had returned home having had a delightful ride. the Misses Robbins with their brother Olney arrived home this evening at 10.40 from a tour around the world, they left almost exactly 1 year ago, by the West to Japan returning in German Steamer to N York. Weather reports a hot day tomorrow. Sorry.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1900

Well it was clear and warm, with Northwest wind and thermometer 75° in the morning. I went to my

office but did not go out on business, it was getting hot and when I came home at 1 PM the thermometer was 92°, it was hot but the light North west wind mitigated some what the uncomfortable feeling. I was in my office all the afternoon, going home at 4.30 and returning to the Bank at 7 PM. Mr Peck the President had not returned yet and Miss Proctor the clerk being on her vacation, Mr Blasdale the Treasurer and myself attended to business I left at 9.30 after a busy evening getting home at 10 PM and the thermometer at 78°.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 1900

Rising about 8 AM found weather clear and thermometer at 86° and rising wind Southwest and air humid. Well I was glad it was Sunday. I went at 9 AM to my sisters then to my son Franks then to the Post Office getting home at 10.30. thermometer 90°. I pulled off coat & vest, collar & cuffs and sat myself down in the coolest place I could find and made myself comfortable as the weather would permit; about 3 PM thermometer mounted to 96° and with the humidity in the atmosphere it was hot. However about 4.30 the mercury began to drop so that about 6 PM when I returned from my afternoon calls the thermometer was 88, and at 1030 was 78°, but 84 in my sleeping room. After supper I made a short call on the Misses Robbins & brother, also on Judge Parmenter, whom I found with his son James also his son William with his wife and daughter from Florida. William has been quite sick with typhus fever and with his family has come north to recuperate. I was glad to meet him and his wife whom I had not met for some years

MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 1900

The hot weather continues 78° this morning but the wind was north and of course less humidity. I went to Boston on the 7.40 train but did not remain long. after finishing my business I left on Electric at 9.10 arriving home at 9.50 and then to my office and to work. the wind got round to the South East, but it was very light at 2 PM but the thermometer was 90°, it is not so hard a day to bear as yesterday, but too hot for comfort and for work. Showers were promised us by the weather bureau but at this writing (3 PM) no signs of a shower. Mrs W & Mrs Negley left at 10 AM the one for a two days stay at Mr Joseph Stanwoods while Mrs Negley intends leaving there tomorrow morning to meet my girls on the Electric Cars at Reading for a car ride to York Beach Maine Went home at 4.30 and in the evening we had

quite a nice shower which was much needed  
It was quite lonesome with Mrs W and Aunt Ellie  
away. retired about 10 PM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1900

A little hazy this morning thermometer 70 but  
Ethel & Annette, with Annie Proctor and Alice Winn  
started via Winchester on the trolley car for York  
Maine. it is quite an innovation, but I think they  
will enjoy it. Aunt Ellie from Malden will join  
them at Reading and then to Lawrence, Haverhill  
Amesbury, Hampton Portsmouth to York Beach  
where they should arrive at about 4 PM. The  
weather is fine, and I think they will have a  
comfortable journey. I went to Franks to dinner  
and at home in the evening no one but Arthur  
and myself. Was alone all the evening  
and to bed at 10. Arthur came in later

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1900

Another fine day and I am glad as the girls  
leave York Beach for home the weather is warm  
thermometer about 80. I went to my office as  
usual then to Arlington Heights then returning  
at 10.30 I was at work all day in my office  
ate dinner alone at home: about 5 PM Mrs  
W returned from Malden with Margaret who  
went for her and she had enjoyed her  
outing. In the evening I went to the Bank  
and on my return at 9.30 found my girls  
and Mrs Negley who had arrived from York  
Beach on their trolley trip about 8 P.M. and  
had enjoyed it much so we have the  
whole family at home again, the weather  
is comfortable and pleasant

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1900

This AM warm & clear thermometer 68° and  
my son Frank with his wife, and Chas Winn  
and his wife leave at 8.15 for York Beach by  
trolley, and part way by steam. I went to  
Boston and did not get to my office until 11.30  
there I was during the day, going home to  
my meals as usual, and with plenty to do in  
my office, it was a comfortably warm day,  
but a good day to work, the evenings were pleasant  
to sit out on the piazza, with thermometer at 72°

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1900

A fine morning but a little hazy thermometer about 70° I went to Boston and did a few errands and came home on the 9.49 trolly from Bowdoin Sq arrived at office at 10.25, and 36 minutes is good time. I spent the day hard at work as the weather was all right, heard today that the Baptists had purchased the Geo Tufts Estate and Estate of R W Shattuck, so now they own to Willow place, and then build during the coming year a stone church. Well they are able to do it, and it will add to the beauty of the Town. After going home at 4.30 I remained there, it was very comfortable setting out on the Piazza.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1900

Another fine morning thermometer 70° and I went to Boston at 7.40 had my hair cut and attended to some business and came home on 10.09 trolly arriving at 10 45, then to my office to work. during the day it got warmer thermometer to 80 but not uncomfortable but looks as if it would be warmer to morrow. Went to the Bank in the evening and was very busy did not get home until after 10. oclock, and was quite tired, and it was warm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1900

A delightful, comfortable Sabbath morning one of the best mornings to be out and about. I took my Sunday morning walk and coming home at 10.30 remained there. At noon Mr Wolfson and Mr Smith both friends of Arthur and Miss Damon came to dinner so we had quite a table full. It grew warmer toward evening and the thermometer was near 80° in my sleeping room at 10 P M, about 76° on the piazza think it will be warmer tomorrow but we begin to need rain, we have had none since the shower last Monday night

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1900 Labor Day

Well it looks as if it would be hot to day the thermometer was 72°, and rising at 7 A M. I went to my office at 7.15 and worked hard all day as there was much to do even if it is a holiday. At noon the thermometer was 85° in

my office, but there is a breeze. At the present writing the thermometer (4 P.M.) in the office is 89 plump. What a September this is and the Public Schools beginning on Tuesday. Well I did my own work and thermometer at 4 PM 89° - Went home at 4.45 and staid there did not go out again and was comfortable with a sheet and a blanket over night

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1900

Another fine morning thermometer at 70 and wind various but a slight easterly wind through the day. I spent the day in my office and it was fairly comfortable. The ground is very dry as no rain has descended since Monday Aug 27 What shall I slate [?] as to day, the thermometer rose to 85° and I was at work, in the evening I was at home reading. There is nothing to report for this day, except that all the public schools in the Town are opened today for the new school year 1900/1901 and it is too bad that it is so warm, for the scholars after the long vacation will not feel up to the mark with hot days to contend with.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1900

Another pleasant morning wind So East but thermometer 70° and went to 80° at noon I did not go to Boston but remained in my office except in the A M I went to attend to some Ins. business. The rest of the day I was writing in my office and in the evening I was at the Bank as usual Was quite busy during the evening, but I arrived Home about 9.30 the weather continued pleasant and thermometer 70° at 10 PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1900

Another pleasant morning, thermometer 68°, and wind Southwest. this is going to be a sultry day. Yesterday the Weather Bureau reported brisk North east winds instead today the wind is Southwest. Well I went to Boston at 7.40 by Steam and was very busy so that I came home on the 11.17 Steam train, then to my office and here at noon the thermometer is 84° in my office. I state this as another year may show a lower thermometer. at all events with a fresh breeze it is not so warm as 84° would permit, yet one would not suppose this is September, and no rain since

