

Private Diary.

(Private.)

Benj. Miller.



James Naylor, George Fox's senior by 9 years was born at Aidsley, near Wakefield about 1617. His father, who was a yeoman, gave him a good English education. As a boy, Naylor was of a gentle and loving disposition of ascetic habits and religiously inclined, and at one time is said to have fasted for 15 days.

At the age of 22 he married and settled in Wakefield. Three years later, in 1642 he left his wife, with whom, it is said, he never lived again, and joined the Parliamentary army as a footman. He remained in the army for about 8 years and participated in several battles, one of the important ones being the battle of Dunbar in 1650, the last year of his army service. While in the army he became an Independent preacher and seems then to have shown some of his fanatical tendencies.

the forehead with the letter B; and that^o.
he be afterwards sent to Bristol, and be
conveyed into, and through the said city
on horseback, with his face backward,
and there also publicly whipped the next
market-day after he comes thither; and that
from thence he be committed to prison in
Bridewell, London, and there restrained
from the society of all people, and there
to labour hard till he shall be released
by parliament; and during that time be
debarred the use of pen, ink, and paper,
and shall have no relief but what he
earns by his daily labour."

When Naylor was brought up to re-
ceive his sentence he said he did not
know what the offense was for which
he was to be punished to which the reply
was given, "you will know it by your
punishment." That the punishment
was so severe is believed to be due to
the general hatred of the Friends rather than
to the abhorrence of blasphemy, with which
Naylor was charged.

after part of the sentence had been carried out attempts were made by his friends and others to have the remainder of ~~the sentence~~ remitted, and to this end a committee of five ministers was appointed to re-examine him. Cromwell professed an interest in the abandonment of ~~the~~ ~~for~~ further punishment but to no avail, and the remainder of the sentence was executed except that after a time he was allowed the use of pen and ink. When this permission was granted him he wrote many contrite letters to his friends.

after almost three years in prison he was finally released in Sept. 1659, and went at once to George Fox who was ill at Reading and whom he was not allowed to see. Fox however sanctioned his return to ~~mission~~ ~~work~~ work and he went ~~at once~~ ^{immediately} to Bristol where he made public confession of his offense. Early in 1660, he was preaching with George Whitehead in Westmoreland and was later

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in London. In the autumn of 1660, in ill health, he left London, on foot, to return to his home, but sank by the way exhausted and was robbed. He was found by a farmer and taken to the home of a friend where he soon died.

During the last year of Naylor's life, after his release from prison, ^{his actions} were quite at variance with his former doings. He had again become sane, and while his punishment had also sobered the Friends as a whole. Some of his writings during this last year well express the regrets he felt for his former fanatical actions and the change in his views.

Glory to God.

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which later became so pronounced. An officer who heard him preach declared that he "was struck with more terror by the preaching of James Naylor than by the Scots" at the battle of Drumbar.

In 1650 he left the army and returned to his home broken in health, ~~and~~ turned his attention to agriculture. ~~but~~ ^{He} retained his interests in religion and evidently was searching for the truth and his views seemed to change for he soon became a member of the Congregational Church.

A year later, in 1651, he espoused the doctrine of Friends under the teaching of George Fox. Sewell describes Naylor's conversion as follows: George Fox "coming afterwards into the parts about Wakefield, James Naylor came to him and acknowledged the truth of that doctrine he held forth and became in time a minister of the Gospel." He was soon afterwards excommunicated by the Congregational Church on

the grounds of immoral conduct. Fox³ evidently did not believe the reports for he remained a close friend of Naylor and they worked together harmoniously in their attacks upon the "priests and steeple houses."

Naylor was plowing in his fields when he became convinced of a call to the traveling ministry but, at first, being disobedient to the call, he declares that the wrath of God was upon him so that he appeared in danger of losing his life. Later, going a little way from home with a friend, not thinking of a journey and unprepared for one, he again felt that he was commanded to go into the West, and this time he obeyed. What was the purpose of his mission he knew not but he says that it was given him what to declare and thus he continued, not knowing one day what he was to do on the morrow.

At Swarthmore Hall he found George Fox, who introduced him to Margaret Field.

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He accompanied Fox on his mission to
Walney and was present at Fox's trial at ~~Walney~~
Lancaster. He continued his preaching
and ~~as~~ Sewell says of him - "He was a
man of excellent natural parts and at first
did acquit himself well both in word and
writing among his friends so that many
came to receive the truth by his ministry"

at Bolton Naylor was arrested for
preaching unsound doctrine, ~~in main-~~
~~taining that the body of Christ is not~~
~~fleshly but spiritual~~ and together with Fran-
cis Howgill ~~he~~ was sent to prison at Apple-
by where he remained 20 weeks. ~~before~~
~~brought to trial~~. The charge against him
was ~~f~~ blasphemy in admitting that
Christ was in him and maintaining that
the body of Christ is not fleshly but
spiritual. He was tried by Anthony Pear-
son, a magistrate, ~~and was released~~ ~~and~~ Pear-
~~son~~ ^{who} was so much impressed with Naylor's
doctrines as brought out in the trial that
soon after he united with the Friends.

During the time that Naylor was in prison he wrote, with George Fox, pamphlets entitled "Several Petitions Answered" that Margaret Fell still retained an interest in him is shown by her having sent him 2 pounds, while he was in prison, of which he accepted but 5 shillings. She also sent his tract "Spiritual Wickedness" with some others, to London to be printed. This is said to be the first collection of Friends tracts ~~to be~~ sent to press.

Regaining his liberty, Naylor resumed his preaching in the north and in 1634 went to London where he became famous for his fervid oratory which was said to be rich in pathos and with more cohesion of matter than was common in the appeals of Friends of that period. His meetings attracted considerable attention and were in a few instances attended by members of the nobility. He soon became idolized by various women Friends who professed to see in him a striking resemblance to the picture of Christ which is said to have been brought to

Rome during the reign of Tiberius Caesar. This resemblance he is thought to have purposely brightened by the arrangement of his hair and beard. The outcome of this strange belief of these women was that dissensions arose in the society, and Naylor became estranged from his best friends, who did not approve of his conduct, and soon after Naylor left London.

Fox was taken in prison in Cornwall and thither Naylor proceeded followed by a band of his devotees. At Exeter he and several of his followers were thrown in prison as a result of their demonstrations. Thither went ~~many~~ of his admirers in increasing numbers and many were the extravagant letters he received from London alluding to him as the "Everlasting Son of Righteousness", "Fairer among Ten Thousand", "the Lamb of God", and "the only Begotten Son of God". One, John Stranger, wrote — "Thy name is no more to be called James but Jesus". Hannah Stranger, Martha Simmons, and Dorcas Ebury arrived at that height of folly that in the prison of

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Exeter, they kneeled before him and kissed
his feet. Dorcas Erbury claimed that she
had been two days dead when Naylor laid
his hands upon her saying "Dorcas arise" and
she came to life. In ranting language this
simply meant that he had revived her spir-
its.

When Fox was released from prison
he went to Exeter to visit Naylor. In ~~the~~
journal we have the following account of
his interviews with Naylor.

(See George Fox. p. 270)

Fox later wrote two strong letters to
Naylor warning him thus - "It will be
harder for thee to set down thy rule
company than it was to set it up, all
of which was without avail.

On being released from prison, Naylor
and his band continued their journeys and
the fanaticism of his followers seemed to
increase. At Bladonbury and Wells garments
were strewn in his way. These fanatical
acts of his flattering followers finally cul-
minated in his triumphal entry into Bristol

as Christ, returned in the flesh. Carlyle⁸
graphically describes this performance
in the following words: -

(George Fox. foot-note p. 269)

Eight were arrested but two were shortly
discharged, while Naylor and five of his fol-
lowers were sent to London, Nov. 10, to be exam-
ined by the House of Parliament. They were
kept under guard at an Inn, where numerous
visitors were received and the homage
of kneeling before Naylor was repeated.
On Nov. 15th they were brought before a
committee of 55 members of parliament.
He challenged a full inquiry into his past
life but no witnesses were examined under
oath. What had been said of the odd
doings in Exeter prison, and of his riding
into Bristol, was not denied by him, nor
by the rest of the company. He claimed that
the honors shown him had not been
offered to him but ~~to~~ to the Christ within
him. During the time that his trial was
being conducted petitions urging severity
against the Friends were received from several

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counties. The committee made their report
on Dec. 5, ~~to~~ which the house agreed on
the following day. In this report he was
adjudged guilty of horrid blasphemy
and of being an impostor and seducer of
the people. For seven days the House
debated whether the sentence should be
the death penalty or not. It was finally
voted by 96 to 82 that the punishment
should not be capital. After more debating
on Dec. 17, the house ~~came to~~ ^{passed} this resolution.

"That James Naylor be set on the pillory,
with his head in the pillory, in the palace
yard, Westminster, during the space of two
hours, on Thursday next, and be whipped
by the hangman through the streets, from
Westminster to the Old Exchange, London;
and there likewise be set on the pillory,
with his head in the pillory, for the space
of two hours, between the hours of eleven
and one, on Saturday next, in each place
wearing a paper containing an inscription
of his crimes; and that at the Old Exchange
his tongue be bored through with a hot iron,
and that he be there also stigmatized in

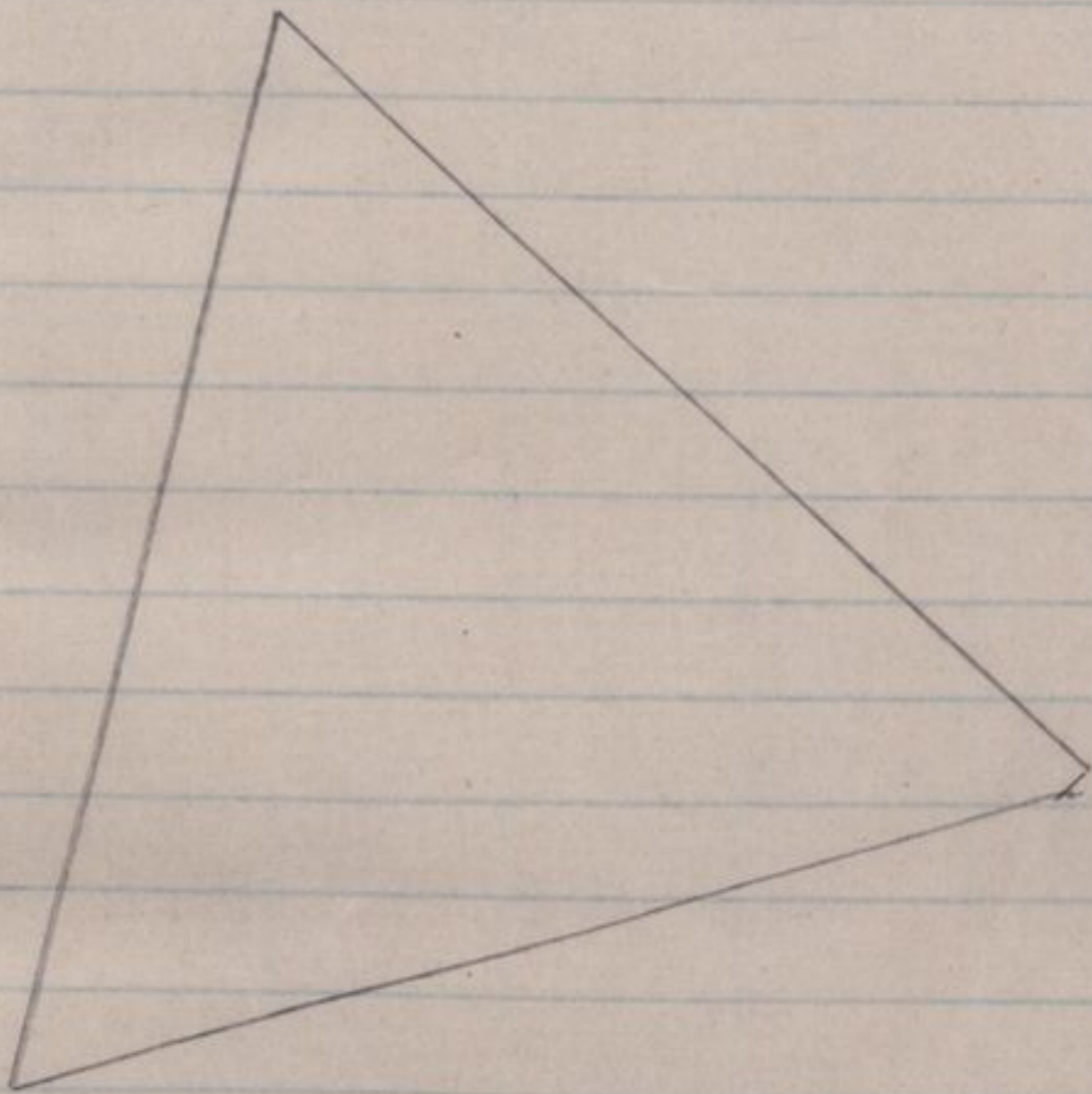
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Benj. L. Miller.

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E. Miller

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Topeka, Sunday, Nov. 15, 1891.

Was a cold day and cloudy. Keynes and I went to the Lutheran church today. I don't like the services. They are so much different than at home. Took the carbonyl. I have such a cold that I stayed at home all afternoon and evening and read. Went to bed early. There was a lunar eclipse to-night, couldn't see it on account of clouds.
Ben Miller

Topeka, Monday, Nov. 16, 1891.

Was cold today and cloudy. Was a very cold northwest wind. We drilled in the gymnasium this morning. This afternoon Mac and I went down town for exercise. Read a little while in the library. We played dominos and checkers this evening.
Ben Miller

Topeka, Tuesday, Nov. 17, 1891.

Was quite cool today. The sun shone out so it was quite comfortable. This afternoon the K. S. U. foot-ball-team played Washburn here. The score was 32 to 10 in favor of K. S. U. The cadets acted as guards today. We will get 10% of proceeds. We, at least, got lots of "sass". I was on the outside about half the time so only got to see about half the game. Went up there about 1 and didn't get home until just dark. Got my lessons almost perfect to-night.
Rock Chalk, Jayhawk K. S. U. Miller
Rah, Rah Rah, Rah Rah Rah, Washburn.

Topeka, Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1891

I had my lessons quite well today. Very well under the circumstances, a good many didn't however.

There is a musical entertainment at the college to-night and Selmore's band at the Grand. I stayed at home however, Mac and I played 10 games of checkers and 9 of give-away. We even in checkers, Mac beat me in give-away. Went to bed early as there was such a noise, we couldn't read or study.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Thursday, Nov. 19, 1891

We drilled this morning, I was late as we didn't have breakfast in time. Got through with breakfast about 8:05. Drill hour is 8 to 8:45. Played dominoes some to-night.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Friday, Nov. 20, 1891.

Has been a foggy misty day. Heynes and I went down town this afternoon, I went to see what time the train leaves for me to go home on. We had intended to come home directly, get our lessons, and go to Lawrence to-morrow morning with the foot-ball team, but, while down there we found out that they weren't going until afternoon so we concluded we wouldn't go and so went over to the library and read awhile. Went to the literary to-night, Is after 11 now.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Sat, Nov. 21, 1891.

Rained and snowed last night. Cleared off to-day and got very warm and pleasant. About dark the wind began to blow strong from the Northwest and it began to snow. Heynes and I walked out to the lam to-day. Started at 9 and got back at 12.10. In about 4 miles there, we stayed there about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. We passed the brick-yard and stopped there about 15 minutes. This afternoon the football team went to Lawrence. A large crowd went along, I was going and they were going in the morning. They then changed it until the afternoon and so I didn't go as I thought I wouldn't have time to go through the buildings. I read and studied this afternoon and spent the evening with Stevenson. Wickburn was defeated 32 to 10.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Sunday, Nov. 22, 1891.

Ground was white with snow this morning. A strong cold wind blew from the northwest all day. Snowed most of the time. Heynes and I attended church at the Westminster Presbyterian. Stayed at home all afternoon and evening.

Ben Miller,

Topeka Monday, Nov. 23, 1891.

Was cold to-day. We drilled in hose this morning. This afternoon Mac and I cleared Mrs. Braquiere's cistern. We worked about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Each got 25 cts.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Tuesday, Nov. 24, 1891.

Was quite pleasant to-day. I will go home to-morrow and so I went up and recited Physics and Phys. Geog. this afternoon. I then went in the library and read awhile and at 4 o'clock went out and played foot-ball for about 1 1/2 hours. I enjoyed myself. Got my knee hurt a little. We played dominos to-night.

Ben Miller

For
~~Topeka~~ Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1891.

I didn't go to college today. About 9 I took the car and went down town. I walked from the transfer station to the depot. Had to wait about 1/2 hour at the depot, train being late. At Horton I just got off one car and on the other. Got to Sabetha at 12.40. Went to Aunt Sallie's and got my dinner. About 3 Pa came in. He also got Jennie and Uncle Arch. Got home just about dark. The girls and Uncle Will got home some after dark. They drove from Peru. Roads were bad on account of snow. Had a very pleasant evening.

Ben Miller

For Thursday, spent at home, Nov. 26, 1891.

In the morning I went with Pa to feed the steers. Afterwards helped him stack a load of corn. Uncle Arch, Rich, Ira, ^{Will} Aunt Maria, Sallie, Ella, Grandma, Frank and Della, Myrt, Grace, Helen, Jennie, Perry, Bee, Jay, Leon and all of our own families were here for dinner. In the afternoon we did not work in the field but worked all afternoon at a beehive and finally got about a halfful of honey. It had been smoked so that it didn't taste good. I was very tired when night came.

Ben Miller

For Friday, Nov. 27, spent at home
I helped around the house in forenoon, in
afternoon we went down to the steeryard and
got a pig to butcher. I shot it. Had to shoot it
3 times. Herman and I then got a load of corn
snapped, and with Pa got another, and then I
helped Rudolf on a third. I was very tired in the
evening.

Ben Miller

For Saturday, Nov. 28 spent at home,
Carried in wood in forenoon and in the
afternoon helped snap 3 load of corn. We
snapped 18 loads of corn today with 3 teams.
There were 3 extra hands viz, Uncle Arch, Uncle
Will and I.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Sunday, Nov, 29, 1891.

We got up early this morning as the girls
and Uncle Will had to start to town. They started
before daylight. I didn't go to S. S. Stayed at home
packed my satchel, read, and popped corn.
About 1 I started to town Rudolf took me,
I stayed at Aunt Sallie's a while. The train
started at 3 o'clock. Got to Boston some after 4
and found the train wouldn't leave till 10.30. I
inquired for Mr Boucher's residence. I at last
found it. I spent a very pleasant evening.
I went to church with Mr Houthene. Belder
came down on the train with me.
We got to Topeka at 11.5 ^{Heymed dictated this} After a good old
snore" got a horse car to 10th St. Walked the
remainder of the way home. Got home about
12.30. Was very tired.

B. J. M.

Benj. L. Miller.

Monday

Topeka, Kansas, Nov, 30, 1891.

I didn't have my lessons very good today, I had to study harder this afternoon. Had rhetorical today and not Latin. Ben Miller

Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, Dec 1, 1891.
Went down town this afternoon and got my hair cut. Walked home with Chamberlain. Had a very pleasant talk.

Benj. L. Miller.

Wed.

Topeka, Kans., Dec, 2, 1891.
Nothing important happened.

Benj Miller.

Topeka, Kans., Thursday, Dec. 3, 1891
We drilled this morning. We practiced kneeling. German didn't recite this morning. I spent that hour in the laboratory.

B. L. Miller.

Topeka, Kans. Friday, Dec. 4, 1891.
This afternoon Heynes and I were at the library a while. I got Bryant's poems. The rest of the afternoon I read and studied. The C. L. S. held their open meeting this evening. I, of course, went. It was very good. Learned to play chess this evening.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1891.

Played chess, read, and studied this forenoon. In the afternoon, went down to the city library and read Miles Standish. When I came home I made an abstract of it: Kilmer, Stevenson, and I were in the Senate Chamber and the House of Representatives, Mowser etc. Stevenson and I walked home very slowly. Got here at just dark.

Attended the W. C. L. S. to-night. Washed my feet and played a game of chess after I came home.

Benj. L. Miller. Benj. L. Miller. Benj. L. Miller. Benj. L. Miller.

Topeka, Sunday, Dec, 6, 1891,

About 4 inches of snow fell last night. A strong cold north wind blew all day. I went to church at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Attended vesper services at 4 this afternoon and Y. M. C. A. this afternoon. Stayed at home this evening.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Monday, Dec, 7, 1891

We didn't drill this morning as it was too cold and there wasn't any fuel in the gymnasium. This afternoon Baker University played foot-ball with Washburn here. Score 46 to 0 for them. Reason was that our men were weak on the wedge and wouldn't run for the snow. I had to study late at night.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Tuesday, Dec, 8, 1891

I got a letter from home and one from the girls this evening. The snow was melting to-day so Geynes, Mac and I snowballed a while after dinner. I had to go up to the college at 2.30 and rehearse a piece that I must speak next Monday.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Wednesday, Dec, 9, 1891,

Was a nice day. This afternoon Mr. Stone married a couple here. We boys had the pleasure of witnessing it. I heard Noble Prentiss' lecture at the college to-night on "Temptations of Smith" Was very good, & full of fun and good sense. It's about 10.30 now.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Kansas, Thursday, Dec. 10, 1891.
We drilled this morning. Benj. L. Miller.

⁵⁰⁰⁰⁰⁰⁰⁰⁰⁰Topeka, Kans. Friday, Dec. 11, 1891.

G
H

Topeka, Kansas, Friday Dec. 18, 1891.

I had two examinations to-day. Was examined in German this forenoon. The examination was half oral and half written. I think I will get a good grade in that. I missed one word that I know of. Was examined in Latin at 2:30 this afternoon.

The examination was very hard. I think I passed though. I got through before 5 o'clock.

~~Planned to go to the contest~~ Went to the local oratorical contest at the college to-night.
 There were three contestants, Sullivan, Poston, and Phillips. Poston won and will represent the college in the state oratorical contest. Ben Miller.

Topeka Kans. Sat. Dec. 19, 1891.

I thought I would do a great deal of studying to-day. Studied and read this forenoon and went down town this afternoon and bought several things. Grandma gave me money when I was home. Thanking her for getting a large Ridpath's history for myself. I got one to-day. Cost \$3.50. Went to W. L. S. to-night.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Kans. Sunday Dec. 20, 1891.