Monday Aug 27. I went home as usual at 4.30 and did not go out again. thermometer in my room at 10 PM 82°. "Whew". toward night the wind went down. wind Southwest and hazy and thermometer went to 89°, but fell to 80 out side at 7 \_PM\_ but it was the doggyest of all the dog day evenings we have had this season

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1900

Well it was clear: thermometer 72° but the wind is northwest and the air has a little brace to it, vastly different from last evening. at 10 AM thermometer 76° in my office and it is getting Cloudy. hope some rain will come, but no the weather clared and Thermometer mounted to 85 in the P.M. but the air was fresh and bearable. I was in my office all day at work, went home at 4.30 and stayed there. nothing but work to day

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1900

Clear with thermometer 68°. a fine morning, but how we all wish for rain. I went to my office and worked there all day, that is until about 3.30 PM when who should walk in but Mrs Griffin & her daughter Elsa and Mrs Boyd with her two daughters Florence and Marian all of my Quabbin Inn guests and my Quabbin girls brought me 2 dozen Pinks as a birthday present. it was real good in them but they are good girls and I love them very much, for they were so kind to me when at the Quabbin Inn in Greenwich in August. I took the squad home to see Mrs W & Aunt Ellie and Ethel and Annette. then to walk by the Pond up Spring Valley where we met Mr J T Trowbridge the Author. then to the Robbins Library and the Historical rooms. thence they took cars for their home at Hyde Park. I went to my office thence a little after 5 home. but being Saturday Evening at 7 PM I went to the Bank coming home about 9.45. the weather was fine but Oh for a drop of rain

["John Townsend Trowbridge (pronounced Tro-bridge) was one of the best known authors and poets of the later 19th century. He was an active abolitionist, friend of the Transcendentalists and other literary figures of New England, and editor of the Atlantic magazine. I know of streets named after him in



Arlington, Cambridge, and Belmont.

["Spring Valley was the north end of Trowbridge's land on the shore of Spy Pond. Trowbridge gave the land to Arlington for a road down to the lake.

["Spring Valley was the site of Mother Batherick's capture of the six Redcoats on Battle Day. Later, the horses from the convoy that were killed by the old men of Menotomy were dragged there and hidden. In storms long ago sometimes horse bones would be washed out of the ground.

["In the War of 1812 a powder house was built at the lake end of Spring Valley.

["It is one of the wilder, stranger looking parts of Arlington, though small.  
Worth a visit."

-- David Formanek, 8 September 1999]

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1900

This is a beautiful Sunday morning Thermometer 68° and pleasant, the Unitarian Church opens today after summer vacation, also the Universalist. the Baptists had their services at Grand Army Hall so all the Churches & Sunday Schools are in running order. I went to Mrs Hodgdens about 9.15 then to my son Frank, then to Post Office getting home at 10.30, where I remained. Arthur was away today with the Spragues at Greenharbor, so we had a small family At 4.30 I took my usual Sunday round until 6 PM then came home and remained. It was a charming day thermometer not over 78° all day, and so many out riding, but when the Streets are not watered it is so dusty. Oh how we need a good all day rain

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1900

A clear morning thermometer 62° and 76° at noon a beautiful day to be about. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 10.40 by Steam, then to my office to work. What would I do if I did not have my daily toil? it seems hard, but when one enjoys it, it is a pleasure. I went to dinner at 12.45 and returned at 1.45 and at work all the PM. it is delightful to have it cooler at 4 PM Thermometer 72° in my office, but

from the paper they have had a two days hurricane  
Storm in the Gulf of Mexico and so far as heard  
from a large loss of life in Galveston Texas.  
At 4.30 I went home and did not go out  
again

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["The second largest loss [of life due to a hurricane] (the largest in the United States) came during the [September] 1900 Galveston hurricane. Just after the storm, the Governor of the State of Texas estimated 12,000 fatalities (Lester 1900), but the storm summary of Ousley (1900) provides information supporting their 'official' estimate of at least 8,000 lives lost."

[Source: "The Deadliest Atlantic Tropical Cyclones, 1492 - Present"  
by Edward N. Rappaport and Jose Fernandez-Partagas  
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pastdeadly.html>

[Also, see the chart, "The Deadliest Hurricanes In The United States 1900-1996" at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pastdead.html>.  
-- Ray Bloom, 10 September 1999]

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[This is a contemporary account of that hurricane:  
<<http://www.history.noaa.gov/tales/weather/cline2.html>>

[I wonder if he will get rain a few days latter.  
-- Ben Hyde, 10 September 1999]

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[There's a brand-new book just out about the Galveston hurricane of 1900:

["Isaac's Storm : A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History"  
by Erik Larson

[I haven't read it yet, but the reviews have been quite good.  
It's currently #26 on Amazon's best-seller list.  
-- Ron Newman, 10 September 1999]

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1900

Another fine morning cool & pleasant Thermometer  
60°. and no sign of rain. I went to my office and  
worked all day. it became warmer in the afternoon  
and thermometer at 72° at 6 oclock. The sad news  
from Galveston comes pouring in: well the city is  
built on a sand bar no doubt made by just  
such a storm that has just passed over it, and

where there is no stable foundation, there is no place for a city, even the scripture says a house built on the sand will fail, the loss of life as reported to day will go into the thousands: Aid is now being offered in food clothing and money. Well the storm went north from Texas, but where is it now? After going home in the PM I did not go out again

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1900

Another pleasant morning thermometer 65°. I went to Boston at 7.40 and left there at 10.20 on the electrics, and sure enough the hind end of the Galveston storm has reached us: it is all wind blowing in gusts of 40 to 50 miles an hour, many trees have blown down and the apples & pears are cleaned off the trees. Yesterday the storm with rain reached Chicago & the great Lakes with a fierce gale doing much damage, and then it coursed down the valley of the St Lawrence to the sea; here it was all wind & no rain. We did not want the wind, but Oh! how much we want rain. The wind went down around 4 oclock and it grew cooler. In the evening I went to the Bank, met Mr Geo G Allen and he signed the loss proofs for the Baptist Church on 4 Policies. Mrs W left at noon via North Cambridge for the Prospect House in Rutland where she will spend some weeks it does her good to go there. Mrs Negley goes too the latter part of next week, and so it is at home come & go, and go & come about all the time. I got home about 9.30.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1900

Another clear morning no signs of rain, thermometer 56° cooler. I went to my office and there remained all day at work. The gale did havoc yesterday, it being so dry there were many forest fires that swept out woods, houses & villages, especially many fine residences in old Plymouth. What a destroyer, the Fire, Water & Wind can make. Millions of property and thousands of lives are sacrificed to this one storm in its travels for a week. In Galveston the dead bodies and the wrecked houses are a terrible sight and above all there are those that outlived all who are looting the dead bodies and the houses. such fiends of human form do not deserve to live, that take such an advantage of the misery around them Well it looks like rain and I hope it will come soon. I went home at 4.30 as

usual and did not go out again

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1900

A cool morning and wind east and it rains  
I did not go to Boston but spent the whole  
day at work in the office and the rain  
came in showers but it looks as if we  
may have enough to quench the forest fires  
There is nothing to write about. Mrs W arrived  
in Rutland Mass on time in a cloud of  
dust from the gale. I went home at 430  
and I had a severe cold and kept  
quiet.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900