I attended S. S. and church at the Westminster Presbyterian church this forenoon. Went to Vesper services and Y. M. C. A. meeting at the college this afternoon and Palmer and I attended church at the First Presbyterian Church to-night.
Ben L. Miller.

Topeka, Kans. Monday, Dec. 21, 1891

I had two examinations to-day. Was examined in Physical Geography this forenoon. I think I will get a good grade in that. Had an examination in Physics this afternoon. The questions were very hard. I think I will pass but I know I will not get a high grade. Heynes is going to take the night train for home to-night. I went down with him this evening. I purchased several Xmas presents and then went to the library and read until about 8.30. I played chess with Geo. Stone when I came home. I also got my ticket to go home to-morrow. Got one fare for the round trip. Lasts until Jan. 4th.

Ben Miller.

~~Wed~~ Topeka, Kans. Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1891.

I went up to the College about 8.30 this morning to see if I could get any of my examination papers. But couldn't. I then came back stopping at Stephenson's a few minutes. I took the 9 o'clock car for the depot.

The train left about 10. The train at Horton was 1 1/2 hours late so I had to wait that long and didn't get to Labetha until about 2. Ma and Bertha were there waiting for me. I had a lunch at Horton. Got home just before dark!

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, ~~W. Va.~~ Kans. Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1891.

I helped haul hay ^{into the farm} part of the day. Rest of the day did nothing important. Pa went to Salem after the girls and Auntie Joy this afternoon. The train was late and they didn't get to Salem until 4, and home until about 8. Roads are very muddy.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kans. Thursday, Dec. 24, 1891.

Hauled one load of hay in the new barn ^{this morning}. About 10 I took Pa to town to take the train to Seneca on business. Pa to wait until after the 3 o'clock train came to take Uncle Arch and Bee out who ~~came~~ ^{came} on that train. I didn't get home until almost dark. Jennie ^{Grandma came up with me.} Had a Xmas tree in place. After supper we put the presents on. I got two neckties from Ma, a box of writing paper from Betha and a bottle of perfume from Nell besides candy and nuts.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Friday, Dec. 25, 1891.

Snowed some last night. Ground is thinly covered. Read and played to-day. Grand ma Uncle Arch, Bee, Auntie Joy and Jennie were ~~the~~ here. I was down at Grand ma's this afternoon. Rudolf went to town to get Pa this afternoon. There was a very cold strong northwest wind all day.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Sat. Dec. 26, 1891.

Had to go to town again to-day to take Uncle Arch, Auntie Joy and Bee up to go to Seneca. Will Zupert, Paul Silberberger and Fred Kloeffer came this evening. We played Fiddley Winks until very late. Pa went to Salem to mill to-day.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Sunday, Dec. 27, 1891.

All of us young folks went to S. S. this morning. Didn't get home until after noon. We enjoyed ourselves ~~there~~ there. Will Wisler and Ed Licity were here a while. Rudolf's brother Albert, was married at Jake Kloeffer's to-day. Rudolf and Hermann went. Didn't get back to help do any of the chores.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Monday, Dec. 28, 1891.

We hauled 11 big ^{fat} cows to town to-day. I went over and got Licity's wagon this morning. Pa, Rudolf and I each had a wagon. Didn't get started until about 10.

Got to town about 12. I came right back only stopping to get Licity's mail. A seller's boy rode out with me.

I took the wagon right over to Licity's and drove the team home, walking. I didn't much like to-day.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1891.

Ma wanted to go to town to-day so I had to go and drive the team. Got home just about noon. Quirka Newton came this forenoon. We had a party to-night and ~~Miss~~ Miss Newton, Nell, and I worked almost all afternoon popping corn and making pop-corn balls. Made 48 balls. ~~On~~ We had about 30 here.

I think they all enjoyed themselves, I did anyway. We invited them from 7 to 12. They were a little late both ways. I took Bella and Cassa Boston home. I got to bed about 1.20 a'clock.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1891.

Got up very late to-day. Hauled hay in the barn all day.

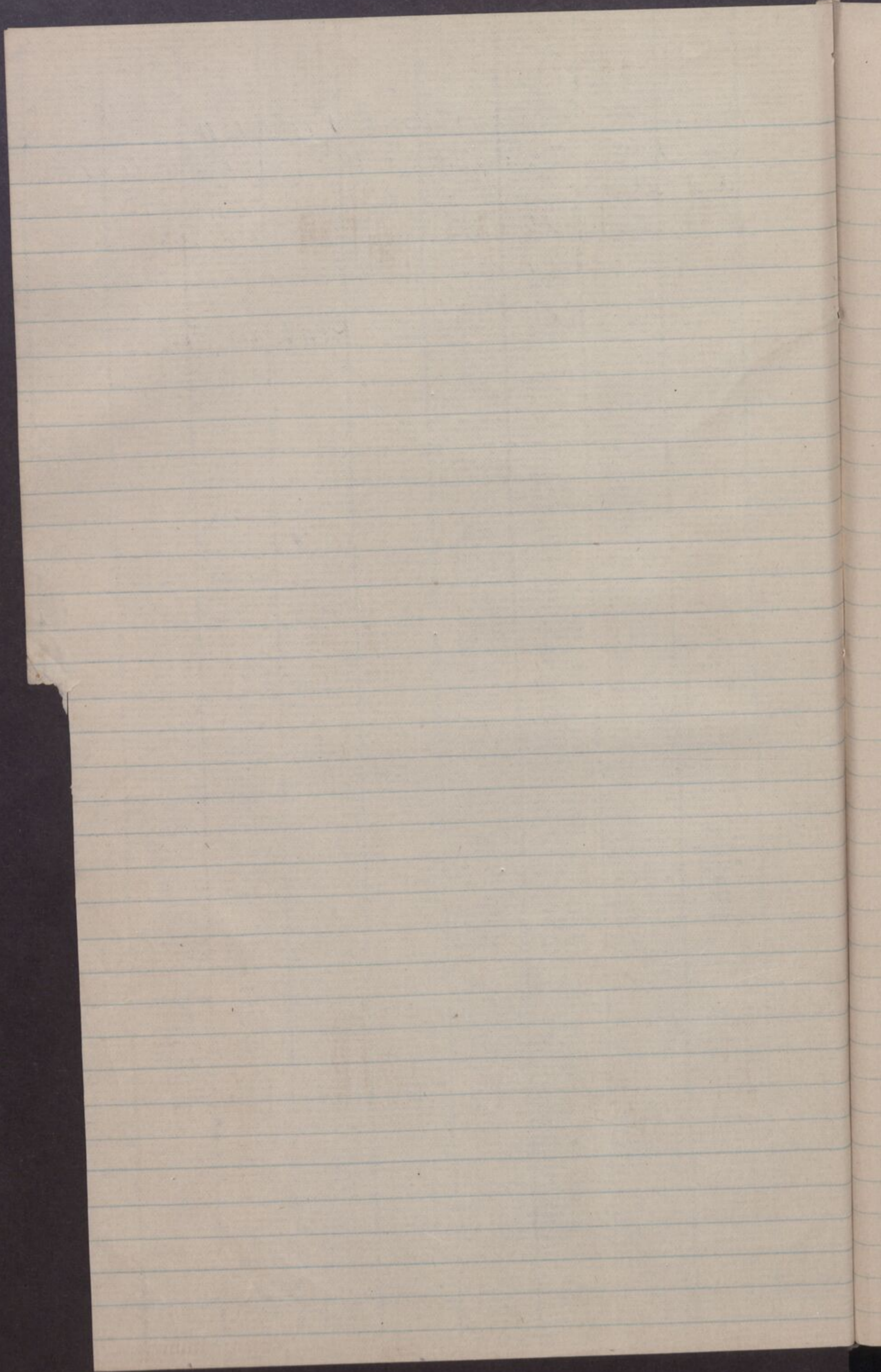
Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Dec. 31, 1891.

This is the last day of this year and to-day I did scarcely anything except play Fielded by Winks in the evening. I think I have done very well with my diary this year. I shall not try to keep one the coming year.

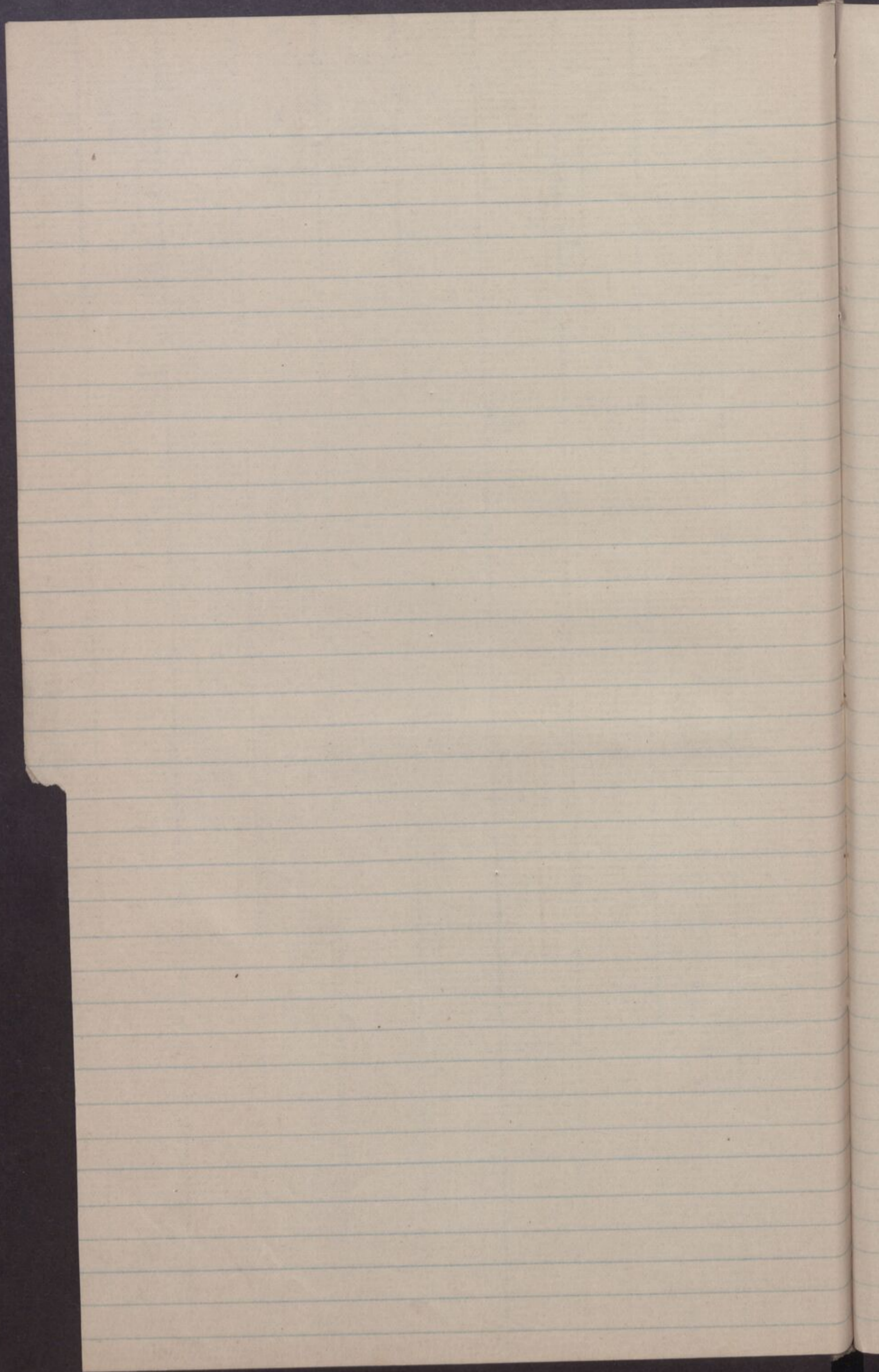
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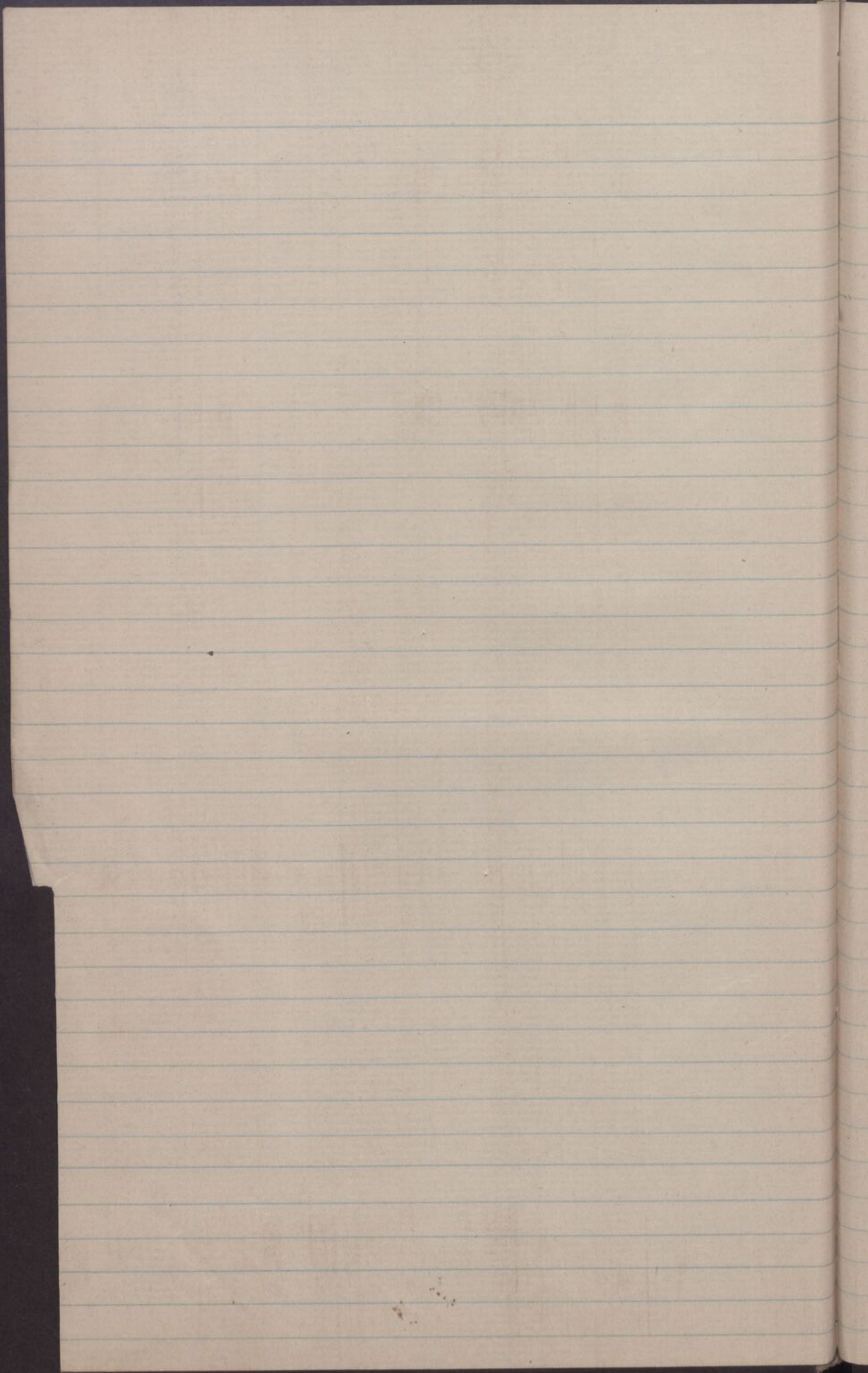


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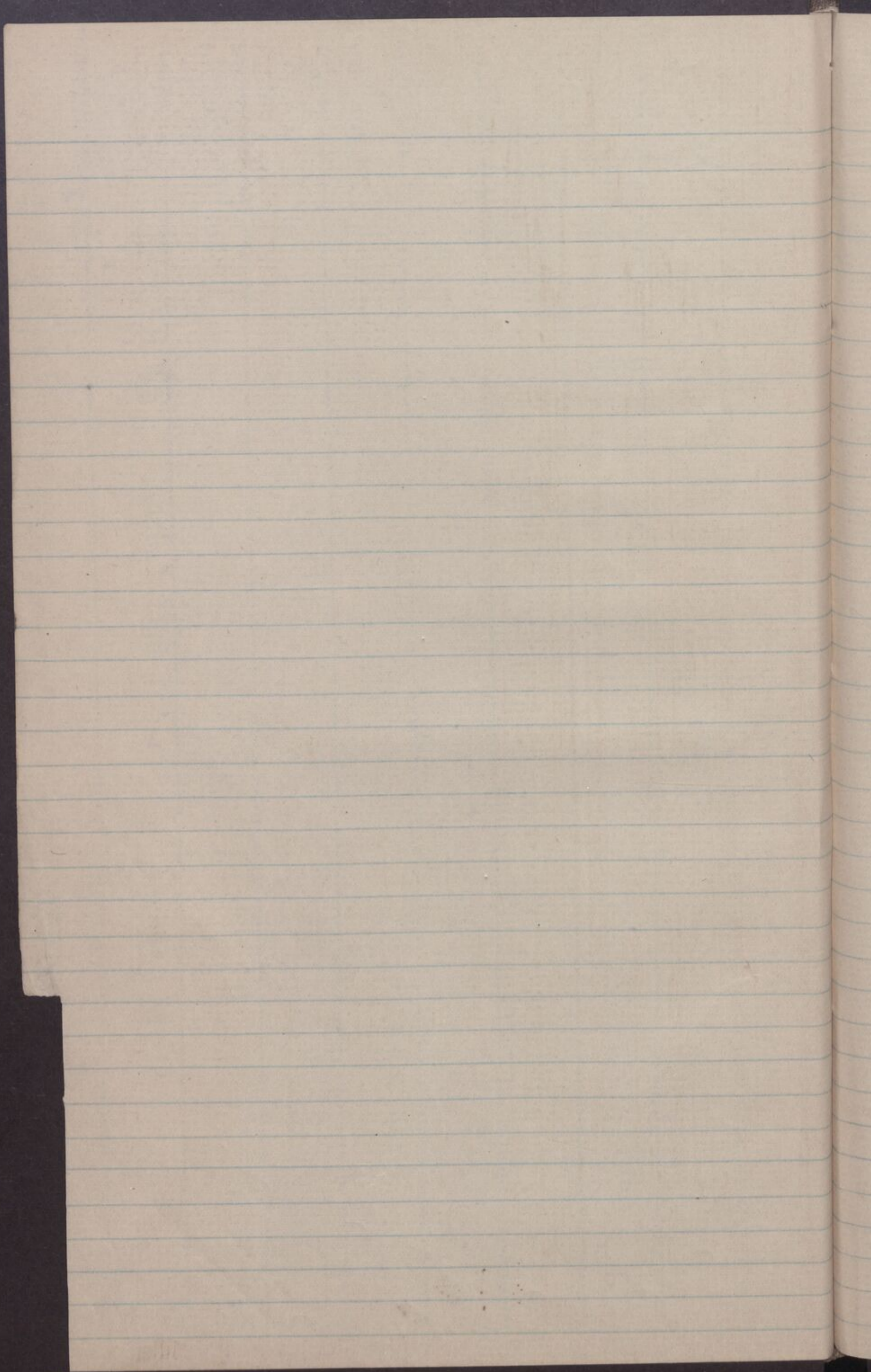
Benj. L. Miller.