It rained hard all last night and is clearing  
and cold this AM. Thermometer 58° well the  
rain has done some good. I went to my  
office and worked all day as usual  
had a little fire in the Bank Building to  
take off the dampness. I went home at  
4.30 and at 7 went to the Bank and  
remained there until 9 30 then  
home. it was quite cool.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1900

A little cloudy but cool thermometer 54°  
I did not go out this morning, on a/c of my  
cold. it was hazy and occasionally a misty  
rain during the morning. Dr Stickney dined  
with us and Arthur went to Green Harbor  
with Agnes to spend Sunday. In the  
afternoon made my usual round of  
calls at 4.30 then after supper made a  
call at the Robbins Mansion. Winfield Robbins  
was there and told me of his trip to  
the East African coast. he has been  
a great traveller, and there is no part of  
this wide world he has not visited  
I got home at 9.30

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1900

A clear morning thermometer 50° but growing  
warmer and looks like rain. but I did  
not go to Boston, but to my office to work  
was there all day, and home at 4 30

where I remained. Rain came in the evening and we were glad of it.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1900

Clearing we had a good rain all night thermometer about 55. and now the ground is so wet the forest fires are extinguished. I went to my office as usual and remained there at work all day. I am very busy now with lots of extra work. I went home at 4 30 took my usual nap between 5 & 6 and then after supper read all the evening

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1900

A clear cool morning thermometer 46° and frost (quite light) was on the ground last night. I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 11.40, and then to my office. Went home at noon, and in the office in the afternoon the steam heat was quite comfortable. went home at 4 30 and back to the Bank at 7 getting home after a call on my sister at 10 PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1900

A clear cold morning thermometer 48° but it is growing warmer I went to my office as usual and as usual engaged there all day. Mrs W is enjoying herself in Rutland and Mrs Negley will join her there tomorrow, which will make Ma happy. I got home at 5 P M and did not go out again quite a number of callers this evening but I got to bed about 10 30

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1900

A beautiful morning, thermometer 56 and it got warmer so that at noon it was 70° We had early dinner, and Aunt Ellie got off at 1.06 for Rutland where she will arrive about 4 PM. Only Ethel Annette Arthur & myself in the family now. Went to my office after dinner and then home at 4 45 and did not go out again. in the evening came up quite

a thunder shower, which lasted 2 or 3 hours  
with a good rain and sharp lightning  
and it is good for the springs are very low

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1900

A clear morning thermometer 52, and cooler  
but a delightful fall day went to my office  
as usual, then at 10.30 took [street] car for Brattle St  
and the Steam RR has nearly completed the  
work of changing the grade there, it was quite  
an expensive undertaking. I got back to  
my office about 12, and at 1245 went  
home to dinner, returning in the afternoon  
and also in the evening at the Bank  
returning home at 10 PM as usual

[In a message dated 9/22/99 9:57:02 PM, ephraim@init.com wrote:

>Brattle Street originally had a level crossing with the railroad,  
>which was later excavated to form the awkward underpass that exists  
>now. Had this been done twenty years later, perhaps they would have  
>made it wide enough to accomodate cars a bit more easily.

>

>The underpass at Forest Street looks much the same, but I don't know  
>if it was ever a level crossing.

Quartzite excavated from the Forest Street underpass was used to fill the  
Park Avenue Bridge abutment. The date of the bridge--1896? Is that right?  
It  
was designed with conduits for telephone cables even back then.

Following its present path, Forest Street, an ancient road of Meonotomy,  
would have run in a swampy field on its way toward Summer Street. Did it  
formerly lie along the terrace above it, where several houses, which  
although  
they back onto it now, have have it for their street address?

-- David Formanek, 22 Sep 1999]

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1900

A fine morning, and as usual I made  
my Sunday morning calls, going to the  
Post Office, then home, where I spent the  
day. at 4.30 made my afternoon calls  
to my sister & Mrs Elwell, thence returning at  
6 PM. in the Evening I made a call on Mr  
Winfield Robbins and the Misses Robbins,  
and passed a pleasant evening, returning  
home at 9.30 PM. It was a pleasant

Sunday throughout

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1900

A hazy morning but the weather mild  
I did not go to Boston as usual, as I have  
and shall have plenty of work in my office  
until after the first of next month. So I was  
busy all day there. it was a little misty  
but not cold. after going home at night  
remained there

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1900

Another pleasant day cool and clear  
Went to my office and worked all day;  
in the evening was our first meeting of  
the Arlington Historical Society for the  
season. About 50 present and James P.  
Parmenter read a paper on our first Public  
Library, called the Juvenile Library, established  
by a legacy from Dr Learned, and by money  
from the Town it has been since maintained  
and by other Legacys, until it is Known  
as the first public Library established in  
Massachusetts. One thing I remember that as  
a boy, when Jonathan Dexter was made Librarian I  
assisted his daughters Mary & Maria Dexter in  
covering the first purchase of books for this  
Library

[On 26 Sep 1999, John Doyle wrote:

[There was quite a flap in 1975 about the site of the first library and  
what its \*firstness\* was all about. Arlington had boasted of having  
the first children's library in the country. It was located in  
Dexter's house next to the Cambridge Savings Bank (then Arlington  
Savings Bank) in the space where the drive up window and small parking  
area are situated. The once attractive building had more recently been  
used as a chinese laundry on the first floor and rented rooms above,  
but it still retained many beautiful and well-preserved  
characteristics of the original structure, especially on the upper  
floors. It resembled the parsonage at Christ Church on Garden Street  
in Cambridge, and like the parsonage was faced East with the end of  
the house to the street.

[After lots of struggle with some of the Historical Society members, and  
the  
\*discovery\* by one of the bank's trustees of an earlier children's  
library,  
the bank insisted on tearing it down to make way for the very important  
drive up window. Ironically, the day of the razing of the Dexter house,

the First Parish Church was also lost in a fire started accidentally by workers refurbishing it for the bicentennial celebration. A bad day for historical preservation in Arlington.]

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1900

Another fine morning, clear & cool, and  
I went to my office as usual, and  
worked hard there all day and in the  
evening was at the Bank, nothing of  
note occurred, the same old routine for  
I am very busy, got home at 10 P M  
and found my bed restful

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1900

Another pleasant morning, and I went  
to my office as usual. My son Frank  
started on an excursion to New York City  
by way of Fitchburg RR. to Albany thence  
by boat to N Y City, returning via New Haven,  
Bristol and expected back Saturday  
evening. I had an hour of business in  
Boston so went in on 8.40 train returning  
at 11.40 thence to work in my office  
Spent the evening at home reading.

[On 28 Sep 1999, David Formanek wrote:

[THEN, you could board a train in Belmont directly for downtown Albany.  
The  
NYNH&HRR crossed the Fitchburg RR in West Concord, formerly Concord  
Junction.

Over a hundred trains a day passed through here on their ways to Lowell,  
Pawtucket, and New York as well as Boston and west.

[Many steamboats ran between New York and Boston. Is that how Frank  
returned?

[NOW you would have to go to South Station to Amtrak to New York City,  
and  
double back to Albany.]