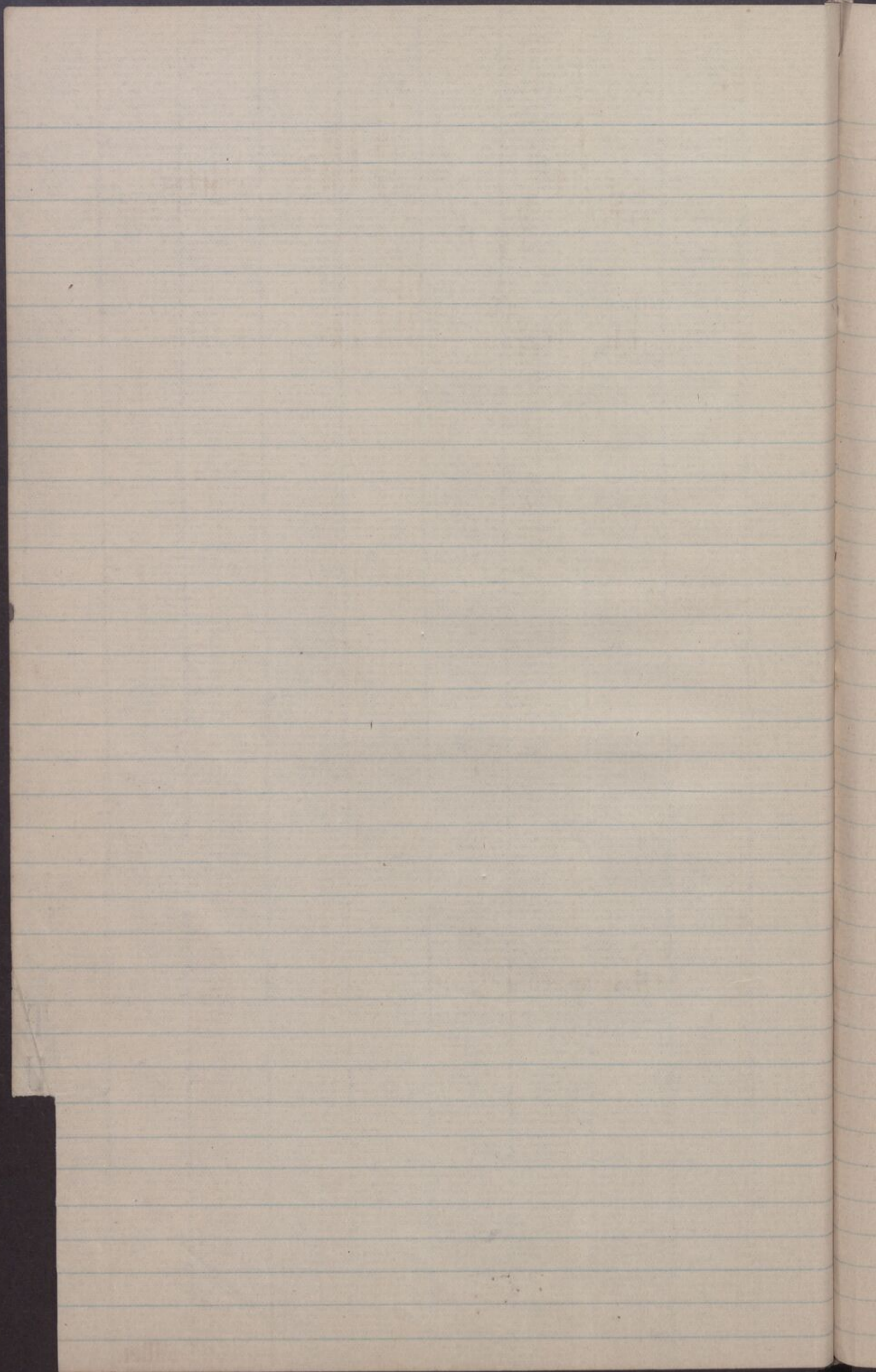
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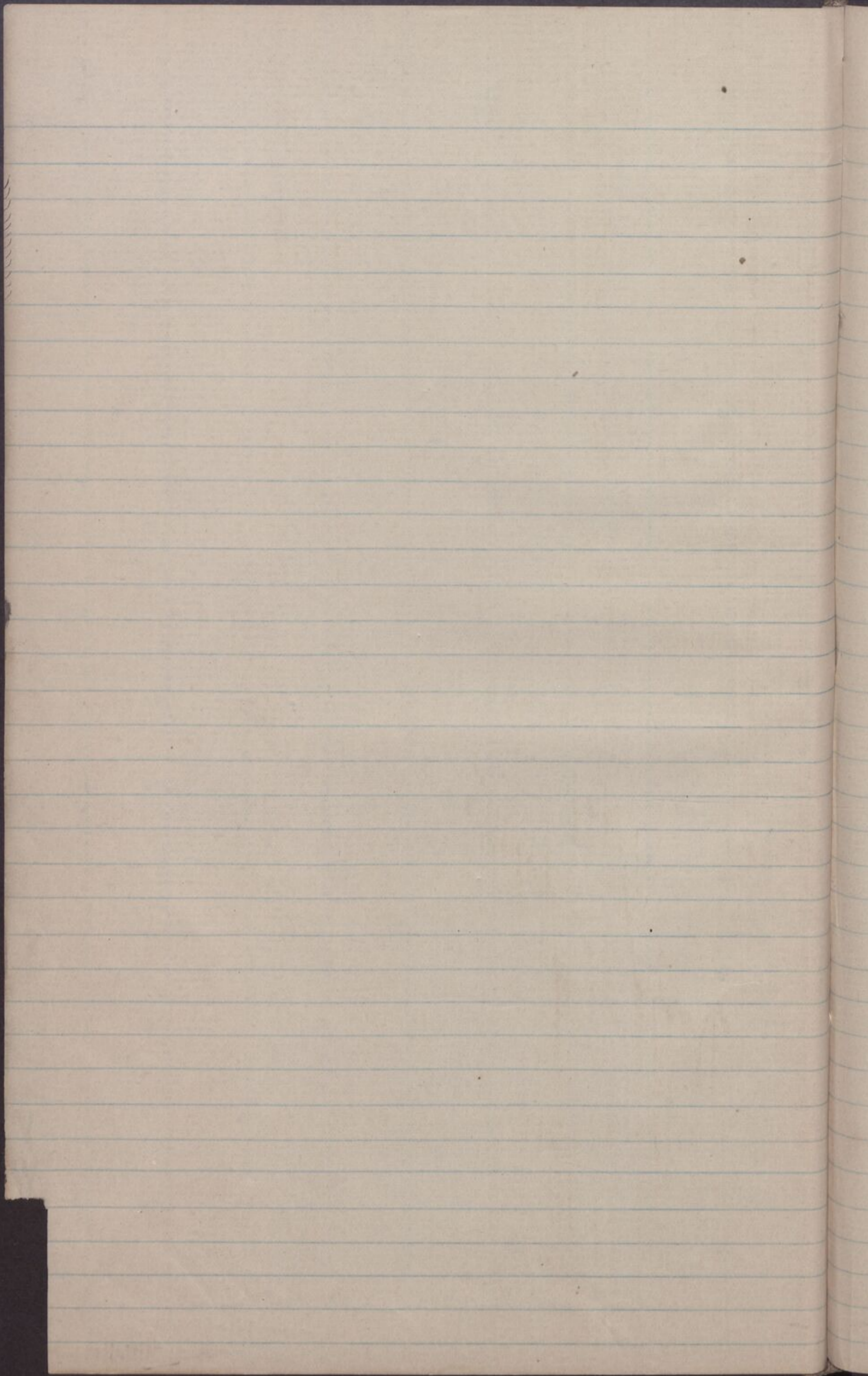
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Don't Miller

Thursday
 Rock Creek, Kansas, Jan. 1, 1891.

All of the young folks from this place viz: Jennie P., Bertha S., Will L., John L., Miss Newton, Lillie and myself went over to Mr. Zug's last night to a surprise party on Charlie, and saw the old year pass out and the new one come in, while it was raining very hard. After waiting about half an hour longer we started home facing the rain all the way. When I got up this morning the rain ~~was~~ had changed into snow.

The ground was already white and it was still snowing and continued snowing until after noon. Hugh and Guy came up from grandma's this morning, bringing with them a lot of sugar to make candy, and this afternoon we worked for about three hours making it, and we had lots of fun too. The horses were out in the field all night, and this morning Will and I went out to get them and I nearly gave out before I could get home, I wasn't so very cold any place but on the face, and there the ice and snow stuck. ~~to my~~. We had to curry the snow off of them, I curried four of them. We come in about 9:30 and spent nearly all of the rest of the forenoon in playing ten pins. This evening we had quite a time catching chickens and putting them in the hen house. I also made two tissue paper throws to-day. I guess I will go to bed now. The wind is still blowing and drifting the snow. I have this page quite badly mixed up ~~but~~ ^{and} will try to do better hereafter. P.S. John cut my hair to-day

Good Night

Ben Miller,

Rock Creek, Kansas, Friday Jan. 2, 1891.

This morning it was very cold. The thermometer was only 14° above zero, but it kept getting warmer until the thermometer registered 38° above zero this afternoon. This morning as Guy and I were driving the calves ^{out} of the yard, I found a rabbit sitting in the rack and slipped up and caught it. After this Guy and I took the cattle up and took the scoop shovel along and thought we would go up to the schoolhouse to see if Nell could get to school and to shovel snow if necessary. We did not need to shovel any as the drifts were hard enough to bear a person up. Coming home we cleaned out the cow stables and fed the cows. After this we went out after rabbits again until noon. I got two rabbits and four quails, in three shots, shooting the four quails at one shot. After dinner Hugh and I worked quite ^{a while} to fix up Pa's old rifle for Hugh, but in vain. Guy and I next started after the cattle, going down in the west lane where I caught one rabbit and run another one out. We then went to let the cattle out but found that they had broken the gate and gone home. We then came down and drove the cattle to the creek, after which we hunted along the creek each of us getting another rabbit, making 4 rabbits and 4 quails for me. I also got my feet wet by breaking through the ice. The roads were drifted so badly that I didn't go after Belle. This evening we ^{Hugh and I} played stage coach and had playing and singing. To-day was very pleasant.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Saturday, Jan. 3, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was ~~over~~ twenty-three degrees above zero but it seemed quite cold as there was a cold wind blowing from the southwest. This morning Hugh and I took the cattle up to the field and fixed the gate that the cattle broke yesterday. It was so cold standing still in the snow that we didn't fix it very good, just so it would hold together and this afternoon I fixed it better. When I came home I cleaned out the stables. Hugh and Guy then started home. They went to Sabetha with Pa and then ^{took} the train for Steinauer. I next went ^{in the woods} over to see if the horses could get water without going out of the field but found they could not. I then came home and carried in wood until dinner, after ^{dinner} I drove the calves down to the creek to water. I then took my gun and went out hunting about one hour and a half and got 3 rabbits and one quail. I brought the cattle home as I came back. I took my gun and drove the cattle to the creek and got another rabbit, making 4 rabbits and one quail for today. I got a small diary from Auntie Joy today. I have not yet decided whether to fill it out or not. Lillie went down and got grandma this evening. I intend to read the papers the rest of the evening. I heard this evening that Carl drew a buggy at Hribelbise drawing. I drew nothing, but then I only had one ticket.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Sunday Jan. 4, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 28° above zero, and it kept getting warmer until this evening just before sundown it was 54° above. The snow melted a great deal to-day. The sleighing, which was not very good at first on account of the wind blowing all of the snow off in some places, is now spoiled. This morning I didn't get up until about half past six o'clock, but in time to milk my usual number of cows, viz.; two. John and Will helped me do my chores. I read for a while and then my head began to ache so I didn't read much more until after dinner. I didn't go to church today. Just before dinner Will came home from church and said that the horses were over in the other field at the corn shocks. I got ready to go with him to get them out when he said he didn't need me. I then took the calves to the creek to water. After dinner Lillie and I made some taffy. We had very good luck. I then got the cattle. This evening John nor Will were not home very early so I had to do more chores than usual and were later than usual. To-day Miss Newton wrote my name in several of my books. We all stayed at home and read this evening.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Monday, Jan 6, 1891

This morning the thermometer was 26° above zero. The ^{sun} came out bright and got quite warm. The thermometer was up to 58° above zero this evening just before sundown. This morning I got up about 8 minutes after five, I milked 2 cows. After breakfast I took the cattle up. When I got back it was not light enough to see to clean out the stable so I came in the house and read ~~in~~ a piece in "The Youth's Companion". When it was light enough I cleaned out the stable. I didn't have time to ~~help~~ put in the feed for the cows then as Ma wanted me to help her wash as Bertha didn't feel well. I ~~to~~ washed on the machine until about 11 o'clock. I then rinsed the ^{wash} clothes and Ma helped me hang them out. After dinner I rinsed the colored clothes and hung them out. I then helped Ma clean the wash-house. I then came in the house to read awhile but got so sleepy that I laid down and slept a while. When I woke up I went and got the cattle and drove them down to the creek to water. I rode Coq. This evening Nell brought our pet cat "Johnnie" home from Mr. Kreggar's. This evening Will and I did a large churning. After this I played on the piano until now. They have all gone to bed and I have better go too as it is 20 minutes till ten. P. S. Today I commenced to read Adam Bede.
Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 26° above zero. There were clouds around the horizon when I got up this morning, but the sun came out bright and it began to get warmer until about noon, when it got cloudy and a cold wind began to blow from the East. It was cloudy the rest of the day and is cloudy now. The thermometer was up to 46° this evening. This morning I took the cattle up, and when I got back Mr. Grog was here to help butcher. I helped them until noon. After noon I cleaned out the stables and fed the cows. I then helped cut lard until time to get the cattle, when I got the cattle and took them to the creek. When I come back I cut lard again until we were done. I then helped to the chores. After supper I helped Mr. Grog stuff the sausage, and got enough of his bossing to get me out of humor. We butchered 2 old sows 2 shoats and one cow. I didn't have time to read any this evening and it is after ten o'clock now I will not try to read any to night but will go to bed now.

Ben Miller.

Wednesday
 Rock Creek, Kansas Jan. 7, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 16° above zero. It was cloudy when I got up this morning and has been cloudy all day, the sun scarcely shining out all day. The wind, what little there was, was from the east.

This morning when I got up my head ached, but it stopped when I went out to milk. But my stomach hurt so that I didn't eat any breakfast, but after breakfast I did my regular chores, when I came in the house and laid down. I ate a few apples before noon and didn't eat any dinner. I stayed in the house until time to get the cattle when I got them and took them to the creek. I helped do all the chores as usual, this evening I ate something this evening before, ^{supper} and ate a little supper. I felt a little better this evening. I just wrote off for a stamp with my name on. I guess I will write no more as I don't feel well.

Ben Miller,

11111

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday, Jan. 8, 1890.

This morning ~~the~~ thermometer was 28° above zero. It got some warmer until this afternoon, when it turned colder, and the wind rose.

It was doady all day, and it began to snow some at 4 o'clock, and has been snowing in spells ever since. The wind has been blowing from the north-east all day. The thermometer was 30° above zero this evening. This morning

I took the cattle up. When I got back Lillie said she did not feel like teaching and wanted me to teach for her. So I got ready at once and started. I did not get along very well with the scholars. It would have been all right if it had not been for those miserable

Fieldman children, who tried to torment me in every way they could, and would scarcely study a bit. I never knew how hard it ~~was~~ to teach before, especially when there are any as mean as those Fieldmans. I was clear tired out this evening.

To-day pa was at town and I got a pamphlet entitled, "From the Forest to the Foot" which I sent for a good while ago. It is very nice telling all about rubber. In The Inter Ocean which Pa got there is an account of another battle with the Indians. I wanted to read it but could not get it as Lillie and ^{they} Pa had the paper, so that I didn't get to read it to-night.

It is now nine o'clock and it is snowing very hard.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, ^{Friday} Jan. 9, 1891.

This morning when I got up the ground was covered with snow about 1½ inches deep. It was snowing then a very little. It kept snowing some harder. It snowed almost constantly until about 4 o'clock. The snow is about 3 inches deep now. It didn't drift at all as there was very little wind. It was not at all cold to-day. The thermometer was 28° above zero this morning and this afternoon it was 36° I believe. The wind from the northeast was cold. The snow was soft. Some melted this afternoon while it was snowing.

I did my regular chores this morning after which I carried wood for both stoves. I was in the house from then until about 2 o'clock when I got the cattle and drove them to the creek. I was in the house again for a while after which we did the chores. We were through ^{with our chores} very early this evening. We had quite a time this evening scaffling and tying each other to their chairs. It is 22 minutes till ten so I will quit and go to bed, although I am not very sleepy, as I slept a little to-day. I was reading and got so sleepy that I went to sleep almost before I thought about it.

Ben Miller,

Saturday

Rock Creek, Kansas, Jan. 10, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 28° above zero. It was cloudy all day. I don't think the sun shone out all day, still the snow melted. The wind was from the north-east all day. Very little wind, ~~just~~. This morning when I was getting the cattle out of the yard I saw a rabbit sitting in a drift under the shed. I came in and got my gun and went out and shot it. Just as I shot it I scared another one out which ran under the tank, I then got a trap and set under the tank, I hadn't got it yet this evening. After I had my chores done this morning, I got ready and went to town. Ma and Will went along. Will went out to his folks to stay to-night. I took my music lesson to-day. To-day I had Schabinger cut me a pants pattern. Bella gave me 9 old "Century Magazines" to-day. We went to town in the sleigh. It was not very good sleighing to-day. The ground was quite rough and the snow was hardly deep enough to cover all these bumps. And coming home it was quite muddy. The mud and snow seemed to be mixed together. I had dinner at Uncle Rich's. Today P. Hansen was here to put in the pump, his bill was about 20 dollars, making about \$100 altogether, as the drilling cost about \$60 and the tubing \$20. We brought Grandma home with us this evening. ~~Will~~ I spent a pleasant evening, reading. P. S. I got me a pair of over shoes to-day.

Ben Miller.

TOPEKA STEAM LAUNDRY,

F. A. RIPLEY, Manager.

AGENCY WITH

Central Barber Shop.

Mr. *Benj. Miller*

Mark *J. B. Miller*

SPALDING PRINTER TOPEKA.

NO.	ARTICLES.	AMOUNT.
1	SHIRTS PLAIN, - - - 10	10
.....	" Pleated, - - - 15	
.....	" new, - - - 15 to 20	
.....	" collars attached, 15	
.....	" woolen coarse, 10	
.....	" flannel or silk, 15	
.....	Night Shirts, plain, - 10	
.....	Under " cotton, - 8	
.....	" " flannel, - 10	
.....	Drawers, cotton. - - 8	
.....	" flannel, - - - 10	
.....	Collars, each, - - - 3	
.....	" cape, - - - 5	
.....	Cuffs, per pair, - - 6	
.....	Socks, " " - - - 5	
.....	Handkerchiefs, - - - 3	
.....	" silk, - - - 5	
.....	Neckties, plain, - - 5	
.....	White Vests, - - - 20	
.....	Towels, - - - - - 5	
.....	Sheets, - - - - - 10	
.....	Pillow Slips, plain, - 5	
.....	Pillow Shams, pair, 35 to 50	
.....	Coats, - - - - - 25 to 50	
.....	Pants, - - - - - 25 to 50	
.....	LACE CURTAINS, per pr., - \$1.00 to \$1.50	

Bundles received every day and returned three days after. In case of any error, report at once and show original list.

Rock Creek, Kansas, ^{Sunday,} Jan, 11, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 21° above zero. It got warmer and this evening the thermometer was 38° in the sun. It was clear today, although there were clouds around the horizon all day. There was a sharp wind from the northwest all day, but was not very strong until about 4 o'clock when it began to blow harder and was soon cloudy all over. Today after I had my chores done I came in the house and read a while, until time to get ready for church. I went over east to church. Mr. Zimmerman preached a good sermon from Matthew 12, 41. When we came home Will had come back to get his clothes to go home to stay. Bertha went to town with him to stay for about 2 months to learn dressmaking. It thins out our family a good deal. I read all afternoon in the Centuries Bella gave me. We did our chores early to-night and all read this evening. None of us went to church.

Ben Miller

Rock creek, Kansas, Monday, Jan 12, 1891,

This morning the thermometer was 28° above zero. It got warmer and it was about 40° this evening in the sun. When I got up this morning it was clear, but when we came in from milking it was cloudy almost all over. This morning when I took the cattle up, I saw that the road had all drifted full so that Lillie couldn't get through. John had to go and shovel a path for her. It began to snow shortly after I got home (about 7:30) and snowed in spells until about 10:30; when it cleared off. The sun shone the rest of the day. Pa cleaned out the cow stables for me as Ma wanted me to help her wash. I washed all ^{by a few pl} the clothes on the machine. I then got dinner. Albert Ackerman and his brother were here for dinner. They came to see if Pa would hire Albert's brother. Pa hired him for \$210 for about 14 months. He will begin work in a few days. After dinner I helped rinse the clothes and clean up the 'muss.' I then cooked a kettle-ful of mush for the hogs. I then got the cattle. I didn't have any time to sit down and read today. This evening I played on the organ and read Adam Bede. It is 15 minutes till nine, and as I am sleepy I will go to bed soon.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday Jan. 13, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 22° above zero. The wind was from the southwest all day. This morning it was very strong and cold. It went down afterward and didn't seem near as cold either. The sun shone out brightly all day. It was quite warm. The snow melted considerable. The water ran in the wagon tracks. Sleighing is entirely spoiled in the roads running north and south. This morning Pa went over to Uncle Fred's to pick out some seed corn, so I had to slop the hogs. I did this before I did my regular chores.

I was through with my chores about 10:30. I was in the house the rest of the forenoon helping Mo and practicing. After dinner I did two churning's in less than two hours, and got about 19 pounds of butter.

I then went to get the cattle and took my gun along. After I had the cattle out I went back in the field for about an hour and a quarter, and only shot once, and then I shot at a rabbit and tore it to pieces so badly that I didn't bring it home. This evening Pa didn't get home until just about dark, so I had more chores to do than usual. I milked six cows. Pa got a new Companion today and I have been reading in it all evening.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Wednesday, Jan. 14, 1891

This morning the thermometer was 28° above zero. There was no wind this morning, and was none until about noon, when it began to blow from the southeast. It was not strong or cold. It was very clear all day, hardly a cloud to be seen for the most of the day. The sun shone very warm, snow melted quite a good deal. The water ran in the roads and hollows. This morning I did my regular chores and helped unload the seed corn Pa got yesterday. After which I came in and swept the kitchen and then ironed. We did all of the ironing in about two hours from 10 to 12 o'clock. After dinner I wiped the dishes and swept the floors. I then read a while and then practiced a while. About 3 o'clock I got the cattle. I rode Zip and when I went to get on him, he gave a jump before I had gotten on good and I rolled off on a big snowbank. It didn't hurt me at all. I held to the bridle rein. When I came back I helped Ma to core some apples for sauce. I am beginning to like to help in the house. I spent this evening in reading. Today was Lillie's birthday and I didn't think of it until this evening, and then Ma wouldn't let me whip her. Today I changed the thermometer from the south porch to the north side of the house.

Ben Miller.

1.
Sympathy with Y. M. C. A. movement.

Chas. Cutbert Hall's sermon on doubt.

Progress must be made in every way
in the development of the mind
from youth to maturity.

In this progress many of our
firmly held views must be
overthrown.

Ex. Child is distressed when
it first discovers that
its father is not infal-
lible.

In every stage of our development
doubt and skepticism is bound
to enter. In most lines we
welcome such ideas as they
indicate independent thinking.
Nothing is more stimulating to
the teacher than to have his

ideas and views questioned²
when done in a spirit of honesty
and fairness.

In religious matters we are
sometimes told that doubt is
a sin.

Many times have I seen people
who were most miserable
because they suddenly realized
that they found it difficult, if
not impossible, to view re-
ligious matters as they had
done previously.

Ex. angels watching over battle-
fields.

This attitude of doubt is perhaps
more common among students
than anywhere else for the reason
that a student's horizon is
broadening continually. When

3.

the truths of science are learned it is impossible not to doubt some commonly accepted views concerning the Bible.

The question is how shall we meet such doubt.

One way is to refuse to investigate and to endeavor by a strong act of the will to ignore these questions and doubts.

To me that is not the brave way. One's faith may be increased by such an attitude but there can be no material growth by taking such an attitude.

The other way is to consider doubt as inevitable and not as a sin. Doubt instead of being dreaded should be welcomed.

4
~~However doubt by itself is destructive~~
~~and not constructive.~~

Doubt of one thing or one person
should not make us distrustful
of all things and persons.

Ex. we have seen examples of
persons who have become
unreconcilable skeptics because
they have lost faith in one man.
Doubt in the story of creation ~~to~~
should not cause one to lose
faith in Christ and his acts.

~~Doubt~~ Proving some historical
record inaccurate does not over-
throw all written history.

Do not cast the Bible aside be-
cause you have reached a point
where you cannot believe it
verbally inspired. It still re-
mains a history of God's treat-
ment of his people and contains
precepts suitable for all ages and
all peoples.

Doubt by itself is destructive and
not constructive.

When doubt comes, investigate.
A religion that cannot endure
investigation is not worthy the
attention of educated men.
We are searching for Truth. Truth is not contradictory.
The Bible has stood the criti-
cisms of ages and this in itself
proves it to be the Truth.

Consequently investigate. Search the
Scriptures, reason, and reserve judg-
ment until data can be secured
for a conclusive opinion.

Do not permit your conclusions
to be too inclusive.

Result will be a much stronger
faith. "A smooth sea never made a
skilful mariner"

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday, Jan. 15, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 24° above zero. This morning it was clear and there was no wind when I got up. About 8:30 o'clock the wind began to blow from the northwest and it soon clouded up. The wind from the northwest was not very strong but quite cold. This morning after I had done my chores I came in and churned for Ma. I then cooked a kettle of mush. While I was making the mush I saw some of the horses had gotten on the wheat. As soon as I had finished I took Cap and got them out. I then got the cattle. I drove them down to the creek to water. I took some companions along and went up to Mr. Lichty and succeeded in getting him to send for the companion, ^{Frank} Ackerman our new hired hand came to-day, and helped a great deal with the chores. It thawed very little to-day. This evening about dark the thermometer was 22° degrees above zero. ~~The~~ We can hear the trains so plain and there is a ring around the moon, that we will surely have a storm, although it has about cleared off now (9 o'clock). This evening there was some fine snow flying through the air.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Friday Jan. 16, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 10° above zero. This is the coldest it has been by our thermometer this year. There was a gentle, ^{though cold} wind from the southwest all day. It was cloudy a good part of the day. It did not snow very much today. This morning I had help about doing my chores. After I was through with my chores, I came in and worked butter for Ma. I then cleaned the sitting room and the book case. I hunted up some old Companions before dinner and after I had the cattle down I went over to Mr. Horton's to see if they wouldn't like to subscribe for it, but found that they already take it. I intended to go to Mr. Jug's on the same purpose, but as Mrs. Jug was at Mr. Horton's I gave her the Companions. She said she would take them home and look them over and would let me know Monday whether they wished to take it or not. Pa went over and got Belle this afternoon. He said the roads were so bad that we didn't go to the Luther Alliance to-night. To-day Holl jumped over the fence and got at the shocks again. I had to go and put her back before I got the cattle. We had a great deal of laughter this evening.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Saturday, Jan. 17, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 23° above zero. There was a mild wind from the south west all day. Most of the time ^{day} it was not strong enough to turn the windmill. The sun shone ^{very} brightly all day. The snow melted a great deal to-day. After I had my chores done I helped in the house until dinner. I got my revolver fixed up so that I can shoot with it now. I let Lillie and Miss Newton shoot it off one a piece. I can't shoot at all straight with it. John left the gate of the field open as he was hauling coals from the frog yard up in the field and ^{the greater} part of the cattle came home just after noon. I took Frank's rifle and took them to the creek. I didn't see anything to shoot at except some small birds. I shot at one and missed it. I shot at a mark several times. I think Frank's rifle is a very good one. It is a no. 22. When I came home I bathed after which I went and got the remainder of the cattle.

Well and Pa went to town to-day. Pa said the roads were very muddy. We heard that old Mr. Archer was very sick and so Pa went down to see him this evening. Grandma came home with Pa this evening. In the papers which we got to-day it seems that the Indian trouble is about at an end.

We all read this evening. I heard to-day that Ella McKim an old Morrill College friend of mine had her arm broken last Sunday by being thrown out of a sleigh. The papers all say that the winter in Europe is very severe. They have to use dynamite to keep the harbors open from freezing over. Ben Miller.

Sunday Jan. 18, 1891, Rock Creek, Kansas.

This morning about sunrise the thermometer was 30° above zero. There was a mild wind from the southwest all day. The day was quite clear. The snow melted a great deal. It was very muddy. After I had my chores done this morning I came in the house and read until noon. I didn't go to church today. Pa got back from Old Mr. Archer's this morning about 7:00 o'clock and said that he died at 4:15 this morning. He was one of the oldest settlers in this part of the country. We didn't get up until after six o'clock this morning. Pa took Belle back this afternoon and I rode up to the end of the lane with them and got the cattle. I promised Grandma that I would take her home this afternoon. But as Lillie wanted to I hitched Mag to the cart and she took her home. John went away this morning and hasn't come back yet. We did our chores quite early this evening and then we all read. As all of the folks have gone to bed I will go to although it is not 9:00 o'clock yet. Ma gave me \$1.00 today.

Ben Miller.

Monday
 Rock Creek, Kansas, Jan. 19, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 23° above zero. After I had my chores done this morning I went down to the woods and opened the gate so that the horses could go to the creek to water. I started to tell about the weather and then got off and so now I will finish it. There was a gentle wind from the southwest all day. It was quite chilly. ^{The sun shone brightly all day.} When I came back ^{The snow melted a great deal today.} I fooled around for a while and then got the team ready and dressed myself after which I took Ma and Paul up to the church to Ord Mr. Archers funeral. Pa had gone on as he was one of the pall-bearers, and John went up this morning to help dig the grave. It was one of the least sad funerals I ever saw. Scarcely any one seemed to care at all. He was almost 81 years old. We got home some after 10 o'clock and had dinner some before 2 o'clock. Miss Newton dismissed school at dress and went to the funeral and then went to Mr. Sverdfegers. I did no churning and helped do another. I got the cattle but did not ~~set~~ take them to the creek as the tank was full. I carried 12 pails of cistern water for washing to-morrow. Pa and Rudolph went and helped shovel out our north lane this morning. The men ground some feed this afternoon.

Ben Miller.

Tuesday,
Rock Creek, Kansas, Jan. 20, 1891.

This morning about sunrise the thermometer was 31° above zero. It was about clear this morning when I got up but it soon clouded up. It was ~~also~~ cloudy about all day. About 2:15 o'clock this afternoon it began to rain. It rained slowly until about 4:00 o'clock. The snow melted some today. I didn't do my chores this morning as Ma wanted me to help wash. I washed all of the clothes through the machine and helped rinse the clothes and hang them out. I also set the table. We had company for dinner viz: George Keck and Fred Ukele. When it began to rain we had to bring the clothes in and hang them up in the kitchen to dry. I then helped clean up the mess from washing and got the cattle. We let them drink out of the tank again today. The men ground feed for a while this morning and then lusked corn fodder the rest of the day. Tom and Hon. Weeroat's horses were around at the fodder this morning and came around this evening. I read this evening. To-day I heard that the teacher over east came out ahead in the lawsuit between him and E. Kerin. I was glad to hear so.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1891.

This morning the thermometer was 27° above zero. The sun shone most of the forenoon but not at all in the afternoon. About 3 o'clock when I got the cattle there was fine snow blowing through the air. This continued until about 4 o'clock, then it partly cleared off but soon clouded up again. There was quite a strong cold wind from the Northwest all day. There is every appearance of a storm. Today after I had my stables cleaned out I came in and helped Ma do her work, and about 10 o'clock we began to iron. It took us until about 2:30 to finish. We had a very big ironing. Before we began to iron I made a fire under the cooker, which we filled with wash water yesterday, and boiled the water when Pa put the meal in. I didn't have any time to rest to-day although I was very tired after we were through ironing. This evening Nell brought home the Companions which I sent over to Mr. Grog's and said that they didn't want to subscribe for it. It was what I expected. This forenoon the men hauled the corn fodder in which they husked yesterday. This afternoon they took the fence away from the stacks and hauled some hay for the cattle and put some in the loft of the log stable. Pa fixed the brine for the beef today. Miss Newton didn't come home this evening. I read a great deal this evening.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday Jan. 23, 1891

The thermometer was 18° above zero this morning. It was cloudy all day. Wind from the northwest all day. Not very strong, but cold. Snow melted some. This morning ~~the~~ I hurried and did my chores and then went to visit Miss Newton's school. I stayed until recess this afternoon. I don't think she has very good order. There is too much whispering and fain. Harv and Herb Westcoat and several others come to play more than to learn. I don't like the way her time is divided. I sat with Will Wislizer all the time, I helped him get his Arithmetic and Grammar lessons. As I came home I brought the cattle home and Rudolf drove them to the creek. As soon as I had undressed Ma fixed the churn and I did two churnings. I did not get through in time to help with any of the chores except milking. Vera Snyder came home with Nell this evening. The men hauled and chopped wood today. Ma and Paul went to Grandma's a short time this forenoon. I played and fooled this evening more than I read.

Ben Miller.

Cock Creek, Kansas, ^{Friday} Jan. 23, 1891.

The thermometer was 31° above zero this morning. It was cloudy all day. The wind blew lightly from the northwest all day. It thawed some, ^{things snowing a very little when I got up. It soon stopped.} Rudolph did my chores this morning as Ma wanted me to help her in the house. I helped her clean up in the forenoon and helped her make mince meat in the afternoon. I had some time to practice in the **forenoon and in the afternoon.** Pa went after Belle this afternoon. About 3 o'clock I got the cattle and took them to the creek. The creek is open ^{a great} in many places. I wrote a letter to Frank Roberts this evening. As it is late I will write no more to night. The men chopped wood to-day.
Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Saturday, Jan. 24, 1891.

The thermometer was 17° above zero this morning. It was almost clear the most of the day. The wind was from the southwest all day. Not very strong but quite cold. After I had my chores done this morning, I came in and wrote two letters, one to The Youth's Companion and one to The Inter Ocean. As I was writing for the Companion for Mr. Lichly, Miss Newton decided she would send for the Companion so as I had two new names I sent for a writing desk, paying .90 for the additional and postage. I wrote for the Inter Ocean for Grandma and Scribner's Magazine for Lillie, paying only 22c for both. The rest of the forenoon I spent in helping Ma get ready to go to town. After dinner Ma and I went to town. We took about 54 lbs of butter and 99 eggs. Butter .20 per lb. Eggs .17 per doz. I took my music lesson to-day. I took nine letters to town from this place today. To-day we got our full weekly mail. None of us had been to town during the week. The papers announce the death of George Bauckhoff on Jan. 17, aged 90 yrs. 3 months and 14 days, also the suppression of the Indian trouble. I got my stamp to-day. Read all evening. John went over to Four Mile this evening. I did his chore first. Lillie paid me \$1.75 for her chore to-day.
Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek Kansas, Sunday Jan. 23, 1891.

Thermometer was 30° below zero this morning. The wind was from the northwest this morning. It soon changed and blew from the west until about 5 o'clock when it changed to the southwest and was colder.

It was clear today. The snow melted a great deal. Was quite muddy. I didn't get up until about 6.30 this morning and didn't get my chore done until after nine. I read almost constantly until about 8 o'clock when I got the cattle. They drank out of the tank today. All except Ma Paul, Miss Newton and myself went to church. It was announced at church that the 11 month child of Joe Runyan, ^{which died yesterday} would be buried at the Shunkard church at 2.30. As soon as they had dinner Pa, Belle Gilbe, Bill, and Miss Newton and Levi Horton who come over just after dinner went to the funeral. They said it was a very sad funeral. I didn't go as my head ached and I had to get the cattle. They didn't get home until about 6 o'clock. John Lortcher got home about 6 o'clock this evening, in time to do his chores.

I spent a very pleasant day and evening in reading nothing but newspapers. Papers were very good this week.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Monday ^{Ben Miller} Jan. 24, 1891.

Thermometer was 29° above zero this morning. Wind from the southwest all day. Not ~~very~~ strong or cold. Snow melted a great deal. Water ran in all of the ditches. ^{Was clear until about 4 this afternoon when it darkened.} Rudolf did my chores this morning and I helped Ma wash. First I carried water and wood and helped feed the calves. I then washed on the machine. The machine got so loose that ^{I could hardly wash it} when Pa came home from taking Belle to her school he fixed it, while I rinsed the white clothes. I then finished washing the clothes and got dinner. After dinner Rudolf helped me and we wrung the colored clothes and hung them out. I then cleaned up the table and the kitchen while Ma washed the woolen clothes. By 2.45 we were all through. I then rested about 10 minutes and then got the cattle. Bronson gave Ma one of his sale bills Saturday and wanted to know if some one could fix it up ^{at the} end of the line. I stuck it on some pasteboard and took it along and tacked it up.

We let the cattle drink out of the tank today. The men chopped wood all day. Pa was down at Grandson's this afternoon. Shep followed the girls up to church yesterday and didn't come back. Pa found him down in the woods with Stanley this afternoon and brought him home. Rudolph and John both got kicked over this morning by the bobtail cow. I didn't read much this evening. Will go to bed now. (8.30). Am tired.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday Jan, 27, 1891.

Thermometer was 36° above zero this morning. Cloudy all day, about 4 P.M. it began to hail. It soon turned into rain and rained for about an hour. Wind from the northeast all day. Scarcely any wind this morning. Went increasing until it was quite strong this afternoon. Went down this evening. ^{snow melted some today. Is nearly all off the creek.} After I had my chores done this morning, I came in and helped Ma clean up and then iron. We began to iron about 9 o'clock and finished ironing and had dinner ready by noon. We had quite a big ironing. I was very tired when we were through. After dinner I cleaned up the table and swept the floors while Ma put the clothes away. I then fixed the churn and churned in 35 minutes. I then got the cattle, ~~and~~ and took them to the creek. When I came back we castrated Shep. The white cow took the bull today. I then came in the house and started another churning, Ma finished it, and I had to go to milk. I practised this evening. The men chopped wood all day. Pa and Paul corded up all of the wood that has been chopped this winter. Today is Rudolf's birthday. We didn't pound him as we didn't think of it evening. He is 19 years old. We turned the calves out with the ^{obscure to day} Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Jan 28, 1891.

Thermometer was 36° above zero this morning. When I got up this morning I found it had rained a good deal during the night, as it was quite muddy. It was misting then and there was a fog. ^{misted and} It rained all day. Wind was from the northeast this morning but ^{gradually} shifted around in the east then the southeast and for a while was almost straight south. It wasn't strong. Sun didn't shine out all day. It was raining this morning and so Pa thought it would be too bad for the pony to stand out, so I took Lillie to school and went after her this evening. The road are awful bad. The rain melted the snow a great deal. I took the cattle up this morning and Rudolf did the rest of my chores as Ma wanted me to help her in the house. I helped her all the time until time to get the cattle except about 10 minutes to practise and about 5 to read and about 10 to write a letter for Pa to P. B. Rust to ask about his pension. We let the cattle drink out of the tank. Emone Kregar came home with Miss Newton to night, she is staying at Mr. Stanley's. We had a great deal of music this evening. I read a little. The men chored around the most of the day. Pa was in the house writing letters most of the afternoon. It is raining some now (9.36). Today I heard that Ed Warner and Jennie Gochwood were married on Jan. 4th believe. They ^{are visiting at Charlie Smith's now.} Ben Miller, **Benj. L. Miller.**

Thursday
Rock Creek, Kansas, Jan. 2^d, 1891

Thermometer was 30° above zero. This morning when I got up the wind was blowing very strong from the northwest and dark clouds were lowering over. When I took the cattle up it sleeted some. About 9 o'clock the clouds had blown over and the sun shone out. The wind gradually went down all day. About 5 o'clock it had almost stopped. It thawed a good deal today. I don't think there is any frost in the ground. Roads very muddy. After I had my chores done this morning I came in and helped Ma. About 10.30 o'clock Ma^{and Paul} went down to Grandma's leaving me ^{alone} to get dinner. Just about half an hour before dinner Will Lukert came to settle up with Pa. He was here for dinner. And just before ~~the~~ dinner a man by the name of Licity came the one that is to farm with John Görtcher. He was also here for dinner. I got along nicely with the dinner. I didn't wash the dishes. After I had the dishes piled up, I read and practiced until about 3 o'clock, when I got the cattle. When I came back I churned and then helped to the chores. The Jew settler (the youngest Goldman) is here to-night. I spent a pleasant ^{evening} time in hearing him tell about his native country (Russia) and about the Jews. He is showing his goods now to the men. Miss Newton is staying at Mr. Stanley's to-night. The men chopped wood this forenoon. After dinner John took the cross cut saw over to Mr. Zug's to get it sharpened.

Rudolf and Pa went down to Grandma's this afternoon to cut open some lumps on her pigs legs. Paul and Ma came back with them about 9 o'clock. The men are buying things now. It is dear, 19.15! Nell brought my book "Uncle Tom's Cabin" home from school with her. Miss Newton had been reading it to her school. I was weighed this morning and weighed 138½ with my big ^{work} coat and my belt boots.

Ben Miller

This evening Pa told about, while they were stationed at 4 bushwhackers. Two of them were captured just as they had killed the mail carrier and cut out his tongue and cut off his ears. A body of cavalry came along while the body was still warm and giving chase captured the two bushwhackers. The more were also captured and put in prison. His regiment (13th Kansas) was acting as guards. The 4 were sentenced by a court marshal to be shot. 36 men were drawn to do the shooting, 9 for each man. Pa was one of them. They were taken out of town about ¾ of a mile to an open field. Each man rode on his coffin. When they arrived at the field each man was made to kneel down by his coffin. The 36 men were ordered to give up their guns and 2 sergeants withdrew ^{to load their} part of them. The men were made to kneel and the preacher talked to them. Only one paid any attention to him. He cried a little. Pa said that he knew his rifle was loaded with ball from the noise it made when he fired. The men were killed instantly. One of them was only about 17 years of age. The rebels made a bet that if the 13th Regiment killed those men, they would bill 5 men out of that regiment for every one they killed. They never did it.

B. L. M.

Rock creek, Kansas, Friday, Jan. 30, 1891.

Thermometer 28° above zero this morning. Wind from the southeast all day, quite strong. Sun shone out some this forenoon, about 2.30 it began to rain and snow, has continued yet. I let my chores go for a while this morning to help Ma get her morning's work done, then I did my chores. I cooked a kettle full of mush for the pigs today. I helped Ma until about 2 o'clock when I got the cattle. I then got ready to go after Belle and went over east of Swedfegers and then it began to snow so hard and the roads were so bad that I turned around and came back. Pa was going to take Miss Newton and Nell to town this afternoon for her to go home but didn't on account of the storm. Nell was going with her.

We didn't go over east to The Luther Alliance which was to meet to night on account of the roads and the weather. Men chopped wood all day. Rudolph and I did a churning in 25 minutes this evening. Read the rest of the evening. Paul can spell his name now. Sometimes he says ^{Paul} Paul Miller, so very fast. Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Saturday, Jan, 31, 1891.

Thermometer was 38° above zero this morning. Wind was from the southwest until about 11 o'clock when it changed to the northwest. The southwest was neither strong or cold, but the northwest wind was both.

It was misting when I got up this morning and continued until about 10 o'clock. ^{I don't think that the sun shone out at all today. The creek was about clear of ice but it will be apt to freeze again now.} About 4 o'clock fine snow began to fall and some is still falling (9.27). About the time the wind changed to the northwest it got colder. The thermometer ^{rapidly} fell and about dark was 19° above zero. As soon as I had my chores done this morning I carried wood and cobs and then went down and opened the hogyard gate so that the pigs could come up and drink the slop I cooked yesterday. I got a lot of big locust thorns down there and fixed some of them up in my room. I then helped in the house until dinner. After dinner I put on the bath water and then went down to Grandma's. I stayed about 1 hour, and then came home and got the cattle.

I found that one of the heifers coming two had lost her calf. She seems to be all right. I bathed when I came back. The men came home very early so I had very few chores to do. I helped bed the logs and the calves. We were through with the chores quite early. Rudolf and I churned this evening in twenty minutes. Pa took Miss Newton to town this forenoon and brought Bertha out. ^{Miss Newton} Someone will have to take Bertha back and get Miss Newton to market. We hadn't had our mail before this week and of course got a big pile today. I got a sample copy of The Agents Guide. To-day I heard that Ingalls had been defeated for U. S. Senator from Kansas by Peffer, the Alliance man. I ~~am~~ am very sorry. To-day Pa heard about our horses that were stolen on the night of Sept. 8, 1890. The thief took their halters and bridles and took a halter off of our Jim horse, turning him loose in the stable. When Pa was over at Seneca as juror on the Dec. term of court, there was a prisoner ^{by the name of Phelps or Phillips} tried for horse stealing, for stealing two horses near Onida. He was convicted and sentenced to five years imprisonment in the penitentiary. Pa was drawn as juror on that case but as the prisoner objected to him he was excused. Pa suspicious of him then and told the sheriff about it. The sheriff said that when he took the thief to the penitentiary he confessed and said that he stole our horses and took them to St. Joseph where he sold them. Pa and Tollin, the constable were out 3 days looking for them but found no trace. They went to Lawson, Pawnee, Humboldt, ~~the~~ Auburn and Tecumseh and then came home. Sam Fulton went to Beattie but with out success. ^{the men} Pa offered a reward of \$25 for the horses and ^{the Pa} offered \$50 for the thief. ^{Ben Miller}

Pa offered a reward of \$25 for the horses and ^{the Pa} offered \$50 for the thief. ^{Ben Miller}

Rock Creek, Kansas, Sunday, February, 1, 1891.

The thermometer was only 4° above zero this morning. This is the coldest it has been by our thermometer this year and this winter. There were two sun dogs, one on each side of the sun, of course. ^{There was a shower almost most of the day. It rained a little.} A cold wind blew from the northwest all day. It was quite ~~at~~ strong in the morning but gradually went down all day. This evening there is only a cold breeze. I took the cattle up and Rudolf cleaned out the stables and fed the cows. As I have ~~the~~ more chores to do than John and Rudolf, they always help ~~me~~ on Sunday mornings. I didn't get up this morning until about 6 o'clock. I didn't go to church today, but stayed at home all day, only going out to feed the horses, helping Pa hitch up after dinner, and getting the cattle. I read the rest of the day.

Pa took Bertha back and got Miss Newton this afternoon. John went over to see ^{I think} Esaa Horton ^{this} afternoon. Lillie and Paul went down to Grandma's after dinner. Bertha, Lillie, John, and Rudolf went to church. I wrote off for 14 ^{rubles} stamps. Bertha took the letter and will get a postal note to-morrow or some day soon. Albert Lynch is spending the evening with us. He thought that there was Bankard church and so went up there and found out different, so he came down here.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Monday, Feb. 2, 1891.