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1900

Pleasant but warmer, quite a summer day  
I went to Boston at 7.40 returned at 11.40  
then at work in my office, thermometer  
at noon 80° and weather debilitating  
I went home at 5 P M and felt



to tired to go out again

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1900

A little cooler this morning, and pleasant  
I went to Boston at 7.40, and at  
home by 10.40, and then to work  
in my office, and in the evening to  
the Bank. My son Frank came home having  
had a pleasant trip. got home at 7.30 P M  
I got home at 10 P M

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1900

Pleasant this morning, but it clouded up by  
10 A M with showery conditions, rained  
occasionally. I made my morning calls  
and then Kept quiet at home until  
4.30 when I went out & back again  
at 6 PM. It has been like an April  
day, not good for Church goers.  
Remained at home all the evening

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In \_Massachusetts: \_A \_Guide \_to \_the \_Pilgrim \_State (2d ed., 1971)  
it says:

"RUTLAND (Worcester County, ..., alt. 1205), ...

"Because of the altitude, several tuberculosis sanitariums were  
established here. These institutions contribute to the town's stability  
and prosperity, providing jobs and a market for dairy and garden products  
and poultry.

"On Central Tree Ave., a marker identifies a spot as the exact geographic  
center of the state."

I think it's ironic that Mrs. W. traveled that far for fresh air, when  
Arlington had its own health spas that attracted Boston residents. Maybe  
part of the enjoyment for her was to get away from Mr. W.!

--- stu, who was almost born too late to ride a real steam train

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1900

A hazy morning wind North East cool  
but not cold. We have not had any furnace  
fire yet, but the weather is foggy and very  
disagreeable. it looks like rain, but there

is no rain. I went to my office thence to Boston at 7.40 returning at 10.40 then to work there the rest of the day. In the evening with R W Hopkins & B A Norton we made the quartely examination of the Bank. I came home a little after 8 PM and there remained.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1900

We seem to be in a foggy season the wind is northeast or east. Weather cool but not cold yet very disagreeable. I went to my office and worked hard all day, coming home as usual. In the evening the officers of the Historical Society met at my house to plan for our winters entertainment and our meeting adjourned about 9PM.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1900

Foggy, hazy, disagreeable. went to Boston at 7\_40\_ returned at 1140 then to work in my office. In the evening I went to the Bank, getting home about 10 PM nothing of note today

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1900

Fogg [sic] but occasional breaks of sunshine. I went to my office and remained there as usual all day. the weather is not cold but is misty moisty weather. Oh if we could have a good west or northwest wind it would be cool, but the atmosphere would be cleared up. I spent my evening at home.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1900

A little clearer this morning, and a little warmer, but wind from No East to so. east. I went to Boston at 7.40 returnd at 10.40 then to my office. well there is work enough to do and I hope in a very few days I will be at more leisure. I got home at 5 took my hours rest before supper, then at 7.30 was to the Savings Bank to the

quarterly meeting of the Trustees returned home at 8.30.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1900

Misty, Moisty weather continues. East winds and foggy. I went to my office as usual. no rain but threatening. I remained there at the office all day going home at noon, and after supper to the Bank where I remained until 9.30. it being the 1st Bk day of the quarter, there was quite a crowd depositing all the evening, and the Treasurer and clerk were busy. arrived home about 10 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1900

A cloudy morning. it was misty wind still East and chilly. I went my usual rounds of a Sunday morning, then at 4.30 my afternoon walk. took an umbrella, but did not use it until coming from Mrs Elwells about 6 when the fine misty rain appeared. In the evening the rain stopped and I made a call on my old friend Judge Parmenter and enjoyed my call. his son James & he keep house, but at the present time his Son Wm E Parmenter Jr. with his wife and little daughter Mary, are visiting him. their home is about 12 miles south of Jacksonville Florida where he has a market garden. By this visit the Judge for the first time sees his only grand child Mary a bright little girl of about 5 years. their stay will not be but a few weeks longer. I came home about 9.30

MONDAY OCTOBER 8, 1900

A lowery morning wind still East and I went to Boston at 7.40. about this time the wind went to the south and it became quite warm, thermometer went to 80, humidity 90. I carried an umbrella but did not need it. I came home at 10.40 then to my office and work. at times the sun came out and again it was hidden by clouds. the weather was so warm it was oppressive and I

went home at 4.30 feeling quite tired.  
Just after supper it began to rain and we  
had showers through the night. I remained  
at home all the evening and the windows  
of our sitting room were open for it was  
so warm, which is quite singular for the  
8" of October. This date calls to my mind that  
if my father had lived he would have been  
119 years old for he was born in Lexington  
Oct 8" 1781. My mother was born at Addison  
Point [or Cape Split] Maine June 18" 1791.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1900

A Showery morning, Wind Northeast and much  
cooler, looks like a northeast storm but  
the weather bureau promises this PM. that it  
will clear off with west & northwest wind  
well after so many days of foggy weather this  
will be a grateful change, even if it is so  
cold that we must have a furnace fire  
I went to my office, and during the morning  
went on business by Electric [streetcar] to the upper part  
of the Town it rained hard, but I was not  
gone long. then I went to my office & to work,  
going to dinner at noon, then to office, then  
home at 5 P.M. East wind, misty moisty  
weather cool but not cold

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1900

Just such another day wind east and showery  
went to Boston, but came home at 10 40 then  
to work in my office, and that is the best  
place for such weather. Well in my dining room  
furnace we lighted a fire for the first time this  
season. for the past two weeks not since Aunt  
Ellie left for Rutland have we had even the Kerosene  
Stove burning. Well this is a misty moisty day  
but weather reports are for clearing tonight with  
North west winds tomorrow. Well we will see.  
I worked all day in the office and at 7 went  
to the Bank, at 9 left and with Miss Anna  
Proctor lately engaged to the only unmarried  
Trustee of the Bank Mr Geo Hill. We all called  
on Aunt "Lula" my sister and in a drizzle I  
got home at 10 PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1900

Cloudy wind northwest, breaking away looks like clear

weather. this is at 7 A M. 9 AM showers raining hard  
looks like a rainy day. wind North West. Bah.  
I went to my office and worked all day, going  
to dinner at one and home again at 4.30 in  
the rain, a little later it cleared off so that by  
8 P.M. we had a clear sky & bright moon  
Miss Anna brought her George round to the  
house with Frank Wellington & wife and they  
spent the evening with us. We all retired  
soon after 10. PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1900

A bright clear morning, the first for nearly 3 weeks and  
thermometer 50°. so it is not cold and the wind  
light from the west. I went to Boston on the  
7.40 train returning at 10.40. went to office and  
at 12 M home. My daughters got out from [teaching] school  
early, ate their dinner and taking electric [street] car  
at 1.20 for No Avenue left at 1.49 via Mass Central  
RR for Rutland to see their mother and Aunt  
It is a lovely day and now at 3.30 in my office  
I have my two windows wide open. What a change  
from the misty moisty weather of the past three  
weeks. Well I hope the girls will have a good  
time. they expect to come home Sunday  
morning. At 4 30 I went home and there remained  
as I was the only housekeeper. it was quiet being  
alone but I read until 10 PM & then  
retired