The thermometer was 10° above zero yesterday evening, with wind from northwest but during the night, the wind changed to the southeast and it was 19° above zero this morning. During the forenoon the wind changed to the east, northeast, north, and about 11.30 it began to come quite strong and very cold from the northwest. This continued the rest of the day. The thermometer reached 26° above zero until the wind changed to the northwest when it fell quite rapidly. Was cloudy until about 2 o'clock, (with fine snow flying most of the time,) when the sun came out and shone the rest of the day. The groundhog had a good chance to see his shadow. To-day was Ella Lynch's birthday, she is 18 yrs. old. Also Lizzie Lichty's birthday. The ground is very rough. It seems to hurt the cattle's feet when they walk. I put the cattle in the sweet field. It took a long time to drive them up on account of the ground being so rough. Rudolf did the rest of my chores. I helped Ma wash to-day. We were through and had the meal cleaned up by a little after 1 o'clock. I got dinner and wiped the dishes for Ma. I had a little time to read and practice after I had gotten the cattle and taken them to the creek. To-day we found out that Pudd's yearling was blind in one eye and seemed to be partly blind in the other. The men hauled ~~logs~~ from our wood this forenoon and this afternoon hauled a load of corn fodder for the cattle and then chopped wood the rest of the day. They put the horses in before evening on account of the wind being so cutting.

I read this evening.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Feb. 3, 1891, Tuesday.

Thermometer was 1° above zero this morning. Coldest we've had. Wind from the west and northwest all day. Not strong but cold. Sun shone out all day. ~~Melted~~^{Thawed} a little. Rudolf did my chores except taking the cattle up, so I could help Ma get ready to iron. I helped Ma iron, We were through by noon, not having a large ironing and Nell being at home. She came home with the headache last night and was sick all last evening, Ma wouldn't let her go to school today. So she helped us a great deal. I did two churrings this afternoon. It took me 26 minutes to churn the first time and about 1 hour the second time. I got the cattle after I had the first churning done. Men chopped wood all day. I had lots of fun today. Ma said she almost thought I was crazy. Rudolf brought his dominoes down and John, Lillie Nell, Miss Newton, Rudolf, and myself played a great deal.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 1891.

Thermometer was 6° above zero this evening. Wind from the southeast, south, and southwest all day. Very strong but not cold. The sun shone out all day. Thawed some. Rudolf did my chores this morning as I had lots of work to do in the house. Ma, Pa and Paul went out to Gottlieb Miller's this morning. Lillie rode to school with them and back again this evening. It took me until after 10 o'clock to finish the dishes. I cleaned up the room, made two of the beds and got dinner by 12:17 o'clock. There were only Rudolf, John and I here for dinner. After dinner Rudolf, John, and I shot at marks. I lost 10 cents. I read and practice most of the afternoon. I got the cattle and let them go to the creek themselves. The men chopped and hauled wood today. I read out of Adam Bede to night. The wind is just roaring. It is not at all cold. Rudolf and I did the milking alone to night. We milk 10 cows in the evening and 11 in the morning, get about 10 gallons of milk.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Kansas, Thursday, Feb. 5, 1891.

Thermometer was 27° above zero this morning. A very nice day. Sun shone all day. Thawed a great deal. A little wind from the west all day. Not cold. The snow banks are fast disappearing. Rudolf did my chores again today as Ma and Paul went down to Grandma's this forenoon and didn't get home until about 4 o'clock. I got dinner, washed the dishes, cleaned up the kitchen, dining-room and sitting room, and made the beds. Was working over the butter and got the cattle. Went over in the woods and got Puss's ^{yearling} colt which is sick. It is blind in its right eye. We turned it out with the other horses today. It went to the creek but didn't come back so I went after it. The ~~house~~ chimney has just broken, two pieces falling on the paper, scaring me a bit. We put the cattle in the lower stockfield today. That means six or's heifer and a steer jumped over in the wheel. I went back and got them out. John Krieri was at town today and got our mail. Ma brought it home. The men chopped and hauled wood all day. I didn't have any time to read or practice to-day.

Rudolf and I churned in 15 minutes this evening.

Ma said she was going to give me half a dollar for being her work for her today, yesterday and to-morrow.

I guess I will stop as my light doesn't burn very good with a big hole in one side of the chimney.

Ben Miller,

Rock creek, Kansas, Friday, Feb. 4/89.

Thermometer was 22 degrees this morning. Wind from the east a day, very little. Sun shone out all day. Thawed a great deal. Rudolf did my chores this morning as Ma went off again, and I was needed in the house.

Today she went down to a quilting party at Mrs. Wislens. I again cleaned up the rooms, worked the butter, got the dinner, washed the dishes, made the beds and got the cattle.

It kept me busy too. When I was making John's bed it fell down, and I had quite a time fixing it up again. Pa went over and got Belle this afternoon as I hadn't time.

This evening The Luther Alliance met, John, Lillie, Belle Miss Newton and myself went from here. We stopped and got Bertha Kinnell.

There was a small turnout but we got a programme made out for next night. I am on for a declamation. Coming home we had a whole wagon load, dropping some at nearly every house. Herb Westcott thought he would be smart coming home, so he would drive just as slow as he could and if we would try to pass him he wouldn't let us. At last we drove up and ran into one wheel of his buggy. I don't know whether we hurt his buggy or not, anyway we got him mad and cured him of his smartness so that he let us pass him. We got home about 10 o'clock.

It is 10.45 now. Rudolf did a churning alone this evening.

I had a little time to practice this afternoon but none to read. The men chopped wood all day. John and Rudolf hitched Mand S. to the wagon this morning and drove her around for about 5 miles. She went quite good. I intend to ride her sometime soon. John Kerei shelled corn today.

He is selling it to Wislens and Herseltine at 40, 41 or 41 1/2 cents. I don't know which. Wislens hauled two loads up here to be weighed. There was a bright Sunday this evening.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Saturday, Feb. 7, 1891.

Thermometer was 23° above zero this morning I believe. I don't know what way the wind was from to-day, any way there was very little, sun shone out all day. I hauled a great deal. We saw a flock of geese going north this evening, sign of warm weather. Roads are quite good. ~~After~~ had ~~my~~ ~~own~~ chores done this morning I came in and helped in the ~~house~~ until about 11 o'clock, when Ma, Belle, John, Paul, and I ate some dinner and then went to town. We went in the spring wagon. I took Pa's watch to get it fixed. He said the hair spring had caught. It didn't take him a minute to fix it. I got my writing desk to-day. I sent the name of Oniska Newton and Mr. Licity to the ~~Companion~~. I paid 80 cents extra. I got a postal from Frank Roberts to-day. I went to town to-day to take my music lesson but couldn't, on account of Miss Taylor's parents being sick, so that she couldn't teach. There was a very large crowd in town. I got curtains for my room to-day, or rather Ma got them and I furnished the money. She paid 80 cts a piece for them. Ma got Pa and I each a flannel shirt to-day she paid \$2.00 a piece. Today John heard that ~~that~~ Licity that promised to go in partnership with him in farming had backed out. ~~He~~ He thinks now that he can get Will Landreth to go in with him. The men made a new gate this morning, hauled straw and corn fodder. This afternoon they ground feed. To-day I heard that Uncle Christie had a toy store in the old Turner building. At first I could hardly believe it, but afterwards learned that he was obliged to take a lot of toys for a mortgage and had sent them to Sabetha to be sold. Dave Wickins is selling them. We got home from town before 5 o'clock. It is 8.40 o'clock but as I am sleepy, I shall go to bed soon. Mr. Beaver was here to-day to see about getting robbers and I guess sleep followed him off. Ben Miller.

Rock creek, Kansas Sunday ~~Jan.~~ Feb. 8, 1891.

Thermometer 40° above zero this morning. It was raining when I got up and from the mud it looked as if it had rained a good deal before. It continued raining from the southeast until about 7 o'clock, when it changed to the southwest and began to snow.

It snowed very hard until about 11 o'clock when it cleared off. There is not much snow on the ground. The first snow melted and what did not melt drifted. It drifted in the house mostly.

~~It was 1.20 o'clock (this forenoon)~~ when I got up. Paul was sick in the night, He nearly had the cramps we think. We had breakfast about 8.30. We didn't get through with our chores until about 12 o'clock. I carried some ~~snow~~ ^{wood} for both stoves this forenoon. None of us went to church to-day on account of the weather. I shot a rabbit with Rudolf's rifle this morning, it was under the calf shed, We kept the cows in the barn until about 10.30 when we let them out and hauled a load of corn fodder to the cattle. I read all afternoon in my Christmas book (Adam Bede), I like it very well where I read to-day. Pa took Belle back this afternoon. He got quite cold as the wind was very strong ^{and fresh the west} and the thermometer was 9° above zero. I got quite provoked at Rudolf this evening. He is always wanting to try on my boots, shoes, slippers, etc, and then showing how much too large they are for him. I told him that I wouldn't be such a "scrub" of a man as he was. Probably I shouldn't have said it but I was provoked and said it almost before I thought. We all read, chatted, ate popcorn and apples etc, this evening. Miss Newton is complaining about her foot this evening.

Ben Miller
 Ben Miller
 Ben Miller

Zabitha, Kansas, Monday, Feb. 9, 1891.

Thermometer 9° above zero this morning. Wind blew very strong and cold from the northwest almost all day. Went down toward evening. Was cloudy this forenoon. Some snow fell this forenoon. Sun shone out most of the afternoon. Snow melted some on the south side of the house. Rudolf cleaned out the stables for me this morning as it was wash day. I helped Ma wash. We didn't get through until quite a while after noon. I helped Ma get dinner.

Pa got the cattle for me this afternoon. I did one churning while Ma was cleaning up the house and started another, but didn't have time to finish it as I had to go and help do the chores. I wrote an answer to the question ~~What~~ What would you spend \$10 for if the Ladies' Home Journal should wish it. The boy under 19 yrs. of age giving the most sensible and practical answer to receive \$10. I heard to-day that Mrs. Wescot had a ^{girl} child born yesterday that only weighed 2 1/2 lbs. ^{with its clothing}. Mrs. Wescot is ^{not} expected to live. I didn't have any time to read or practice to-day. ^{To night} I selected the piece, A Whole Classic, and learned over half of it to speak at the Lutheran Alliance ^{on Friday evening} Ben L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday, Feb. 10, 1891.

Thermometer was about 14° above zero this morning. Wind from the southwest all day. Not very strong or very cold. Sun shone out all day. Snow melted a great deal. About the only snow there is now is in the cornfields and in the drifts. A very pleasant day except it was very muddy this evening. We didn't get up this morning until 6.25 o'clock. John said his bed was made so poorly that he could hardly sleep, and so didn't wake up. At first he said that he woke up and didn't get know what time it was and ~~he~~ didn't get up and then contradicted himself by saying the above. Rudolf is going to sleep with me until John leaves. As Lillie and Nell had to start off to school as soon as breakfast was over, Ma needed me in the house and so Rudolf did my chores again. We have now a quilt milking cow altogether. We now milk 9 cows at night and 10 in the morning. We make about 40 lbs. of butter a week. I helped Ma all forenoon and helped her wash the dishes afternoon. I got the cattle and put up my shades this afternoon. I had quite a time to get my shades up. Pa was down at Brandeis this forenoon and got ^{our} meat. John Miller brought it. I got a letter from the dead letter office. One that I had written last July for a catalogue ^{telling about} minerals, birds eggs, indian relics etc. Lillie got the first number of Scribner's Magazine to-day. The men chopped wood all day. Miss Newton didn't come home to night. I don't know where she went. Later. She went down to Wescot to see the baby.

Ben Miller.

Wednesday.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Feb. 11, 1891

The thermometer was 27° above zero this morning. Wind from the southeast all day, quite strong but not cold. Snow melted a great deal. Rudolf did my shoes again this morning as Ma and I would. We got almost through by noon. I got the cattle right after dinner as they ^{had} got over in the hay field. Pa went to town this forenoon. Lillie got a cat-a-log ~~out~~ of the State University to-day, and Miss Newton a valentine. The men chopped wood and hauled straw to-day. I fixed Miss Newton's hair to-night, so as to represent Lizzie Bull's widow. John went down to John Kries's this evening I guess. I was down at Grandma's about 2 hrs. this afternoon. Mrs. Honee was visiting her. Nell went down ^{from school} and stayed all night with her. Nell took my mitten up to Kries's to-day to get a patch put on the thumb. Mrs. Newton brought it home.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday Feb. 12, 1891.

I don't know what the thermometer was this morning. I think about the same as yesterday. A mild wind from the northwest to-day. Part of the time not strong enough to turn the windmill. The sun shone out nearly all day. Was cloudy for a while this forenoon. Thawed a good deal to-day. Ma and Paul went down to Grandma's to-day, leaving me to get dinner. There were only Rudolf and I here for dinner as Pa and John went to Brannum's sale to-day. John bought a ^{Bain} wagon nearly new for \$31, and two gray mares 4 and 5 yrs. old for \$99 and \$108½. Both in fall. Pa heard ~~in town~~ yesterday that ^{there} were very cheap rates to Germany. We are trying to get Ma and Pa to go this summer. Rudolf chopped wood all day. I got the cattle and drove them nearly to the creek ^{but} when I came back they did too, and so I had to take them down again.

We had a regular concert here this evening. I finished reading Adam Bede to-day. It is a good book. I practiced and read a good deal to-day. Pa sold his share of the binder to John Kries to-day for \$18. He expects to get a new one.

Ben Miller

Rock creek, Kansas, Friday, Feb. 13, 1891.

Thermometer was 29° above zero this morning. A very mild wind from the northwest all day. Sun shone out all day very warm and brightly. Thawed and snow melted a great deal. Water ran out all of the ditches. I helped Rudolf some about the chores this morning before I took the cattle up, to cleaning out the stables and feeding the cows is getting to be more of his chore than mine. When I took the cattle up I saw a rabbit in the hedge. When I came back I took Rudolf's rifle and went up and shot it in the head the first shot. Well done, after helping Ma a while I went down and shot Grandma's pig ^{with Rudolf's rifle} as I thought it would never get alright. I shot it in the head and killed it the first shot. Well done. I shot a red bird as I went down and intended to stuff it this afternoon but didn't have time. I got back about 11.30 o'clock, and helped Ma get dinner. After dinner I washed the dishes, and got the cattle and drove them to the creek while Pa churned. I then went over and got Belle. Roads are very bad. I took Pa and the cart and it was about all Pa could do to pull us in some places. When I got back I hurried and helped milk and eat supper. After supper John, Rudolf, Belle, Lillie, Miss Newton, and myself started over to The Luther Alliance ^{in the lumber wagon} picking Bertha, Kimmel and Mollie Beegly on the way. We had a good meeting. I spoke a piece (The Welsh Classic). I got scared so I could hardly speak it. Coming home we had a bigger load for a piece and the roads being so bad, Jim and Charlie were wet with sweat nearly all over. The folks had quite a scare to-night. Mrs. Lichty was up to visit Lillie's school and Mrs. Lichty wanted Lillie to go over to Bandliker's with her, she having the spring wagon ^{and hitcher} and let Mollie take Lillie's pony and ride her up to Lichty's corner where Lillie could get her as they came back from Bandliker's. They did so. Pa saw the pony hitched there and went up and got her then and started to ward Lillie's school, not knowing what was the matter. He went almost to the school house and then ^{came} ~~came~~ ^{came} around and came back. In the meantime Lillie came back from Mr. Bandliker's and the pony being gone walked home. Pa came shortly afterwards. The men are nearly through chopping wood and so Pa had them trim hedge to day. John Priest is banking coals to town. He gets \$2.00 a load for them. It is now 11.03 o'clock so I will close. I now write in my diary up stairs instead of down as I have been doing.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Saturday Feb. 14, 1891.

Thermometer was 33° above zero this morning. Wind was from the southeast all day. Not very strong or cold. Thawed and melted a great deal today. Paul & Belle and I went to town this forenoon. Got there about 11 o'clock. I ate dinner at Aunt Sallie's. I took my music lesson before dinner. After dinner I went down to see the Rock Island well. It is 260 feet and the water runs over the top at spells. I was down about half an hour and it ran over once. The water is salty and tastes of mineral. It is very sickening to me. I got myself a neck tie today, also a box of cartridges. I got a letter from Frank Roberts today. I didn't get any valentines and was a little sorry. We got home about 4.15 o'clock. Roads are very bad. There was a very large crowd in town today. Belle got her false tooth today. Cost \$5.00. John had company to night. Mr. Ed Suggs came to see him about renting. He succeeded. Rudolf and I churned in twenty minutes this evening. I bathed. The men trimmed hedge today. There was an educational association at Peru. Lillie and Miss Newton were both on for a speech and would have gone if the roads had been good. Pa had his whiskers "fobbed off" today. He looked bad.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Sunday, Feb. 15, 1891.

Thermometer was 34° above zero this morning. Was cloudy nearly all day. A strong and cold wind blew from the southeast all day.

I didn't get up until 6.30 **A.M.** not P.M. today. Rudolf cleaned out the stable while I helped feed the cows and take the cattle. I then came in and read a while until time to get ready for church. Ma, Lillie Rudolf and myself.

Miss Newton went to church. Mr. Forber preached a very good sermon. After church I went down to Mr. Michless. Jerome Archer's horses were in their field and we had quite a time to get them out. Mrs. Michless set some cold things on the table for us and we went off. There were seven boys with myself. We had a good time. I played one game of authors and then went out and played bill and ^{with John, John, Frank, Michless, Mill, and myself} with the rest of the afternoon.

I started home about 4.15 o'clock. I stopped at Grandma's but she was out in the woods so I didn't get to see her. There was no church ^{to night} nearer than the N.B. church so none of us went. It is only 7.40 o'clock but as I am

tired I will go to bed soon. Lillie took Belle back this afternoon. John went down to Zipp's this forenoon. Miss Newton went to Jim Slurrah's from church, and she went down to Grandma's with her when Lillie got back.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas Monday Feb. 16/89.

Thermometer was 25° above zero this morning, kept falling gently all day. Was 19° this evening. It misted and snowed very fine snow nearly all day. Sun didn't shine out at all. ^{Snow and ~~ice~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~north~~ ~~side~~ ~~of~~ ~~things~~ ~~quite~~ ~~thick.~~} Wind from the northwest all day. Quite strong and very cold. I helped Ma wash to day. We didn't put the clothes out to dry. I churned this afternoon. Pa got the cattle right after dinner. The men chopped wood and fixed the steer yard to-day, except Pa and John went over to Mr. Bagley's this forenoon and got some seed corn. ^{John got some seed and Pa got some.} They paid 70 a bushel for it. It is so cold I can hardly write so I guess I will close. P.S. The cattle got in the west entry last night and ate over a barrel of feed.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1891

Thermometer 18° above zero this morning. It looked like it would be cloudy and stormy all day this morning, but about 9 o'clock, it cleared off. Was clear the rest of the day, only passing clouds. I hung the colored clothes up in the kitchen (first ~~the~~ wringing them out of the rinse water) before it cleared off, and when it cleared off I wrung the white clothes and hung them out. I also worked the butter, cleaned up the sitting room and helped Ma get dinner this forenoon. This afternoon I wiped the dishes, got the cattle, and read and practiced. Ma went down to Grandma's this afternoon as ~~she~~ to-day was her 69th birthday, but she had gone down to Mabel's to a quilting party. Ma was invited but didn't go. Lillie has had some trouble with her school ^{work} and has now found out that the Alliance is the cause of all of it, and that Sam Keim has been putting the children up to be mean, and that you can't believe what the Keim and Feldman children say. Sam Keim was up to see Lillie to-night, Lillie talked right up to him. He had his children take their ~~good~~ home to-night. The men trimmed hedge to-day.

Rock creek, Kansas, Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1891.

Thermometer was 17° above zero this morning. Cloudy all day. Sun didn't shine out at all day. Some fine snow fell this afternoon. Wind from the southeast today. We didn't iron today as Ma had the headache. This forenoon I finished washing washing the dishes, cleaned up the kitchen, and made a cake. Ma only helped me about the baking, it is good. This afternoon I helped wash the dishes and did two evenings. Bella Horton was over here after some vinegar and I was in the sitting room a while. John and Rudolf went to town this afternoon. John went to make out an agreement about renting to that Snyder. He got a set of new harness for \$28.50. They drove Maud S. and John was mase, Maud S. acted badly. They didn't get back until just dark so Pa did most of John's chores while I was milking. I milked seven and Rudolf milked 2. They got a lot of mail. The papers are very good this week. The death of Gen Sherman is announced as occurring on Feb. 14, 1891. Pa went down to Grandma's this afternoon and stayed about two hours. Miss Newton went to Michler's last night and to Fikes' to night. The cattle got to the fodder today. John left the ~~door~~ door by the barn open and they came out. I had quite a time to get them back. They destroyed a good deal of fodder. The Feldmann children quit school today and Gillie is glad of it. Pa and Ma got some horrid valentines today. I have been laughing at them about them. Ma didn't like it very well.

To day Pa 'd one that he had promised to Mr Michler
 have 20 or 25 acres ^{of some ground} to rent out ^{above taking one half an} ^{getting over about}
 Benj. L. Miller. Ben Miller

Miller Ranch, Thursday, Feb. 19, 1891.

Thermometer was 26° above zero this morning I believe. The ground was covered with snow when I got up this morning and it was sleeting then. It rained and sleeted almost constantly all day. Wind from the east and north-east all day. Weather stronger cold. Sleet stuck to the trees and fences a good deal. We put up 18 steers to fatten this morning, 10 coming 3 years old and 8 coming 2. They averaged about 261 lbs. As we did this before I took the cattle up it was quite late when I got back home. I put them in the west field today. It was storming so badly and they wouldn't eat and so Pa went up and let them out before noon. Ma and I ironed to-day. We were through by noon. After dinner I worked the butter and put it in the pails while Ma and Rudolf washed the dishes. I then swept the floors after which I went down to Grandma's to take their mail. I took Paul with me on the sled. The sled ran nice and easy but Paul was always so afraid he would fall off, that I don't think he enjoyed it much. He did fall off several times but didn't hurt him at all. We were down at Grandma's about an hour and a half. When I came back I carried in wood and got the milks ready for the cows and helped feed them. We did our chores quite early this evening, and after we were through milking I took the sled and coasted a while out in the calf pasture ^{until supper!} It didn't go very well. I read this evening. Nell went down to Adam's to night. Miss Newton didn't come home to-night. I don't know where she went. She hasn't been here since Monday Night. The men didn't do much today, only hauling corn fodder and chopping and timbering around. We didn't turn the horses out to-day. I took Rudolf's rifle when I took the cattle up and shot at one rabbit under the bridge, but didn't get it. After dinner Rudolf and I went down to see if it was there, but it wasn't. We then shot at marks and I beat him. I wanted the boys to go coasting with me this evening but they wouldn't. Rudolf has been bragging a good deal to night. Something I don't like. I am getting tired of having him sleep with me. I will be glad when John leaves so I can sleep alone again.

Benj. L. Miller.

Miller Ranch, Friday, Feb. 26, 1891.
1891, Rock Creek

Thermometer 30° above zero this morning. Mild wind from the S.W. all day. Was cloudy till about half past ten when it cleared off and began to melt. The ice was nearly all gone this evening and the roads were muddy. We turned the cattle in the lower field today but as they jumped over in the fodder they were brought in about half past nine.

I shot a rabbit, with Rudolph's rifle, this morning killing it at the third shot.

I took Paul on his sled and went down and opened the gates so the cattle could go to water this forenoon, then coasted for a while. One time I ran into a bunch of sumachs on the sled suddenly hitting against a large sumach suddenly stopped but I didn't.

I coasted along about eight or ten feet farther on the east of my pants, and at last Paul and I found a good place to coast where we could coast nearly a quarter of a mile but we did not have time to enjoy this long, we only made about three or four trips in this place.

When I came home I filled the lamps except two floors, and helped get dinner. After dinner I did a large churning, I hurried up and intended to go coasting after I was through but when I was through I found the ice had melted so that I could not coast. I then fooled around with some picture throws till time to do the evening work. Pa went after Belle this afternoon and ma rode down to grand-ma's with him and paddled home through the mud. The man hauled fodder and ground feed this forenoon and trimmed beds this afternoon. Pa commenced sowing clover seed on the rye this morning but as it didn't work well he soon quit.

We all spent a very enjoyable evening in reading and were very happy because Belle came home. Miss Westwood went to Drackton's last night and to Beughly's to night.

Belle does just what I expected she would do, has her false teeth out about half of the time.

Written by Belle Miller.

dictated by B. L. M.

Approved by Benj. L. Miller.
Written by Belle on account of my laziness and
slapiness.

Miller Ranch, Saturday, Feb. 21, 1891.

Thermometer was 18° above zero this morning.

Wind blew from the northwest all day. Not strong but quite sharp, especially this morning. Sun shone out all day. Thawed a great deal. Snow and ice nearly all gone. There were two sun dogs this evening. I helped in the house all day as Ma, Pa, Lillie and Nell went to town to-day about 10.30 o'clock, getting back about 5 o'clock. I helped them get ready to go to town and helped Belle clean up the room this forenoon. After dinner I worked some examples for Belle (for which she said ~~she~~ she would give me a \$1.00 bill.) I got the cattle and baked a cake. Belle and I each baked one. Belle's is some the best, but mine is very nice ~~too~~ too. I got my

stamps to-day. All were right except Grandma's, which had 30[¢] instead of two. ^{each of it} We all got a separate invitation to Gottlieb's and Pauline's wedding on next Thursday at 1.30 P.M. The cards are very nice. Heard to-day that Minnie Myer's was married Thursday to a Mr. Blair of Horton. Lillie, Belle, and Miss Newton got some reward of merit cards to give their scholars. They are very nice. Belle and Lillie each gave me one. Nell got 3 games viz: Peter Waddler's trip to New York, Old Maid, and Familiar Quotations, at \$1.00 each. All are very nice. Mollie Beeghly brought Miss Newton over to get some clean clothes to-night. Miss Newton went back with her. Lillie got a large bottle of perfume to-day. We all helped. I gave \$2.50. Part of the folks bathed to-night. I didn't as it wasn't my turn. I bathe every two weeks in the winter. Rudolf shot a rabbit and a skunk with my shot gun to-day. John went down to John Rice's this evening. Pa promised me, this evening, that I could tend the horses when John leaves. Ma got Paul several things to-day. We played games and read to-day. Ma got Belle quite a nice writing-desk for \$1.50 to-day. Gen. Sherman was buried in St. Louis to-day. Uncle Ira went. It is now 10.40 o'clock so I quit & will close.

P.S. The men cut off the tops of some of the maples this afternoon. Will finish some other day.

Benj. L. Miller.

Miller Ranch, Sunday, Feb. 22/89, Washington
 Birthday.

Thermometer was 16° above zero this morning. Wind from the southeast all day. It was strong and cold. Until about one o'clock it looked like it might begin to storm at any minute. But this afternoon the clouds broke and the sun showed out some. I got up a little after six o'clock this morning. We didn't get through with our chores very early, so I didn't get time to read any before getting ready for church. Pa, Belle, Rudolf and myself went to church. We started about 10:03 and didn't get over there until after 11 o'clock, on account of the roads being so rough. The horses hardly went off of a very slow walk. We were there nearly an hour before Mr. Zimmer came. He preached his farewell sermon. It was very good. William Runyon was received into the church through baptism. From church Pa took Belle over to Mr. Hoover's and Rudolf and I walked home. The Keim and Will Beahly both wanted me to stop with them, but as Rudolf was with me I thought I had better not. We got home about a quarter till three. ^{We were about an hour and a quarter on the road.} I wasn't much tired although the roads were quite muddy. Levi Horton and Jake Grog were here when we got back. John and they were up letting the cattle out. We ate dinner as soon as we got back. Lillie made some ^{red-hot} candy and I helped pull it. Mine went to sugar. We played games the rest of the afternoon. I read this evening, all that I got to read to-day. To-day was Washington's birthday. It will be celebrated to-morrow. Miss Newton came back with Pa this afternoon. She hasn't been here since Monday night except a short time last night. Miss Newton let me see a couple of letters she wrote to apply for a position as primary teacher in the Seveca school since I began writing. This together with my sleepiness has taken me nearly an hour to write this page. It is now about 9:30 and I will stop.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Monday, Feb. 23, 89.

Thermometer was 36° above zero this morning. Wind from the southeast all day. Quite strong but not cold. Very clear this forenoon, this afternoon there were some floating clouds. The frost is out of the ground quite a piece down and it is very muddy. Ma and I washed to day. Pa helped a little and we got the almost through by noon. After dinner I filled up the dishes and did two churnings and helped clean up the kitchen. I heard today for sure that Annie Lynch and Ed Clark were married last Wednesday. ^{They are very foolish} After dinner Pa started to go to ^{Mr.} Rich's sale, but it was so muddy that he turned around before he got to Grandma's. The men finished cutting down these maples by the house, and worked the wood up. This evening I spent most of my time in looking to find what historical men had great faith in prayer, which is my question for the Luther Alliance next Friday night. Am tired to night, but have had very pleasant thoughts.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1891.

Has been a queer day. Has rained, misted, hailed and snowed to-day. Thermometer was 52° above zero this morning, with a strong warm wind flowing from the southwest and was very clear until about eight o'clock when a large black cloud came up in the west and northwest which soon spread all over. The wind then changed and came from the northwest and ^{the wind} turned very cold ^{and is still blowing strong and cold.} The thermometer dropped and was 20° above tonight. It rained and misted this forenoon by spells and hailed and snowed, cleared off and clouded up by spells this afternoon. I helped Ma iron to-day. Got through before dinner. After dinner I cleaned up the table, when ^{my} Minnie came and wanted his wagon weighed so he was going up to Mr. Fousee's to get some boys. ^{I weighed it and it was empty wagon} Pa weighed ~~the~~ it when he came back as he was here. I then got the cattle and then swept the kitchen after which I went down to Grandma's and stayed about an hour and a half. I have almost decided to take a course in short hand. There being a series of lessons being given in The later Ocean. The men chored around and cleared up in the orchard to-day. Ma made me a present of one dollar to-day. Read to night.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock creek, Kansas, Wednesday, Feb. 25, 1891,

Thermometer was 9° above zero this morning. There were two bright sunspots this morning. A very strong and very cold wind blew from the northwest all day. The sun shone out until about 3.30 o'clock when it clouded over turned colder and began to snow. I think it is snowing some yet. It is so fine it hardly shows on the ground. Ma and Pa went to town about 9.20 o'clock this morning to get the presents for Gottlieb and Pauline. They got dishes amounting to \$8.30. Grandma helped. I finished washing the dishes cleaned up the rooms and got dinner. After dinner I washed up the dishes and then started after Belle. It turned colder as I was going and was very cold coming back. I got quite cold going over but didn't stop to get warm as I didn't have any blanket for Bapi (Pa having taken the blankets to town). When I got back I was so stiff and chilly that I didn't help milk. Rudolf stayed in the house with Paul until Ma and Pa came. Ma left some bread with me. I kneaded it down and made it out in loaves before went. When I started it was ready to bake and Rudolf thought he would bake; but as he was afraid he would spoil it left it for Ma to bake. I got some samples of cards to-day. The men worked in the maple grove today, cleaning it out. We got a good deal of mail to-day. Rudolf and I did a churning to-day this evening. Read after this.

Ben Miller
Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday, Feb. 26, 1891.

Thermometer was 3° above zero this morning. Quite clear all day. Wind from the northwest all day. Was not strong but cold. Today was Gottlieb's and Pauline's wedding. Pa, Ma, Belle, Lillie, Nell, and Rudolf went. Lillie offered me \$1.75 if I would teach school for her. I thought I would rather make that than to go to the wedding, so I taught for her. I got along very nicely. The folks didn't get home until dusk. John and I were just finishing the chores. They said that they had a very nice wedding. The ceremony was in German and lasted about an hour. They brought a good deal of cake home. Gottlieb and Pauline got a lot of nice presents. Our family with Grandma got dishes amounting to \$8.30. Rudolf gave them a lamp. Miss Newton went down to Reeds to-night. The folks got supper ~~off~~ ready about 8 o'clock. They said they were nearly jolted to pieces when they got home. They went in the lumber wagon. The women folks set their spring seats down in the wagon. They got the mail. ^{There was a ring around the tree to-day and another this evening.} Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Friday ~~pm~~ Feb. 27, 1891.

Thermometer was 19° above zero this morning. It was clear with very little wind until about 2 o'clock, when it clouded up and the wind (which was from the northwest) raised. It soon began to snow and was still snowing a short time ago. I don't know how it is now. A good deal of snow has fallen. I helped in the house until about 9.30 when I went down to Grandma's. Stayed over an hour. Pa and Paul went up to Lillie's school in the spring wagon to get Lillie's pictures as this was her last day of school and she is glad of it. Nell, Vernie and Mertie came down this forenoon to see if any one could take Miss Newton up to town this evening as she wanted to go home. Pa wasn't here when they were here so I took a note up to her afterwards telling her that we could help. She got Herb Nesbitt to take her. I rode up to the end of the lane with Pa and Paul and they got the cattle and took them to the creek. I then carried in wood for both stoves. The men chopped wood to-day. I think this will be the last. We have a very large pile. Belle didn't leave any school to-day. She dismissed for the rest of the week on Wednesday. To-night was the night for our Father Alliance, but none of us went. We expected Mr and Mrs Zimmerman out this afternoon but they didn't come. Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas Sat. Feb. 28, 1891

Thermometer was 8° below zero this morning. Coldest we've had this winter. There was a good deal of snow on the ground this morning, but not enough for the sled. A very little wind from the northeast to day. I helped in the house until about 9:30 when I loaded 12 sleds and went hunting until dinner. Got one rabbit. In the afternoon I drove the cattle down to the creek and then put them in the lower cornfield but they came right back and stood by the gate, so Rudolf and I let them in the yard, and then went hunting the rest of the afternoon. I took Rudolf's rifle and Rudolf had my shotgun, I got one rabbit. Rudolf got nothing. He scared up a jack-rabbit but didn't get it. We both got very tired. Pa went to town alone in the lumber wagon. The men ground some feed this forenoon, I bathed to night.

B. L. M.

B. L. M.

Ben L. Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Sunday, March 1, 1891

Thermometer was 16° above zero this morning. A very little wind to day. Sun shone out most of the day. Snow melted some. None of us went to church to day. This afternoon I went to town and got Miss Newton while Lillie took Belle back. I had the buggy with Bird and Charlie and Lillie drove Pa to the cart. Lillie and I popped a dish of corn this evening. We got through with our chores very early this evening. John Gortcher was down at Gysett's this forenoon and was getting his things ready this afternoon. Ma and Nell went down to Grandma's this forenoon. Ma stayed until just after dinner and Nell until evening.

Benj. L. Miller.

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Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Monday, March 2, 1891.

Thermometer was 27° above zero this morning.

Cloudy all day. A light wind blew from the northeast and northwest to-day. This morning we found one of our coming yearling ^{ster} calves, laying on its back in the manger under the shed with its neck and one hind leg broken. The manger was quite low and some of the calves must have butted it and it fell in. It was about one of the nicest, of course. The bell cow had a heifer calf to-day. Pa settled up with John this morning. He owed him \$224.15. John Kriess left to-day, and we are glad of it, as he was stealing from Grandma at every chance. He had ~~very~~ about 13 teams to help him move. John Portcher hauled a load of for him this forenoon and this afternoon came and got his things. I was sorry to see him go, although at times we didn't like him. He worked here two years. He was a good worker. I helped to the choss, haul corn fodder, and ~~dragged~~ ^{helped} that dead calf off in the orchard, and got dinner this forenoon. Ma and Lillie washed to-day. Lillie and Paul went down to Grandma's to stay all night, this afternoon, as Grandma would be alone. I expect Ira Mischler will move in to-morrow. We played and sang all this evening.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday, Mar. 3, 1891.

When I got up this morning there was about an inch of snow on the ground and a very strong and very cold wind blowing from the northwest, which continued all day. Thermometer was 11° above. It didn't go up much all day.

After we had our choss done we stayed in the house the most of the remainder of the day. Lillie and Paul couldn't get home this morning. This afternoon Rudolf hitched Gop to the cart and went up to Kregar's and got his mittens and then went down to Grandma's and got Lillie and Paul. Lillie said Mr. Mischler was over this morning and said that he didn't know how soon Ira could move in, as Ira was sick. He ^{intended to go down and stay all night with Grandma.} Ma sent me down this afternoon to tell Grandma to keep Ned out of school as she (Ma) wouldn't feel satisfied if she (Grandma) were alone at day. Grandma gave me a lot of

old magazines to bring home to read. Read out of them this evening.

Ben Miller.

R. O. Wednesday, Mar. 4, 1891.

Thermometer was 2° below zero this morning. A light cold wind from the northwest ^{until the evening when it changed to the southeast.} blew all day. We hauled manure to-day. I only helped load. I tried ~~for~~ a good many times to-day, to shoot some crows that were eating that calf that died Monday, but failed. To-day noon a couple of those boys came down from school and brought a note saying that she had been offered a position as primary teacher in the Seneca school and wanted to know if any one could take her to town this evening. Pa told her he would take her. He started some after 4 and didn't get home until after dark. He got a lot of mail. Miss Newton handed in her resignation this morning and it was accepted. Key Trice brought the letter from town and applied for the school at once. There will be no more school this week, probably none for several weeks. Rudolf and I did all the chores this evening. Was late when we got through. Read to-night. P. D. Hill was up to-day and took Paul down to Grandma's with her. Don't know how long he will stay. Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday, Mar. 5, 1891

Thermometer was 24° above zero this morning. A cold, though not very strong wind blew from the southeast, east, and northeast to-day. We hauled manure to-day. We hauled ~~up~~ 9 loads. Rudolf did the hauling and Pa and I helped load up. We chored around while he was out in the field. We put the cattle in the west north field this morning. Before 11 o'clock Giddy came down and said they were all over in the wheat. I took Bird and went and brought them home. This forenoon Ma and Lillie went up to John Lilly's and to Mr. Hauldiker's to get Lillie's order for her money for teaching. Hill was up this morning and got some playthings for Paul. Pa went down to Grandma's soon after Hill was up and stayed until noon. After dinner Ma and Lillie went down to Westcott's to see the baby. They expected Grandma would go along and so they took the spring wagon and went down with them intending to stay while Grandma was gone. Grandma didn't go. I stayed and helped her shell some corn and have a talk with her. John Goltzner was here this afternoon and left $\$1.75$ for me to send for the companion for him. This will make 5 new chances for me, so I will be entitled to an extra premium of $\$5.00$ to the end of $\$5$. I think I shall get $\$5.00$ microscope. We read and played up ~~and~~ ^{evening} this evening. Ben Miller.

Friday,

Rock, Kans., Mar. 6, 1891.

Thermometer was 26° above zero this morning. Wind from the northwest all day. Not very strong but quite cold.

Cloudy nearly all day. Looks like a storm. I helped load up manure in the forenoon and went after Belle in the afternoon. A fellow bought a load of corn of Grandma today. I weighed his empty wagon and Pa weighed the corn. He paid $\$1.40$ a bushel. Grandma, Nell, and Paul were up this morning. Pa went down to Grandma's and Miller's this forenoon. I shot a crow today. Yesterday I dragged that dead calf down behind the calf shed and then cut a hole in the shed to put the gun out at. This is the second I've killed on the remains of that calf. Ma went down and stayed all night with Grandma and Nell came home. I wrote off for Grandma's Blado this evening.

Ben Miller

R. Co. Kans., ^{Saturday} Mar. 7, 1891.

During the night it snowed and when I got up this morning the ground was covered with snow and still snowing, with the thermometer 20° above zero. It continued snowing until about $1/2$ 30 o'clock. The snow is about 4 inches deep on the level. It drifted very little. I believe there is more snow on the ground now than at any other time this winter. The other snow was just about gone. Wind from the northwest, north, and northeast today. Not strong but cold. Today we did nothing but chores. We were in the house a good deal. This afternoon I rode the pony down to Grandma's and took Grandma some things. I also did part of her chores for her. Ma came back from Grandma's this morning and Nell went down. Ma and Pa were going to down today, but didn't on account of the storm. After dinner Pa thought he would go to Putolf and I went out to get the team, but before we had the team out he changed his mind. We didn't turn the cattle or horses out in the field today. I drove the cattle out and let them go to the creek to drink as there wasn't enough water in the tank. Putolf and I saw a while this evening. The report is that the peaches are killed.

Ben Miller

Miller Ranch, Sunday Mar. 8, 1891.

It began to snow last night before I went to bed and must have snowed nearly all night. It snowed a little after I got up. The snow is about a foot deep on the level I believe. Thermometer was 18° above zero this morning. The sun came out about 8 o'clock and shone out the rest of the day. The wind blew quite strong from the northwest all day and drifted the snow a great deal as the snow is very light. We got up about 1 o'clock - was snowing and on account of the deep snow didn't get through with our chores until after 10 o'clock, I then came in the house and read a while, when I took Pa and rode up to the school house to see if the road was open so we could take Belle back. I found it was open and Pa took Belle back this afternoon. He took the buggy. After dinner I went down to Grandmas to see how they were getting along and to help with the chores. I carried in considerable hay and then went in and visited the rest of the afternoon. I read very little today.

At 11 o'clock this morning we took about the last of the corn out of one side of the Ben Miller crib, and ~~the~~ killed 64 mice all brown or nearly so.

Rock Creek Monday, Mar. 9, 1891.

The thermometer was just to zero this morning. Quite a mild wind blew from the northwest all day. Sun shone out about all day. Snow melted some. As none of us went to town Sat., Ma and Pa went this morning. Bertha and Jennie came out with them. Bertha is going to stay now and Jennie is going to sew a while. Ma stopped at Grandmas to stay all night and Nell came home. We got a lot of mail today. Rudolf and I hauled a load of fodder for the cattle, then hauled a load of straw from by the barn for bedding and hauled a load of corn fodder for tomorrow morning, this forenoon. John Gortscher was here and got two head cows this forenoon. We got 1/2 a piece. They averaged 240 lbs a piece. This afternoon I drove the cattle down to the creek and then put them in the lower cornfield, but they jumped over in the fodder right a way so I drove them home. I then went hunting and got one rabbit. Rudolf hauled manure this afternoon. We were late with our chores this evening so Bertha and Jennie helped milk. Ben Miller spotted ~~the~~ tail cow had a fine male calf today.

The Education of a Greek Boy.

Benj. L. Miller.

Sophomore Theme.

I.

Feb. 16, 1894.

Your plan is excellent in its logic, — but it is peculiar in some rhetorical points. —

For ex.: — What is the subject (gram.) of your participle under III B. (amused)?

I am much pleased with the theme as a whole. The paragraphs are very well constructed. I'm glad you were willing to write a single theme. I begin to think, now, that you will succeed with a double one.

The Education of a Greek Boy.

Although our subject does not limit us to any particular time in the history of Greek education, it is absolutely necessary to set some limits to it, as this paper will not permit a history of the whole Greek educational system. (Therefore) we have limited the subject to education as carried on in the most prosperous days of Greece. We must also limit this paper to the educational system of Athens alone, as little or nothing is known concerning education in the other Greek cities.

Our present system of education is said to be based on the old Greek system; and yet, what a marked difference there is between them. We have come to regard education as the training of the mental faculties alone, while Greek education was always divided into two branches, mental and physical, and neither ~~was~~ ^{withholding} carried on at the expense of the other. If either can be said to have taken precedence, it was probably the latter. ^{for} The great desire of the Greeks was to have well developed men, and every effort was made to fulfil this desire.

The first six years of the boy's life was spent at home in the care of his parents and nurses. During this time his life was very uneventful and did not differ materially from the lives of children nowadays, except, ^{that} as a

Better make
"WE" + "Greeks"
the 2 gram.
subjects
for par. unity.

Combine:-
with "for"
Makes sentence
a little more
compact.

Usually write
out in full in
a literary paper.

rule, more care was taken to make him strong and healthy. He had his playthings, rattles, tops, balls, [#] etc. and was a child. In the place of the "Mother Goose Rhymes" he was entertained by tales of gods, heroes, monsters, and myths of every kind. While these hideous tales were related for amusement, or to frighten the child into obedience, they may however be ^{"regarded" is more ac.} considered as part of the child's earlier education. Whether such tales exercised a good or bad influence on the child's later life, we shall not attempt to decide.

Although we may regard the boy's education as beginning at the cradle, ^{it did not} his education ^{by} proper (did not) begin before the sixth or seventh year. At this age the boy was entrusted to the care of a person, called a pedagogue, and sent to school. The word pedagogue must not be understood to have ^{had} the same meaning ^{that} as it now ^{has} (does). The pedagogue was generally a slave, although persons that could afford it hired intelligent and cultured persons for their sons. His duties consisted in accompanying the boy to and from school, in his walks, and in all his recreations. With the pedagogue, also, rested the responsibility of teaching the boy good manners, and in this he was very strict.

With the ^{"beginning" is simpler} commencement of the boy's schooldays, we may almost say that his childhood ended. From this time forward, work and not play was the order of the days. It must

a little
more compact.
+ ac in tense.