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1900

A fine morning wind west and thermometer  
50°. Well I went to my office and spent the  
morning at work; the weather was mild and  
I was glad my girls were having a pleasant day  
at Rutland. at noon I dined at my son Franks  
and had a nice dinner. In the P.M. was in  
my office until 4.30 then home for my hours  
nap. then after supper to the Bank going  
home by way of my sisters at 9.30. To night  
rain is prophesied and the wind is northeast and  
I think it will come as it is very cloudy

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1900

Well the rain came in the night with high wind and  
quite a downfall and it rained all the morning.  
Just after breakfast who should drop in but Mr. Harry  
Kiefaber, husband to a cousin of my wife and who

lives in Dayton Ohio. I had never met him he was on a business trip and in a hurry. About 10.15 my girls with Frank arrived, as he went to North Cambridge to meet them returning from Rutland. then Mr K about 11. went with the girls to Franks House and about 12 he went to Boston & the girls came home. We had dinner at 1.30 and all of us took a rest in the afternoon. at 4.30 I started on my Sunday calls, returning at 6. the rain had about ceased, and fair weather is promised to morrow. The girls and I were at home all the evening and at 10 we retired

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1900

Well it is clearing and warm thermometer 55° and after breakfast I went to Boston at 7.40 Met my nephew Frank W Hodgdon on the train and he invited me to ride up to my office in a cab. And it was 8.\_05\_ when I got there only 25 minutes from Arlington Depot All the morning it was cloudy & clear but no rain. I arrived home at 10.40 then to work, going home to dinner at 12.45 returning at 1.45 it was cloudy and clear, various one might say but no rain & quite warm for the season thermometer 70.° I worked all the afternoon in my office, and at 4.30 went home where I remained the rest of the evening, it was hazy but promise of clearing weather

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1900

A beautiful clear morning thermometer 50 and wind west. I went to my office as usual, but little after 10 went out on business and was astonished to find it so warm, at noon when I went home thermometer at 70. It continued warm all the afternoon. at 4.30 as I went home watched the "Steeple Jack" untieing his rigging after painting the spire of the Unitarian Church. Soon after coming home (about 5 PM) came up a squall from South West followed by rain at 6.30 then it rained off & on all the evening, when in the night the wind went to the Northwest & at 10 PM the thermometer was 40° a drop of 30° since noon I was at home all the evening & paid the Baptist Church 2000 more on their loss of July 25th

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1900

A clear Cold morning, wind northwest thermometer 32

well this is the first real Autumn morning I have seen as old as I am. I could walk 10 miles today easier than 1 mile yesterday. I went to Boston at 7.40 and returned at 10.40 it was a delightful morning just cool enough to make a dead man alive, how I enjoyed it after the miserable weather of the past 4 weeks, in fact it is the first seasonable day of the season and I could not help thinking how Mrs W & Mrs Negley are now enjoying this day at Rutland Mass. After returning from Boston was busy until 1.45 in my office then went home to dinner. then to office until 4.30. then home. and at 7 to the Bank where I staid until 9. then by way of my sisters home about 9.45 and it was right cool thermometer 35°. but clear

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1900

A clear cold morning thermometer 35 went to my office as usual, and was hard at work there all the morning. it grew warmer, during the day which was delightful, but I spent the whole day at work except an hour in the morning when I went to see my old friend Stephen Symmes now 84 years old. We served on the board of Assessors together in 1864 & 1865. he is hale & hearty yet Went home at 4.30, it was quite comfortable did not go out again thermometer 48° at 10 PM but think it will be cooler in the night

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1900

Another clear cool morning, thermometer 35° at 7 A M.. I went to Boston at 7.40 returning at 10.40 then to work on my Insurance notices for the rest of the day. it was cold all day and thermometer at 5 PM was 38, and at 10 PM 32°. I was tired so did not go out after coming home at 5 P.M. and there is nothing to write about to day.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1900

Well this is the coldest yet thermometer 28° but it is clear cold & bracing. I went to my office & wrote until 10 AM then up Massachusetts Ave on various business matters as far as 1087 Mr J F Hobbs who is sick, between life & death with a clot of blood on the brain he is 78 years old and his recovery is hardly an even chance, he is un-

conscious so his wife told me. I returned to my office at 12 M then got a lot of letters & mailed them. then home to dinner, & back to work home to supper and to the Bank at 7 PM. Went home at 9PM from the Bank via Mrs Hodgden coming home at 9.45 PM. the thermometer at 10 PM was 50° - growing warmer

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1900

This is an ideal Sunday morning clear with thermometer at 50. during the day it got up to 63° but the wind was So West & West and it was an Ideal Day Of course I went through all my Sunday morning rounds, coming home from the Post Office at 10.30. We had our dinner with our own family at 1.30 and with an afternoon nap - I started on my evening round to Mrs Hodgoen, Mrs Elwell and got home at 6 PM, where I remained all the evening. at 10 PM the thermometer was 50. decidedly warmer than last evening.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1900

Another clear morning with Thermometer at 50° at 7 AM I went to Boston but did not get home until 11.40 as I had much to do. however the weather was fine and at my office there was plenty to do. My friend T H Johnson, late Scy & Vice President of the Hoyoke Mutual Fire Ins Co died on Friday, and his funeral is at 12 M today, but as it was in Salem I did not go. After coming from Boston I had much to do in my office, went home as usual to dinner and back to my office in the P.M. The weather was superb and getting warmer, the thermometer was 70 when I went home at 4.30 and there I remained all the evening, and had the windows open. Thermometer 65° when I retired

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1900

An elegant morning thermometer 65°. I went to my office and about 9 AM walked down Broadway to attend to some business, walked as far as the Somerville Line, for within the past two months the Town has been grading & macadamizing Broadway and the Boston Elevated RR have nearly completed their tracks to connect with their Winter Hill line through Sullivan Square through Charlestown



to Boston, well I saw what had been done and got back to my office about 11 and it was hot. thermometer 75. When I left home at 1.40 for my office thermometer was 80° the warmest October day on record. I is disagreeable to have such unseasonable weather. toward night it clouded up some but in the night we had quite a hard rain I did not go out after I came home at 4.40. the thermometer was 68° at 10 PM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1900

A clear morning after the rain and thermometer 68° and looks like a warm day ahead. I went to my office & spent the whole morning there writing and in the office with 2 windows wide open the thermometer was 80, and on my piazza it was 77 when I went to dinner and now in my office it is 78° at 4 PM. Well this is warm and unprecedented of course there has been killing frosts and the leaves are falling from the trees, but celery is growing, and even it is too warm to bank it up and the farmers hesitate however the prospect is for different weather to night and a little cooler. I went to the Bank as usual coming home by 9.30

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1900

This was a bright morning thermometer 50° but cooler than yesterday. I was in my office all day writing toward night it began to haze up and looked rainy, but no rain I went home at 4.30 and did not go out again.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1900

A hazy morning thermometer 55° no rain but looked like it. I went to my office as usual and worked all the day. it did not rain but the thermometer went to 70 and still hazy. I went home at 4.30 and staid there. there was nothing of importance to write. Only one thing I note is that I Geo Y Wellington in my 75" year congratulate myself, that I am still an important factor in the support of my family in this my 75" year and only hope that the Lord will spare my life and energy for many years to come