This is an excellent
paragraph.

Use simplest
words possible.

You are excessive in your use of as for causal connective. Try "for" & "since" sometimes.

have been very tiresome for boys only seven years old to remain in school all day, [#] as the school hours were from early in the morning until late in the evening. As schools were always private enterprises, the schoolhouses and the benches were not very comfortable. ^{indeed,} Often, there were no benches, in which case, the boys were compelled to sit on the ground.

From the first of his schooldays the boy received the two kinds of training, physical and mental, and these were both continued during the whole of his school career.

The whole system had for its purpose, to make the pupil, "a speaker of words and a doer of deeds." We also quote from Lucian who says: "Above all and by every means, we provide that our citizens shall have good souls and strong bodies."

Quotation. Page 6 of "Aristotle and the Ancient Educational Ideals," by Thomas Davidson.

Definiteness.

As the Greeks probably regarded physical training ^{the?} more important or ^{the?} more essential ^{than what or why?} for a citizen, we shall consider that branch first. In physical education, beauty and grace were aimed at more than strength, hence the boys were not required to do very hard exercises, but only such as produced a perfect development. There were five usual exercises, viz.: running, leaping, throwing the discus, hurling the spear or javelin, and wrestling. Other exercises ⁴ were ² added ¹ to these ³ at times, of which dancing seems to be the only one worthy

a little better to write out in full, but not necessary.

of mention. While running was the most common, wrestling occupied the highest place, that is, it was ^{deemed or thought} considered a far greater honor to excel in wrestling than in any of the others.

Mental education was divided into two classes, literary and musical. Under literary were included the following branches: reading, writing, and arithmetic. In reading, the system used differed considerably from our modern system. The boy was taught his letters, then syllables, and finally words. Especially stress was laid on accent and punctuation, and these were the hard things in reading. There were no text books, except those that each pupil made himself from dictations. The old Greek poets, especially Homer, and Homer almost exclusively were the only writers from which dictations were given. Passages were also committed to memory, and indeed to be able to recite well was almost as great an accomplishment as to be able to read well.

In writing the pupil was provided with a tablet covered with wax, ~~on~~ which he traced the letters with a steel or bone instrument, sharp at one end, called a stylus. Writing was taught ^{as it is now} the same as now, by the teacher writing a few words or a sentence which the pupils copied.

Arithmetic was taught ^{American use - See P. 121.} quite generally, but it seems to have been considered as an amusement

Or you may
omit the
following
branches

i/

a little
colloquial used
in this sense.

You had better explain this by a phrase.

You have not prepared us for this. You have divided mental ed. into R.W. + A; this needs an introduction sentence. Or you may change the cons. of the first sentence of this par. making "in conj. with" the leading phrase.

Look out for unnecessary repetition of same word.

Be simple + direct.

or pastime, and not very important. Pebbles, a box of sand, or the abacus were employed in its teaching.

The musical training may have been carried on in conjunction with the other studies but most writers seem to think that it didn't begin until about the thirteenth year. This consisted of singing and playing on some instrument, usually the lyre. Sometimes the flute was used, but it was not popular, as it tended to make the lips thick and also prevented the player from singing at the same time. While music was looked upon as very important in the boy's education, yet (music) as a profession, ^{"it" is clear enough} was always frowned upon.

The kinds of training ^{group} described lasted to about the sixteenth year, when the boy entered upon a ^{still} different kind of training. The following two years were devoted to that kind of work which was supposed to give a good "rounding-off" to his education. It consisted of harder work in the gymnasium, together with a partial study of the laws.

At the age of eighteen the boy's education was generally finished, although among those who could afford to hire the services of the Sophists, it ^{extended} ~~lasted~~ longer. Lack of space prevents ^{me} us from describing the teachings of the Sophists but it must suffice to say that rhetoric and philosophy were the chief branches taught.

9.
 We have now traced the education of the Greek boy from infancy to his eighteenth year, and while his mental powers are probably not ^{so} as highly developed as those of an average American youth, at that age, yet we leave him with a far greater acquisition, that of having a sound body. While we, naturally, think that our educational system is far in advance of that of the old Greeks, yet may the day soon come, when we may copy after them and have physical education go hand-in-hand with mental education, and when no person may be considered educated unless his body is developed in proportion to his mind.

Very good conclusion. I approve its form and its substance!

Bibliography.

- "Charicles" by Becker Pages 217-240.
- "Aristotle and the Ancient Educational Ideals" by Thomas Davidson.
- "Life of the Greeks and Romans".
Isuhl & Koser. Pages 196-231
- "Old Greek Education" by P. Mahaffy.

Rock Creek, Tuesday, Mar. 10, 1891.

Thermometer was 36° above zero this morning. Quite a strong wind blew from the south until about 1 o'clock when it changed course and came from the north. Melted the snow a great deal to-day. Sleighing is entirely spoiled. I lost ^{one of} my mittens yesterday and when I took the cattle up, went to look for it. I took my gun along and succeeded in shooting my first jack rabbit.

~~On the 10th of March I saw a cornstalk~~ I saw its head under a cornstalk and didn't know what it was as it was almost buried in the snow but I shot at it. I broke one front leg the first shot but couldn't catch it until I had shot again, breaking the other front leg.

It wasn't quite a piece then. I saved it. When I got back Pa, Rudolf and I went down to Grandma's and hauled her hay in the barn. We didn't get back until noon. This afternoon we hauled a load of fodder for the cattle to-morrow. After this Rudolf and I cleaned out the stables and worked around and Pa piled up wood. We have a medicine peddler here to-night. His name is Haldeman. We played and sang a good deal to-night.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Wednesday, Mar. 11, 1891.

During last night about an inch of snow fell. Ther. was 20° above zero this morning. A cold wind blew from the northwest all day. Quite strong. Cloudy about all day. Snow melted a very little. Pa was sick with a pain in his side all day. He was only out before breakfast. He is about all right this evening. Rudolf and I hauled manure to-day. We only hauled 1 load. It took us so long to do the chores. That Haldeman was footed around here until afternoon. He is a queer fellow. Read to-night.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Thursday, Mar. 12, 1871.

Thermometer was a little below freezing this morning. About about 4.15 o'clock P.M. the weather was nice, the sun shone out warm and the snow melted a great deal. Water ran in all the ditches, a very little wind from the northwest. About 4.15 o'clock it clouded up and snowed about half an hour, when the clouds broke and the sun shone out a little. It soon clouded up again. The wind also raised. Pa went out after breakfast this morning and helped do the chores. Afterward he came in and stayed in the house, and this afternoon he was sick again with that pain in his side. It hurts him quite badly now. Rudolf and I hauled 7 loads of manure today. Grandma, Nell, and Paul were up here for dinner today. Paul doesn't want to stay here at all, as he gets the steel better down at Grandma's than at home. Rudolf and I killed an old strange Tom cat today. We shot it 6 times with no. 22 short cartridge once with a No. 22 long and finally killed it with a club. I think all but one bullet hit it. We all read this evening. The evenings are getting so much shorter. Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Friday, Mar. 13, 1871.

Snowed some last night. Thermometer was 16° above zero this morning. A very strong and very cold wind blew from the northwest all day. Sun shone out about half of the day. Thawed a very little today. Pa was sick almost last night, and didn't go out of the house today. Mrs. Barton was over today and told us of the death of Mr. Ruse on last Tuesday with heart disease. He was buried yesterday. She also told us of the death of John Lilly's baby on last Friday I believe. It was buried last Sat. Rudolf and I hauled 6 loads of manure today. We played games to-night.

Ben Miller.

P. S. We didn't go after Kelle this afternoon as the roads were so bad.

Sabetha, Kansas, Sat. Mar. 14, 1891.

Thermometer was 6° above zero this morning. A very cold wind blew from the southeast all day. Was quite strong this afternoon. Leukie Nichol brought Belle and Georgie Hedron home this forenoon. Belle went down to Grandma's tonight and Nell and Paul came home. Lillie and I went to town this afternoon. I took my last music lesson to-day. Miss Taylor said that she thought I made great progress in my lessons. I believe I took about 14 lessons. We didn't get home until about six o'clock, and Rudolf had just about all the chores done. The roads are very bad. Gottlieb and Pauline are here tonight. We have been playing games. I got a short letter from Frank Roberts to-day. Pa was out of the house to-day. He was sick part of the day. I sent off for some cards today. I bathed this evening. At after 10 o'clock and we are playing a game of old maid. ^{I have the} ~~old maid~~ Ben Miller

Miller Ranch, Sunday, Mar. 15, 1891.

Thermometer was 36° above zero this morning. Sun came out about all day. The snow nearly all went to-day. Is dreadful muddy. The creek was way up this afternoon. The flood gates will be apt to need fixing. Bertha & Pauline went to church with Gottlieb's buggy this forenoon. Jennie and Lillie in the cart and Rudolf and I walked. They organized S. S. to-day. It took them about 3 1/2 hours. We didn't get home until after two o'clock. There was no church. When we got home we ate dinner and then Lillie and Jennie took Belle and Georgie Hedron back. They took Nell and Paul down to Grandma's. Gottlieb, Rudolf and I went down to fix the creek this afternoon. We stayed up until 11.10 last night, playing Old Maid and until 10.57 tonight.

Ben Miller

Miller Ranch, Monday, Mar. 16, 1891.

Thermometer was 30° above zero this morning. Was very clear today. A great deal of snow melted again. Creek was up quite high. Gottlieb went down to Blakeney's sale today. He went intending to buy cows, but they didn't sell any cows today. Will sell them to-morrow. I guess he will go. Rudolf and I did scarcely anything but the chores today. This afternoon Rudolf and I went down to the creek to see about the flood gates and found a good many of the pigs out. As we were getting there I saw and O.P.B. I.S.W.M. opossum I ran after it. But as it ran up a tree before I could get to it, I had to climb the tree to get it. I brought it home and put it in a cage. I ate some apple. It is the first live opossum I ever saw, having seen one dead one before. We played Old Maid again to night. It is just 10 o'clock now. Weighed 140 lbs today. Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Tuesday, Mar. 17, 1891.

Thermometer was 42° above zero this morning. Quite a strong wind blew from the south most of the day. Thawed a great deal today. Snow just about gone and the frost is out of the ground for quite a piece down. Was clear until about 4 o'clock when it clouded up. It sprinkled some this evening. Rudolf and I fixed the flood gates all forenoon. The water tore them up quite badly. We didn't put the cattle in the field today. Didn't haul fodder either on account of the wind. My opossum got away today. We set the cage out on the paw and it got out. I hunted all over for it but couldn't find it. Felt very bad about it. Ma went down to Brandon's a while this afternoon on the pony. She said that Ira Michler had moved in. Nell and Paul will stay the rest of the week. Paul doesn't want to come home. Gottlieb went to Blakeney's sale again today. He bought nothing. They went home this evening. Pauline left \$1.25 for me to send off the Compu-union for her. I think I will get a fountain pen. The Jew pedler is here to night.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Wednesday, Mar 18, 1891.

Rained a good deal last night and was sleeting when I got up this morning. It soon turned into snow and snowed all day. A great deal of the snow melted but any way it is about 2 or 3 inches deep. Thermometer was 82° above zero this morning. Got warmer, sun didn't shine out at all. Pa was out and I helped do the chores this morning and evening. We were in the house some this forenoon and I was in the house most of the afternoon. Rudolf rode the pony down to Grandma and sawed some wood for her this afternoon. We did the chores early this evening. We had a new calf to-day. We heard that Olive Plesseltine and John Treest were to be married to night. I wrote a letter to Frank Roberts tonight.

Ben Miller,

Rock Creek, Thursday, Mar. 19, 1891.

Thermometer was 23° above zero this morning. A light cold wind blew from the north to-day. The sun shone out brightly to-day. The most of the snow melted. Pa and Ma went to town to-day, taking Jennie back. They said the roads were simply dreadful. I sent off for the Companion for Pauline to-day. I sent for a fountain pen as a premium. We are feeding the cattle hay now as it is too muddy in the yard for fodder. Rudolf and I hauled two loads of hay. One for the cattle and one to put in the loft of the log stable for the Bull. Right after noon we saw Puss out in the pasture laying down. We put her in the stable at once and in about 15 minutes she had a colt. We helped her some. The colt is a very fine mare colt. Out of Beechey's shire stallion. We chored around this afternoon. Levi Barton was over and spent the evening. We played games until after 10 o'clock.

Ben Miller,

Rock Creek, Friday, Mar. 25, 1891.

Thermometer was 28° above zero this morning. Was clear until about 3 o'clock, then clouded up and looks very much like rain now. The wind was quite strong from the southeast this morning. It gradually went down and when it clouded up came from the northwest. I rode Mand S. this forenoon. She had not been ridden since a year last fall. She went quite well. We took the apples out to day that we had buried. We had two barrels of winesaps, 2 of janets and 2 of Romanites. The janets were rotted very badly. The winesaps quite badly and the Romanites scarcely at all. We sang this evening. We did not go over after Belle this afternoon as she intended to go to Morrill with Mr. Taylor to a speaking contest. Her winter term will be out Tuesday. She will then have over a week vacation. Lillie and I wanted to go to Morrill to-night but gave it up several days ago on account of the mud. The mud is only a foot deep in some places. One can scarcely get around. Snow nearly gone. Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Saturday, Mar. 26, 1891.

Thermometer was 37° above zero this morning. A very strong and quite cold wind blew from the northwest all day. Went down this evening. Was cloudy about all day. Still the mud dried some but it is still simply dreadful. I thought some of going to town and getting the mail this afternoon, but didn't on account of the wind. Pa and Rudolf went down and saved some wood for Grandma this afternoon. Will came home from Grandma this afternoon to stay. Mr. Markintosh a man we used to know when a child, was here soliciting aid for the people in western Kansas this afternoon. Pa gave him \$2 and Grandma \$5. Will came down this evening. We played Old Maid until about 11 o'clock. I had the best look, being old maid twice and old back twice. Ben Miller.

Rock creek, Lane, Sunday, Mar. 22, 1891

Was 6.28 when we got up this morning.

Was a very pleasant day. Sun shone out very brightly and was scarcely any wind. Mud dried considerable. There are a few patches of snow yet. There was no church to day, either at the Dunkard or Lutheran church. I read a great deal to-day. We were all ^{looking} in my telescope to-day. Could see very well. Played games some this afternoon ^{also sang.} Will went home about 4.30. Ma rode down to Grandma's with him, and stayed awhile. Lillie, Bertha, Mill and Paul was riding the pony this evening. She almost threw Bertha also. Read this evening.

Monday Mar. 23, 1891. Ben Miller
Was cloudy about all day, a light freeze blew from the northwest all day. Mud dried a good deal. We worked at the wood this forenoon and this afternoon we all started out to throw hedge thorns out in the road to burn them but the cattle got over in the fodder and I brought them home. I didn't go back. John Vortschler was here to-day and wanted to get some hay. Pa is going to let him have some. We got up "Familiar Quotations" to night. I beat the first time and came out even with Lillie's having the highest the 2nd time. In after ten o'clock now.
Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Tuesday, Mar. 24, 1891.

Rained last night. Was raining when I got up this morning and rained and sleeted until about 2, 30.

As Belle's winter term was out to-day, and she will have about two weeks vacation, I went over and got her when it stopped raining. Silke and Paul intended to go over and stay all day, but could not. Roads are dreadful. I never saw the like of it in my life, I believe. It began to snow before we got back and is still snowing. The chores were all done when I got back. Played Familiar Quotations tonight.

I beat.

Benj. L. Miller.

Wednesday, Mar. 25, 1891.

It snowed all night I guess and snowed until ~~11~~ about noon. Snow was about six inches deep. Sun didn't shine out at all but it thawed a great deal. I was sick with the headache to-day. Only helped with the milking this morning. Rudolf went to town and got the mail ~~at 11~~ this afternoon.

We got an ~~awful~~ lot. We had another calf to-day. One of the 2 year old heifers. Mud is dreadful. Now 9 o'clock is snowing and the water is dripping from the eaves.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Thursday, Mar. 26, 1891.

Such weather! Such weather! I never saw the like of it. This morning the snow was about 7 or 8 inches deep and the mud under the snow about that much deeper. Anyone would go in the mud about up to their boot tops. I took Grandma's mail down to her this forenoon, and asked her if she would come up if someone would go after her. She said she would and so after dinner I hitched Gaf to the cart and went and got her. It was about all Gaf ~~could~~ could do to pull me through the mud. Did nothing but chores to-day. I was in the house a good part of the day. Read to night. Mel didn't go to school

yesterday or today. Women folks all ~~wrote at eight pages~~ ~~4~~ ~~extra~~ ~~pages~~ ~~and~~ ~~wrote~~.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Friday, March 27th

Snowed a little this morning and was real warm to-day thawed and was very muddy. To-day was Good Friday and had roast beans for dinner and Bean Soup for supper. Grandma was up to-day and sewed carpet rags all day. We had a "snowball party" in the yard north of the house Bertha, Ben, Lillie, Belle and J. Lillie Ben and I were against Belle and Bertha. Belle wouldn't go out in the yard but would stand in the door all of the time. Grandma said it was fashionable for a man to be a bad writer for it to look just like chicken tracks.

Lillie and Bertha have gone to bed and I am up alone except Ben, Belle, Ma, and Grandma.

Ben made a bird house to-day and put it up on the southeast corner of the old kitchen. The snow is nearly gone and there is mud, mud, mud, mud, mud. Found a cat with three kittens in the calf pen east of the little red calf. We read this evening. Good night
Written by Nell.

P.S. Bertha and Ben had a fuss (just in fun) with the dish rags and the snow Bertha threw two or three dish rags out in the yard in the mud and threw one at Ben and hit him only once. Well she threw at him all the time but him only once.

I wrote for Ben because was too lazy and sleepy. Good night

Nell.

P.S. for Saturday, Pa went out about 9 o'clock this evening and found that May had a colt. It is a fine mare, colt, bay. Pa and Rudolf eat up milk 12.30 last night watching her. May liked her colt so well that it couldn't suck until we tied her up. She wanted it by her head all the time. Pd. M.

Rock Creek, Kansas, Mar 28 1891.

Cloudy all day, snow melted, what there was a little left. I never saw such mud before. Some say there was just such mud 18 years ago. Others say there never was such mud here before. I don't know. Pa went to town today.

He wouldn't have gone but he had to as we were just about out of kerosene and flour. I got my microscope that I sent for. The price was \$5.50 and postage and packing .35. I only paid .85 as I secured five new subscribers and so was allowed an extra premium of \$5.00. It is a fine looking instrument but I can't make it work. I think there is a pin gone.

I also received the cards I sent for. I sent for a pack for ^{each} Bertha, Rudolf, Lillie, Nell, and Paul. They were all right. I didn't get any premium yet. I expect it will come later. The premium was to be a pocket mirror and a false mustache. We got Scribner's and St Nicholas to-day, and many other papers. I bathed today, and sewed a few carpet rags. On account of the mud we can do nothing but shovel now.

Grandma went home this evening. Read to-night.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, EASTER, Mar 29, 1891.

Rained during the night a good deal, and rained and drizzled about all forenoon. We didn't get up early this morning and so didn't get through with our shoes until after eleven o'clock. There was a bunkard church to-day. None of us went. Colored a few eggs to-day. Went very nice. Forgot to send for coloring. Mrs. Jagg and Porter Garrison were over this afternoon. Sun shone out a little this afternoon.

One of our yearling calves fell in the rack and we had quite a time to get it out. It was hurt a little I guess. Played familiar Devotions some to night. A cow had a calf last night.

Benj. L. Miller.

Mrs. McKim is here tonight. She has not worn a hair dress a month since ago.

Rock Creek, Monday, Mar. 30, 1891.

Was cloudy all day with a strong wind from the south west, and wet. Was quite cold. Muddied some. George Weiss came this morning just as we were going after hay, and wanted to buy. I went with Rudolf to get hay. Was very windy to get it. Pa sold Geo. Weiss 5 cows, two of them milk cows for \$184. Sold B of them for \$1.03 a pound and two for \$2 1/2 a lb. The three lacked. B of bring \$4 and the other two brought \$32.15. The Bixon cow was one we sold. Pa paid \$40 for her kept her 2 1/2 years, raised two calves from her and sold her for 30 less than we paid for her. We only milk five cows now. Porter Harringer, our new hired hand came to-day. Pa has hired him for 8 months at \$18 a month to begin April 1. Pa got a new pair of pruning shears but because we lost one and Rudolf went down and got Grandmas and they trimmed the grape vines to-day. Porter ~~was~~ took Loup and Charlie and went over to Zug's and got Miss Trunk this afternoon. I was in the house some this afternoon. Looks like a storm tonight.

Benj. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Tuesday, Mar. 31, 1891.

Was a nice day to-day, although the wind blew quite strong most of the day. The wind and the sun dried up the mud a great deal, although it is muddy yet. We fixed the hot-bed this forenoon and burned and piled up or rather piled up and burned hedge this afternoon. ^{Pa went with us and stayed part of the afternoon.} We got over 5 miles of hedge. Pa and I did the burning. We also helped pile it up some. We played "Familiar Quotations" to night I got beat. Lou came over in the field where we were this evening, and wanted to get some hay. Pa said he thought he could let him have some ^{after while} grass, some early. Hay is \$15 a ton now. Highest I ever knew it to be. The horse ^{drove down} in the wheat ^{but Pa} this afternoon.

Benj. L. Miller.

MW Merkle is here to-day. He is on foot and in house did a plant time ago.

If my name
you wish to
see look on
page 153.

April Fool

At Borne, Wednesday, April 1, 1891

A stormy day also a "Foolish Day"

Was red in the East this morning and soon clouded up. About 10 o'clock it began to rain. This afternoon it partly turned in to hail and then snow, which melted at once. Was still snowing when I was out last. Pa sowed clover seed on the rye die's forenoon, Rudolf, Porter and I fixed the gap, where the horses got in the wheat, this forenoon and then burned hedge. I burned all but one pile ^{alone} and helped burn it.

Just before noon it got so damp from the rain that it would scarcely burn. We dehorned 2 calves and shored around this afternoon. When we were through milking I saw a cow starting down toward the creek. We followed her and found she had a calf. We carried it home and put ~~her~~ it in the barn. The calf was ^{very} badly chilled, Pa and I have just been out to feed it.