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1900

Another hazy morning thermometer 55 a dry storm this, no rain. I went to my office as usual and worked all day. there was no rain except toward night a little misty moisty storm. so that I used an umbrella but in the evening I went to the Bank as usual and home at 9 P.M. with a call on my sister. but the mist was in the air and thermometer 55. Mrs Negley came from Rutland arriving at 6.15. She left Mrs W there all right and Mrs W holds fast to 6 lbs she has gained in Rutland, and will remain there until there is a freeze.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1900

A dark rainy morning the thermometer at 50° and wind North East. Well I have a bad cold and the Catholic Church formerly St Mallechaiah now re christened St Agnes Church was dedicated today. Archbishop Williams was present with a long array of Church dignitaries, and I was invited to attend, but it rained and I thought it best to keep under cover. so I did not step a foot out of doors all day. The Church services were well attended and the audience large, over 1000, and yet poor me can recollect when there were not 1/2 dozen Roman Catholics in the Town. "Times change and we change with them". As I stated I was at home all day and it rained nearly the whole day. but I was wise in not venturing out. so I was reading all the day until 10.30 PM when I retired

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1900

Well the wind was North this AM & Thermometer 50 and hazy, a misty moisty day hardly a rain but still an umbrella was needed. I went to Boston for the first time since last Monday. I had several circuits [errands?] to do, but came home at 10 40 and then to my office to work. I judge we are in for rain to night and tomorrow a North East storm yet it does not rain now 12 M but it is misty & an umbrella is needed. It continued hazy & misty all the afternoon and cool going home at 4.30 I remained

there and did not go out again

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1900

Well thermometer 44 this AM and cloudy but looked like breaking away. it was raw & cool. I went to my office as usual and with the exception of my noon home coming remained there all day. about 4 PM Mr James Schouler, son of Major Genl Wm Schouler who was Adjutant General of this State during the whole time that our [Civil] War Gov John A Andrew was in office, appeared. He is to spend the night at my house, and will deliver a lecture on life of Benj Franklin. The last time I saw him was in 1855 when I was a resident of Cincinnati, as chief Engineer of the Cin. Hamilton & Dayton RR, and his father was editor of the Cincinnati Gazette. he was then a boy of 16 and about to enter Harvard College. the figures are reversed now or transposed. he is 61 years old, and we have not met for 45 years! I took him home, and he spent the night with us. he is quite deaf and is talked to through an ear trumpet. His lecture was good & we had a pleasant time talking over the past. The weather was pleasant but cool & cloudy

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1900

It was cool this morning thermometer 50 and cloudy. Mr Schouler & myself came down for him to take the [street] cars for Boston at 8.30 AM and then to the office & work, did I go. toward noon the weather moderated wind got to the Southwest but still cloudy. The afternoon I spent in my office and in the evening at the Bank. it looked some like rain when I got home at 10 PM the thermometer was at 60°. and I think it remained so all night

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1900

This morning was hazy & warmer with Southwest wind thermometer 65° Well it was clear and hazy all day & thermometer at noon 78°, a warm November day, and quite clear during the middle of the day. I spent the day in my office going home at 4 30. it clouded up in the evening and was a little cooler and it did not rain. Think we are having

what might be called a dry storm, hazy  
& cloudy weather & no rain. was at  
home all the evening

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1900

Cooler & hazy this morning but a better feeling  
day than yesterday, thermometer 55 and at  
noon about 70, it was a chilly day wind  
N East. I was at work all day in my  
office and, was at home all the evening  
and the weather became quite cool

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1900

A cloudy morning wind Northeast thermometer 48  
and no rain. Went to my office, then about  
10 took the [street] cars for Brattle St. went to the house  
of my old friend Jacob F Hobbs and found that  
he had died the evening before at 5, he was  
78 years old and was quite active for his age  
he would pass for a man 10 years younger easily.  
I knew that he was seriously sick, but hoped he  
would pull through. I got back to my office  
about 11.30. Was at work there all the rest  
of the day, and in the evening at the Bank  
it was cool at night thermometer 42.°

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1900

A fair morning with some clouds wind N.E.  
and thermometer at 9 AM 50°. I made my  
usual Sunday morning rounds, last at the  
Post Office, getting home at 10.30. at 11 I made a  
call on an old sick friend in my care Mrs  
Eliza W Locke, she has dropsy now and is quite  
low spirited, I fear her days are numbered. Coming  
home about 12 I remained there until 4.30  
then took my afternoon calls for Sunday  
coming home at 6 P.M. where I remained  
It was quite a pleasant day and a beautiful  
Sun. set.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1900

This AM was fair thermometer 40° and the wind  
East or Northeast and chilly, it was cloudy at  
times during the day, but a good fall day. I  
was at work in my office all the morning,  
at 2.15 I left for Mr Hobbs funeral, and returned

at 3.30. There was a double service, first by the pastor of the Universalist Church and next by the Masonic Order to which Mr Hobbs belonged, which was very impressive. It turned out to be quite a fine day but the wind was chilly. After the funeral I remained in my office till nearly 5, when I went home and there remained

Election Day, either McKinley or Bryan.  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1900

A beautiful clear morning, wind NorthWest (for once) thermometer at 7 AM 40, and as it is election day especially for President, I hope the newspapers stated the truth, where it is given out that "the weather is fair all over the country," this will bring out a full vote I went to Boston, and as I had many matters of business to attend to did not reach home until 11.20. I went to the Polls and cast my 14<sup>th</sup> vote for President My first vote for President was in 1848 for Genl Taylor The first vote I ever cast was in 1847, in this Town, so here in 1848 & 9. In 1850 I could not vote as I had just arrived in Cincinnati Ohio. 1851 voted in Ohio. 1852 for Genl Scott. in Indiana 1853 to 1855 in Ohio. 1856 for Fremont in Iowa. 1857. in Nebraska. 1858 in Iowa. 1859 was in Canton Mass, & not a voter. 1860 was in Arlington & voted for Lincoln, and here I have voted for 40 yrs. It was a fine election day all over the country yet it was a quiet one in bean (?) Town of course the Republicans were in a majority - but how much cannot tell. Vote in the state as a whole was light as all presumed the Old Bay State was sure for McKinley, but the plurality was 98,000 & should have doubled it if all had turned out. I went to bed at 9 PM and did not care to wait the returns.

[Although the party platforms are different today, William McKinley was a Republican, and William Jennings Bryan a Democrat. Zachary Taylor was a Whig, Winfield Scott a Whig, John C. Fremont a Republican, and Abraham Lincoln a Republican.]

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1900

A bright clear morning Thermometer 52° and by the morning papers it looks as if McKinley has 292 Electoral votes Bryan 142 Doubtful 13. Well McKinley is elected and I am glad of it, for I feel that he has for the past 4 years done well for the country and will continue to do well as to the next four years. he has had a hard position to fill as to the Spanish War and I

think with our new possessions and the Chinese troubles we have, that he will solve them with Mr [John] Hay Secy of the State, for the benefit of the Country. I worked in my office all day, and was at the Bank in the evening, the weather is mild thermometer 48 at 10 PM, and it was hazy.

[Final results: McKinley 292 electoral votes, Bryan 155. The new possessions were Puerto Rico, the Philippines and Guam. Cuba was a U.S. protectorate until 1902.]

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1900

Well it was clear thermometer 48 but wind South to Southeast and weather growing warmer. Clouds came up with threatening rain during the day, and towards night thunder showers and thermometer 62° - well I was at work all day in my office, and no rain occurred. went home at 5.30 and about 7 PM it rained, with thunder & lightning all the evening. I did not go out but listened to the rain and spent the evening reading

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1900

This is a queer morning not cold thermometer 54° wind SoEast. it is clear and then the clouds settle round. I went to Boston at 7.40 and by 8.40 it was raining hard. I got my hair cut and the weather was lowery until I left at 11.17 for home. At noon and after the weather was mixed twixt rain & sunshine with a moderate temperature, thermometer 62° at noon. In the afternoon it rained and continued until evening and nearly all night. I was in my office all the day until I closed at 4.30 PM and went home

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1900

A cloudy morning and cooler thermometer 48°. I went to my office as usual, and worked there all day, it became right cold in the afternoon with north west winds. the family all went to Boston and I dined all alone, but they all came home at 6.15 and best of all brought Mrs Wellington with them as she came from Rutland Mass this PM after an absence of two months. Well we were glad to see

dear old "Ma" back home, and she was as glad as we were. Well I went to the Bank at 7 PM coming home at 9.30, then to bed

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1900

This morning cloudy but cool, thermometer 50°  
I took my morning rounds, coming home at 10.30 and, the rest of the family went to Church. At 4.30 I ventured out again and called on my sister and Mrs Elwell coming home at 6 and did not go out again, but I had a good restful day and took advantage of it. The weather was cloudy & growing cooler and that suited me.

[On 11 Nov 1999 Paul Schlichtman wrote:

["Mr. Wellington was entering a half century in which two world wars would be fought. No Veterans Day holiday.

["Mr. Wellington voted for McKinley, with no mention of the vice presidential candidate on the Republican ticket. No mention of the young Governor of New York who ran with McKinley, who would become President ten months later after McKinley's assassination."]

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1900

Well it was cool Thermometer 32° I went to Boston at 7.40 and took my umbrella as it was cloudy but did not use it. I came home at 10.40 and went right to work in my office, going home at noon. And at work in the P.M. until nearly 5. the weather is clearing and there will be a sharp frost to night wind North West. Was at home all the evening

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1900

A fine clear morning Wind North West, Thermometer 32° a good bracing air. Went to my office and at 10 AM. went to Arlington Heights. I took a walk round to Park Ave and over the new Bridge over the R.R. & by new location of Bow St round to Forest St where a RR Bridge is just built over the St. Called at Mrs Irwins near the crossing, then called on Mr Theo Schwamb, then Mrs Hobbs whose husband died last week then to my office. It is a lovely fall day & my walk did me good.

I was in my office until 4.30 PM then home where I remained all the evening, the rest of the family went to Orthodox [Congregational] Church Fair. It clouded up at night & looks like rain.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1900

Just at Sunrise the clouds passed off and at 8 AM not a cloud in the sky. thermometer at 32 and wind northwest a lovely morning, and I went to Boston at 7.40 returning to my office at 10.40 and was at work there all day until 4.30 PM, when I went home and at 7 PM went to the Bank. about 8.15 my son Frank came round and said Mrs Eliza W Locke was dead died about 7.50 PM. She is an old lady 75 yrs 6 mos old, born May 25, 1825 and whom I have cared for as an old schoolmate for 30 years. She has been sick for a year or more, and her death is a relief to her, as well as myself. I went home at 9.30. it was quite cool & chilly

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1900

Well it was cloudy & cool this AM thermometer 24° I went to my office and was at work there all day. in the PM went to Mrs Grants where Mrs Locke died and in looking over her papers found her will and that Danl A Hart of Belmont was Executor. It grewed cooler toward night wind in North West and clear. I went home and remained there

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1900

Well thermometer the lowest yet 15° above at 7 A.M. wind Northwest & clear. Went to my office as usual, and about 10 took a carriage for Belmont, & found Danl A Hart to whom I gave Mrs Locke's Will, also the key to a little trunk of private papers of hers. Went home to dinner and at 2 PM to Mrs Grants 3 Jason St. to Mrs Locke's funeral, Rev Dr Watson conducted the services and after that we saw her layed away in her lot in Mt Pleasant Cemetary, then I went to my office and then home, where I remained

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1900



Still cold but thermometer at 24° this A M  
and I went to my office and to work.  
the weather grew warmer and in the P M  
the thermometer was at 40° and still  
becoming warmer. I was at work all  
day and also at the Bank in the evening  
Coming home at 9.30, it was hazy and  
cool enough for fine snow, but only a  
little, for the wind was getting in the South

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1900

Well it was cloudy early this morning with  
South west wind and thermometer 45° and  
during the day it went to 65°. it looked  
like rain but no rain came, so we  
had quite a pleasant & comfortable  
Sunday. I took my usual Sunday rounds  
both morning and evening, after supper I  
remained at home. the thermometer was at  
45 to 50° all the evening, and it was  
quite dark & cloudy at night

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1900

Well a light rain is falling and thermometer 50°  
and I went to Boston at 740 returning  
at 10.40 it rained, but not hard. I went  
to my office then at noon, home, and  
after to my office, home at 4.30 and  
did not go out again, the wind seems  
to be aiming for the North west and  
I think it will be cool & clear tomorrow.  
It did not clear but rained nearly all night  
wind turned to S E and then North

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1900

Well it is a dark and cloudy morning, thermometer  
38 wind north. Went to my office as usual  
there found plenty to do. It was cloudy and threatening  
rain but beyond a little drizzel it did not  
rain but it is a real November day "No Morn. No Noon  
No better time of day" [\*] dark dismal dreary, November.  
Went home as usual at noon, and in the  
office until 4.30. Sent out notices of Insurance  
Expirations for December. Well this is a queer  
freak of weather, the wind got into the South  
west and thermometer at 5PM 55 and  
at 9 PM 68° threatning rain and only light

showers. In fact to date with a little cold  
Spell in Sept and cold spell last week  
we have not had our usual fall weather.  
We have had an abundance of cloudy, misty  
weather and with exceptions of Sept rains  
but little rain. Weather bureau says tomorrow  
night Wednesday will bring a sharp change  
to cooler weather "So mote it be".

[\* This appears to be a quote from "November" by Thomas Hood (1799-1845),  
although he wrote "proper time" instead of "better time."]

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1900

Dark & cloudy morning wind Southwest, thermometer  
58° and threatening rain. I went to my office and  
at 7.40 to Boston returning at 10.40, but carried  
my umbrella, but did not use it. The rain  
threatens continuously but no rain up to 2. PM.  
Weather bureau state colder tomorrow, hope so  
for if it continues warm Thanksgiving Turkeys will  
not be fit to eat. Returned to office at 1.45 and  
there remained until 4.30 Well about 5 PM with  
flurries of wild clouds came a storm of rain, it just  
poured, and to night with my two sisters Mrs Hodgdon  
& Mrs Stanwood I am invited to the Unitarian  
Church vestry to a Gentlemens night of the  
Womens Alliance. Rev Mr Elliot son of the President of  
Harvard and a Mrs Beater [?] were the speakers. the  
supper provided for us by a local caterer was fair,  
and the speakers were good, about 200 present.  
Fortunately at 6.30 the sky was clear as a bell  
and it was cooler. My sisters & myself were the  
three oldest settlers of the Parish present older  
by 25 years nearly than any of the others  
and our grey heads showed it. About  
10 PM we went home

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1900

Well it was little cloudy and thermometer 45  
wind Southwest and growing warmer I went  
to my office and during the morning  
went out for a while on business, the sun  
came out but still the weather was unsettled  
After dinner went to my office, it clouded  
up about 4 PM but I did not get home  
until 5 on a/c of callers. My daughters and Mrs  
Negley were interested in a Kindergarten Fair at  
the Tuilleries in Boston, so wife Arthur & myself  
were the only ones to supper, and Ma &  
I kept house all the evening. The rest of

the family got home little before 11, and  
then we all retired. thermometer 50°

[Thanksgiving Day was on the last Thursday of November until 1939,  
when President Franklin D. Roosevelt changed it to the fourth Thursday.]

[The Hotel Tuileries (270 Commonwealth Avenue) was built in 1896.  
It is now a Residence Hall for Berklee College of Music.  
<http://www.bosarchitecture.com/backbay/commonwealth/270.html> ]

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1900

A cloudy morning wind So West thermometer 55. it  
had rained hard in the night and the weather  
is unseasonably warm. At 8 40 took the [street] cars for  
Concord Mass, and arrived there at 9.20 it was  
warm thermometer 68°!! but clearing. I attended  
to some business at the Middlesex Mutual Fire  
Ins office, met my old friend Judge Keyes, and  
at 10.45 left by the Electrics for Arlington where  
I arrived at 11.45. it was my first ride on these  
cars from above Arlington Heights since the road  
was opened last spring. The weather had cleared  
with a fresh west wind and there was no dust.  
Well I went to dinner and the weather is cooler  
& I hope it will be cool enough for a frost  
to night. It has been a delightful day, too  
warm for the season, even at 10 PM the ther-  
mometer was 50, but growing cooler. To day  
marks another inroad of Electric cars, for  
an excursion car over the new route to  
Boston appeared from Broadway about 3.30  
PM this route from Pleasant St via Mass Ave, Broadway  
through Somerville, to Sullivan Square, Charlestown  
neck to Boston, it is quite direct more so than  
any route yet, and when the Elevated Road  
from Sullivan Sq to Roxbury is completed, will  
be a great convenience to this Town.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1900

A hazy cloudy morning wind north & chilly the  
thermometer was 35° at 7 AM and 45 at noon  
it did not rain, even during the middle of the  
day the sun appeared. I spent the day at work  
in my office as usual. Regular [street] Cars began  
running over the Broadway route this AM  
a car leaving the side track front of the Unitarian  
Church every 20 minutes from 10 minutes past each  
hour. the present end of the route is the South  
Station. 50 minutes are allowed for the trip.  
The great annual Foot Ball game between Harvard

& Yale comes off today at New Haven there will be nearly 30,000 spectators. My son Arthur could not restrain himself and went, he will come home very tired about 12 tonight. I went home at 4.30 then back to the Bank at 7. it looks like rain & feels like snow. The result of the Foot Ball game was 28 Yale, Harvard nothing a bad beat for Harvard. A fine game but Yale had the men and those best organized, and won in a good fair game. Went home from the Bank at 9.30 it was dark & cloudy overhead

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1900

A dark rainy morning, a real rain & no mistake I did not put on my shoes, and with the rest of the family did not go out in the morning and I did not go out of the house all day, for it was dark & rainy all the day, and I made a day of rest. the thermometer was 45° and wind North East

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1900

Dark and lowery and I went to my office and worked all day. it rained off & on and was a regular dreary November day. I was busy, and went home at 430 PM and remained there the wind still Northeast & thermometer about 40°

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1900

Still another dark and dreary morning with rain occasionally thermometer 35° in the AM and about 45° during the day. I went to my office and worked all day and in the evening was the regular meeting of the Historical Society. it did not rain early in the evening and we had about 60 persons present. Mrs Henry C Whittemore read a paper on the Old Tufts Tavern in the upper part of the Town, now known as the Russell Tavern, though a private residence at present. it was a good paper and highly appreciated Mrs Geo W W Sears read a paper written by William Cutter now Librarian of the Woburn Public Library on the life of Amos Whittemore, the inventor of the Machine for making cotton & wool cards. Also a little sketch of his life written by herself. This was quite an important paper

and will go in with other sketches I hope  
in the Town History to be published in 1807  
It rained when the meeting was over.

[No doubt Mr Wellington meant to write "1907" in the penultimate line.  
Tufts Tavern was at 963 Mass Ave, and razed in 1979.]

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1900

A rainy morning & I went to my office to  
work. it cleared a little in the morning and  
I took the [street] car to Forest Street & then walked  
back attending to some business by the  
way. I spent the rest of the day at the  
office and at 7 PM went to the Bank  
as usual going home at 9.30

Thanksgiving

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1900

A Lowery morning thermometer 23 cloudy and  
no sun, nor rain. I went to my office and  
worked until 10. AM then took cars on Mystic  
St & went to Frank C Frost's he was not at  
home, but I made a call on my old friend  
Stephen Symmes who had been sick but is better.  
I got to the office about 11.30 then at 12 went  
to my sister's Mrs Hodgdon also found my other  
sister Mrs Stanwood there. I remained until  
nearly 1. PM then went home. At Thanksgiving  
dinner had all my own family with my  
son Frank & his wife and Annie Proctor.  
The dinner was all right, and we kept  
quiet all the PM. After 7 we all went to  
Mrs Hodgdon's and all the Arlington Wellingtons  
were there and we had a reunion, leaving  
about 10 PM for home Wonder if we all  
will meet again next year? There was a drizzling  
rain as we went home

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1900

Drizzling rain thermometer 35° wind Northeast  
I went to Boston at 7.40 and attended to  
some business and home by 10.40 and  
then to my office at work. It rained all  
day and is raining now at 4 PM  
Well good & tired I went home at 4.30  
and did not go out again. the thermometer  
was about 42, and it did not rain in  
the evening but it was cloudy

Date: Thu, 11 Nov 1999 12:07:12 -0500  
To: arlington@cs.umb.edu  
From: John Doyle <jfd@tiac.net>

At 10:58 AM 11/11/99 -0500, Paul Schlichtman wrote:  
>I hope Mr. Wellington offers a look into Town Meeting.

Town meeting in those days was a one evening affair. I'm sure the debate took place before meeting for a vote.

>Wouldn't it be nice  
>if we could turn back the clock prior to the development spurt in the days  
>of the streetcar suburbs. What would have happened if we zoned the town a  
>little differently, and what were the debates about zoning and development  
>when the farmlands were converted to homes?

There was no zoning then. I can't recall the year zoning was enacted by the legislature, but believe it was not before the 20's.

My suspicion has always been that the decision of a farmer to build houses on his farm was based on money and not things such as the lot size, neighborhood type issues of a previous thread. More houses, more money. Similar pressure still exists in Arlington on the rare remaining farmland; at Decatur Gardens and Hemlock Street (although that farm may be all built now, not sure).

Thank God for old Farmer Robbins or we wouldn't have his farm in its undeveloped state.

John

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1900

Was the first beautiful & clear morning for a week thermometer 34° wind west. I went to my office at 7.30 and worked hard until nearly one, when I went home to dinner. it was quite cloudy and looked like snow or rain thermometer 42°. Returned to my office about 1.45 then about 3 PM the clouds broke away, and looks a little as if we might have some settled pleasant weather.