Last night Bertha and Lillie took the alarm clock upstairs with them. I waited until after they were asleep and then slipped in their room and got it and brought it out in the hall and found they had set the alarm for 4 o'clock. I then turned the ~~alarm~~ clock around until 11 min. till 4, and then went ~~and~~ got in bed. When the alarm went off ^{I heard} Bertha and Lillie talk awhile but they didn't get up. I guess they were too sleepy. About 3 o'clock they got up and found their clock was about 10 o'clock. Bertha ^{and Lillie and Nell} then came down stairs and when they found it was only 3 went back to bed. They had intended to get up at 4 and have breakfast ready when the rest of us got up. Everyone ^{of us} got fooled to day. I got fooled twice. Grandma was up all day yesterday helping sew carpet rags and Belle and Paul went down and stayed all night with her. They came up early this morning and Grandma is here to night. All except Pa and Paul sewed carpet rags to night. I sewed on the machine.

Ben Miller

Thursday, Apr. 2, 1891.

Froze some last night. Wind blew both hard and strong from the northwest all day. Snowed from about 9 till 2. Snow all melted soon after it fell. Sun shone out a little this afternoon. We fixed the garden fence today forenoon and this afternoon the men piled up hedge. While Paul and I cleaned out the hen house. It was too wet and windy to burn hedge. John Gortscheer was here for a load of hay this forenoon. Grandina was here today. Lillie took her home this evening in the cart. Paul went along and said he wanted to stay 3 days. We read and sewed carpet rags this evening.

Benj. L. Miller,

Friday, April 3, 1891.

Thermometer was 23 degrees above zero this morning. Was frozen quite hard and would hold a horse up all day. Was cloudy just about all day. Thawed a little. A very cold and very strong wind blew from the northwest all day. This forenoon we hauled a load of corn fodder for today, one for tomorrow and Pa and Rudolf hauled two loads of straw from Mr. Kregain for bedding. This afternoon we ground and filled ~~the~~ the boxes and barrels for the cows. The grinder runs very hard. When we first started the horses pulled it over breaking the pole to bits. When we drove the cattle out this morning we found that a cow (the hooky cow) had had a calf in the mud. It was nearly dead then but we brought it in the house where it died in a short time. It was a fine red heifer calf. We got through with our chores early this evening and Rudolf and Porter went over to Mr. Zug's. Nell is down at Grandma's tonight. I wrote two business letters tonight. It is after 10 o'clock and all have gone to bed except me. Ben Miller,

Sat. April 4, 1891. Rock Creek

Was 26° above zero this morning. Froze quite hard last night. Was cloudy about half of the day. Thawed out to-day. Will be apt to dry out now. Rudolf, Porter, and I piled up hedge and burned it today. Part of it was very hard to burn. Pa went to town this forenoon. He took the list to get it sharpened. He left it. He got a new harrow for \$13.25. I got a very nice letter from Gertrude Roberts also a fake mustache and a pocket mirror as premiums for a card order I sent in. Lillie and Belle went over to Mr. J. Bortis this afternoon and May and Essie came home ^{with them} and this evening we, thinking there would be singing up at the church all went up. There were no other persons there except Wischler's. I wore my fake mustache. Frank Wischler didn't know me at first. May and Essie are here to-night. We played "Old Maid".

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Sunday, Apr. 5, 1891.

To-day was a fine day, although some muddy. We (nearly all of us) went to S. S. today. This was the first day. Was quite good with prospect of being better. Lillie and Ma each have a class. Lillie went home with Mr. Zug's. Porter took Belle back this afternoon. He only went to ~~the S. S. church~~ ^{Mr. Zug's} and ~~Mr. Zug's~~ ^{Mr. Zug's} and ~~Ma~~ ^{Ma}. Hoovers were there she went with them. Ma and Paul went down to Grandin's this afternoon. We had another alf today. We read and sang this evening. The clock has warned for 10 o'clock and I am the only one up. I will close.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Monday, April, 1891.

To-day was a "beautiful" day. Warmest day we've had this year. Mud is drying up very fast. Will hold a person up in most places. Pa hauled a load of hogs for Mr. J. today. When Pa was in town a short time ago, Artie gave him a picture of the battle between the Merrimac and the Monitor. He took it and had it framed and got it to-day. It is a very large ^{nice} picture. The frame cost \$5.00.

I got a sample copy of ~~an~~ cheap story paper. We got a double number of The Youth's Companion. We hauled two loads of fodder to-day, one for to-day and one for to-morrow. When we were getting the last load of fodder we saw a flock of geese light or rather settle in ~~to~~ our lower corn field.

When we got back Porter and I both went to try to get them. We each shot once but got nothing. Last fall we wanted to haul manure out of ~~the~~ the yard, and as the corn ^{wasn't} out yet we hauled it and put it in a large pile in the field. Rudolf and Porter scattered 12 loads of it to-day.

Paul and I cleaned out the garden to-day. The women folks were setting out plants and planting seeds in the hot bed, etc. this afternoon. When I pulled up the cabbage stocks, I found that nearly every one was ~~gone~~ gone.

I am going to take the alarm clock to-night and see if I can't get up earlier. Read some to night.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

~~Benj. L. Miller.~~

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

P. S. Pa ~~also~~ sowed clover seed this afternoon on the rye.

Rock Creek Tuesday, April 1891,

Was a fine day, very warm. It rained and yet. In the forenoon Porter & Rudolf ~~traded~~ ^{scattered} manure from that pile up in the field that we hauled there last fall. They hauled 6 loads. They ~~traded~~ hauled ^{with} Maud & and Cap. I went along and held Maud for 4 loads. She is very fidgety. I took 2 traps along and set for gophers. I milked two cows this evening and then went to look at the traps but didn't have anything. This afternoon we separated the logs to take tomorrow and fixed wagons, fence etc. While we were in the logyard we saw a heifer had a calf and after Rudolf we had the logs up here. Rudolf and I went over and got the cow and calf. We carried it just about all the way (nearly half a mile) home. It's a heifer. Johnnie had 6 kittens ~~there~~ last night. Only one was alive this morning; and as Johnnie didn't like it we gave it to another cat, which had kittens a short time ago and all died. It will die I expect. Pa sowed clover seed on the rye this forenoon. He finished. Grandma came up today noon and Ma and her took Cap and the cow and went down to see Mrs. Williamson this afternoon, and Bertha, Lillie, and Paul went over to see Mrs. Jim & her side and her young baby. Chris Lung came to work for Grandma today. He is here to night. Verna Snyder and Mertie Adams came home with Nell from school to night and we played Logomach, and while I wrote two letters for Pa also. One to J. B. Stouffer and one to H. Mohr. I was the last one up again to night as usual.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Wednesday, Apr. 8, 1891.

It threatened rain all day, & sprinkled a little a few times. Sun shone out very little. Was a very strong east and southeast wind to-day. Has gone down now, but is lightning a great deal in the east. I heard a little thunder. First I ever heard this year. We hauled off 30 of our hogs to-day. Got 4.70 for them. Averaged 322 1/3 lbs. Sold one of mine. Weighed 230. Pa gave me \$10.55. Levi Horton, Ira Miehler, John Zug, Mr. Fouse, Porter and Pa hauled them. Sold them to Uncle Rich. Rudolf and I did nothing but chores until Porter got back when we got a load of fodder and then Rudolf and Porter went up and scattered a few loads of manure. Pa bought 7 yearling steer calves of Uncle Rich ^{at Rock Creek} today for \$15 1/2 apiece. Pa and I will go after them to-morrow. Mr. Stanley was here to see about getting the disks to-morrow. Pa, he, and I partly set it up to-night. Mr. Fouse was also here to-night to see about getting an hand to help shell corn to-morrow. One will go.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Thursday, Apr. 9, 1891.

Was a very heavy fog this morning. It came down. The rest of the day the sun shone out most of the time. No wind this morning, but this afternoon, was quite a strong one from the west. Pa and I went after those steers, Pa bought yesterday. They went so slow that when we got about to Kimmel's I took both horses and came home. Pa got here about 1.15 o'clock. I went to my traps this P.M. and had 2 gophers with only 2 traps. Lillie visited Bertha Kimmel and the school to-day. Porter helped Mr. Fouse shell corn this a.m. while Rudolf hauled manure. This P.M. Rudolf harrowed ^{the} ~~the~~ ~~the~~ and Porter hauled manure. Pa was down at Grandma's ^{in file} this P.M. and the rest of the time he was getting ready to sow oats to-morrow. I helped. We finished sowing carpet sedge this evening to the great delight of all. P. 4, 1891.

Sabetha, Kansas, Friday, April 10, 1891.

Was a fine day, only the wind blew quite strong. Pa and Rudolf went out in the field soon after breakfast. Rudolf plow in oats and Pa to sow. Porter and I got 2 loads of fodder. One for to-day and one for to-morrow. Porter then went out in the field. This afternoon Pa he took Mand L. and Rudolf Puss. Pa and I helped them get started. They both went pretty well. Pa didn't sow but a little while until the wind got too strong when he came home. I went down to Grandmas this evening to get some flour. Uncle Rich and Mr. Rooks were out here today noon to buy cattle. Pa sold them 5 yearling heifers for \$15 a piece, and 2 2 year old heifers for \$20 a piece. They are to get them Monday. Lillie and Paul went over and got Belle ^{with her and the east} this afternoon. Stayed Logansville to-night. Ben Miller
P. S. Ma's belly ^{this morning} and heart ^{is} quite badly. B. L. M.

Rock Creek, Saturday, April 11, 1891.

A beautiful day. Warm and scarcely any wind. There was no wind this morning and so Pa went right out to sow oats as soon as he got up so he could get enough sowed for Rudolf to plow to day, before time to go to town. Pa, Ma, Lillie, Paul and I went. Started at 9.25. Took a grist to mill. Ma got me a fine photograph album for my birth day and Hell a box of stationery. Pa got me a new suit to day. It cost \$20. Best I ever had! Lillie went to a teacher's meeting in the school building to-day. We got an awful lot of things to-day. Rudolf plowed oats under all day while Porter burned hedge. Levi got a load of oats of Jerome Archer to-day and weighed his empty wagon and the oats best. The papers announce the death of Pinneas T. Barnum, the old showman, on Apr. 7. Corn is about 60 cts a bu. and hay 15 a ton. I had my hair cut to-day. Also got a new knife for 80 cts. Bathed to-night. B. L. Miller.

Rock Creek, Kans., Sunday, April 12, 1891.

It clouded up in the night, and about 7.30 it began to thunder and lighten. ^{The thunder was so hard that it woke me up ^{and a very awful lot of lightning.}} It cleared up ^{and church at 10 o'clock church.} without rain, this time and we went to S. S. Was quite good. Lesson was in II Kings. All the lessons this quarter will be in Old Testament. I took Grandma's turkey-gobbler down to her this morning. Art Lorty came home from S. S. with me. We had quite a good time. Rudolf took Belle back this afternoon. He had just started when it began to rain a little, but he didn't come back. It was just a small shower. One of the cows had a fine calf today. Wind blew from the south today, so strong that it shook the bell until it rang. Clouded up this evening. All read to-night. Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Monday, April 13, 1891.

A very rainy day. We got up at 4 o'clock this morning so we could get out in the field early. About 5.30 it began to rain, and kept it up at spells all day. When it rained it rained ~~awful~~ hard. The creek was up very high this evening and still raising. We did nothing but chores today. I was in the house most of the day. I was weighed and measured today. Weighed 131 1/2 lbs. in stocking feet and in slippers. Measured 5 ft 4 1/4 in. I am larger than Rudolf or Porter either. I got ~~an~~ photograph albums and a box of stationery for presents. Album from M. Stationery from Nell. I didn't get ~~presented~~ much. This evening I thought one of the heifers that was about to have a calf was gone. I got on top and went to look for her. I looked all over for her in the pasture, and then came home and found her under the shed. Cap didn't like to go across the creek at all. The water was so high. I got a lot of water in my boots and so pants quite wet. Rained all the time I was gone, but I didn't get my back wet as I had a rubber coat. Have all gone to bed but me. It's nine o'clock and still raining. Ben Miller

Rock creek, Kans. Wednesday, Apr. 14, 1891.

Was quite cloudy to-day. The rain yesterday raised the creek so high that the floodgates were taken up quite badly. Pa sowed oats ^{in the afternoon} and Rudolf harrowed some manure that was in very large "clumps". Porter set some catalpa trees out along the road. Mr Rooker and a boy were out after those cattle he bought last Friday. This forenoon Porter and I set out raspberry plants while Pa sowed timothy seed and Rudolf alfalfa. Ben Miller.

Wednesday, Apr. 15, 1891.

Well I will now try ~~and~~ write for Ben. He chored around this forenoon. In the afternoon he killed 89 mice and made a nice mess for the cats. In the afternoon he went down to Grandma's and helped her ~~set~~ out raspberry plants and two winterberry's that ma gave her. Paul was down there too. He milked two cows to-night. The men (Rudolf and Porter) stayed out late so they could finish ~~putting~~ ^{putting} in the oats so Pa and Ben had to ~~do~~ ^{do} most of the chores. Mr. Ray arrives ~~at~~ here to-night and Lillie gave him one of her pictures. Ma and Bertha cleaned the yard to-day. Well I will close for this time. Well Miller. The reason why I write for Ben to-night was because he had to write for two nights so I'd have to write for him to-night. Good night
Well Miller Ben's sister

Down down, down
like as if they were full,
of water.

Down down, down it came
As if the ocean were above us
And had sprung a leak which made
And it did us good to see.

The men in the house did ^{find out} ~~not~~
While the horse stampeded in the stable,
And talked of the promising command
And told queer stories and fables.

The women out with their
poking came,
And while their needles had
smoothly ~~try~~ ^{try} ~~away~~
And ~~some~~ ^{some} resolutions framed
At least the men should not sit idly
by

Those needles were quickly brought,
With busy stitching and outburst

Rock Creek, Thursday, April 16/89.

The first thing to-day was another storm. After breakfast we went out and saw that it was getting very black in the southwest, so Porter and I hurried and got our team out to go after a load of fodder before the storm. When we got our team out we saw the storm was coming so fast, that we put the horses back in the barn. We had hardly gotten our team back when it began to rain. It rained until about 3:30 quite hard and the wind blew quite strong. ^{It hailed some. For Bertha it hailed a good deal. The hail were small.} After it was over Pa and Rudolf went down to feed the steers and found the creek raised so high that they unlatched and left the wagon there. The ground seems to be so full of water that all the rain rain ran off. It is full on top but does not sink down very far. When Pa and Rudolf came back they went and got a load of hay after which they went down and hauled the corn into the steers. I didn't do much to-day. I took my boots up to Mr. Kregar's this forenoon to get them fixed and this afternoon went after them. Pa, Ma, Bertha, and Grandma went to town this afternoon. Nell was going to go too, but when she got down to Grandma's, Grandma wanted to go to town and so Nell came home with Paul. Paul would not stay with Ada. I got my fountain pen I sent for today. Part of this page was written with it. The men just chored around to-day. This afternoon they set several posts for the grape vines in place of those that had fallen down. We read to night and I worked with my pen a good deal. Nell didn't go to school to-day on account of the mud.

Yours Respectfully

P. B. It was very warm this afternoon.
 Grass and rye and wheat are all growing very fast.

Rock Creek, Friday, Apr. 17, 1891.

Was ^{very} nice and very warm until about 5.30 this evening, when a storm began to gather in the west. It got very black and ~~got~~ just about dark it began to blow and thunder. It blew for a short time only. It has been thundering and lightning almost constantly since. It is now (8.50). It is rained very little yet. Rudolf and Porter plowed in oats all day. Stayed out quite late tonight. Pa and I chored around today. Last fall we hauled some fodder down from the field and put it in two large stacks in the barnyard. We are using the last one now for the steers. It is a good deal of it rotten. I husked out several basketfuls of corn from the rotten fodder for the boys. This afternoon Pa and I fixed pens for some of the cows and shut up 3 of them. Lillie went after Belle this afternoon. My and Bertha planted some potatoes to-day. These are our first. They also set out some plants and I bulbs. There was a spectacle man here for dinner to-day. Pa bought a pair for \$3.00. He forgot his halter. I have an autograph album to write in yet tonight and so will quit.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Saturday April 18, 1891.

I expected a heavy rain last night but we only got a small one. Was clear all day and very warm. Rudolf and Porter finished plowing in the oats today. We will have about 28 or 29 acres. They stayed out quite late and Pa and I did all the chores. We turned ^{seven} some of the calves out on the syc- day. Pa and I did nothing except chores and tinkering around today. None of us went to town today as we needed the teams to plow. When I went after the cattle today, I found that one of the heifers had a calf. A clean white one. I drove the cow and the calf home. Paul thought it was so cute that he gave his for it. There was to be church at the Lutheran church tonight and Pa started over. When he got up to Mr. Gregor's he found there would be none and they came home. He rode the pony. Mr. W. Stevenson was to be at a singing about up here tonight and we went in and then he didn't come. There was a large crowd there and we sang anyway. Mr. Freiburghouse, Feb. 10, 30 up. Ben Miller

Sunday

Apr - 19 - 1891

Rock Creek, Kansas

Was quite warm to-day although it was a little cloudy and it sprinkled a little. Ben went to Sunday School to-day, but did not go any place. Mr. Kraiger and Bertha Kimmel were here to-day. I was at Mr. Adams' to-day.

Ben played on the piano and the rest were singing. Ben milked four cows to-night. We popped corn this evening. I am writing with Ben's new fountain pen, and like it very much. Peter and Fiddly did not go to Sunday

school to-day. Lillie took Belle back. I believe we are going to get some rain to-night because it is a thundering and lightning and is cloudy. Ben wrote a letter to Frank Roberts this to-day and finished it to-night.

Well I will have to quit for to-night as it is real late. ^{Lillie was at Mr. Beeghly's to-day and} ^{she wrote a letter} ^{because} Belle drove over there alone and then Lillie took her on. ^{he begged miss because she was tired of writing.} Well good-night Nell Miller. Ben's Sister.

Monday

Rock Creek, Kansas, April 20, 1891.

We had a very heavy rain last night. ^{Lillie took} Lillie to town to-day. She is going to stay with Jennie Perry and learn to sew. Jennie board her for her work. I don't know how long she will stay. Pa brought a barrel of sugar home. Sugar is 8 1/2 cents now. He got 333 lbs. I got a catalogue from Montgomery Ward & Co. to-day. I also got 2 sample copies of papers. A sow had 8 pigs last night and one had the same this P.M. One dead. All others alive. The boys hauled manure this A.M. and both harrowed out this afternoon. Bats is up some already. I chored around in forenoon. Pa got 35 raspberry plants and Ma and I set them out this afternoon. We chored around the rest of the afternoon.

R. L. M.

Rock Creek, Tuesday, April 21, 1891

Rained again last night quite a good deal. Was very warm today. Had ~~an~~ quite a shower about 5:30 this evening. In the forenoon Pa and I husked out some rotten fodder and I did a churning, while Rudolf and Porter hauled manure. In the afternoon Rudolf finished harrowing the oats and Pa and Porter hauled rotten fodder and rotten straw and manure in the orchard. I helped him until about 3:30 when I went down to Grandma's to get some plum wood and a little cedar that grew in her woods. She had just set the plum trees out the day before but I got two cedars instead of one. Isa Wiskler told me of another. Paul went along. Sam Hoover and his wife were here a while this afternoon. Mr. Kregar and Bertha ^{knowing, came and got some} Miller ^{plants.}

Rock Creek, Kansas Wednesday, April 22, 1891

Was a fine day. Very warm. Scarcely any wind. We had two calves today. One is very small, will probably die. Both are males. We now have 2 calves, 13 males. The ~~of~~ a good many of the cattle don't come up any more since the grass has started and I went out and looked for them this forenoon. All were alright. I then helped the men haul manure the rest of the day. A sow had 9 pigs today, all alive. Pa was down at Grandma's today to measure off Isa Wiskler's land. A horse buyer was here today to buy Mand S. He is coming again. Ma was sick all day with a sick headache and stiff neck. Rudolf ploughed the garden after dinner and Bertha and Paul made a good deal of garden this afternoon.

Ben Miller

At Home, Thursday, April 23, 1891.

Was a fine day. Very warm with little wind. This morning Porter and I fed the cattle and then went right out and got fodder with Pa and Rudolf fed the steers. Rudolf and Porter then went out to haul manure, and Pa and I got the stalk-cutter out and I cut stalks the rest of the day. I had Jim and Hank and I in the forenoon and Gap and Bird this afternoon. Pa cut potato's this forenoon, and Pa, Rudolf and Porter planted them. They planted about an acre. Will plant some more to-morrow. We all stayed out late to night and it was 5 minutes till 9 when we came in. The assessor was here to day. John Gortcher got a load of hay to day. Mr & Mrs Adams were here to day and got Raspberry plants. Nell didn't go to school to day as Ma had the rheumatism in her shoulder so bad that she could scarcely be raised.

Ben Miller
Rock Creek, Friday, April 24, 1891.

A nice day. Quite warm though. I cut stalks to day. Had a different team in the afternoon. Cut about 12 acres. Rudolf and Porter hauled manure in the forenoon. In the afternoon Porter and Pa planted Potatoes, while Rudolf hauled manure. He finished that pile in the field. Ma went after Belle this afternoon.

Ben Miller

P. S. for Sat. Before breakfast this morning, a fellow who lives north of Mr. Schneiders stopped here with two steers. Afterward for Mr. Sandliker. After breakfast Mr. Sandliker came with his but steers. They weighed all of them on our scales. They averaged about 1300 lbs. We got 5.25 for them. Harry Lyons bought them.

At Home, Saturday, April 23, 1891.

A nice day again, I cut stalks all day. Finished in the east, north field about 10 A.M. but the rest of the day in the west, north field. I changed teams again at noon. The men listed and planted sweet corn ^{in a little, baby corn, the first.} in the afternoon, Pa, Ma, Nell and Paul went to town; Rudolf listed; Porter cleaned out all the ~~stables~~ ^{stables} and burned a little hedge. We went to singing to-night. Stevenson was there. Will have singing a week from to-morrow at 8 P.M. Was 25 minutes till 11 when we got home, I read for about an hour afterward. In town they are having quite a time about Lye and Barnes trying to burn their store. If their store would have burned several others would also. Barnes has left. I think Lye will too. The trouble was that they were deeply in debt and wanted the insurance. Mr. Moyer and family were home up stairs. Mr. Moyer put the fire out ^{in season} but all would have been killed as they had a barrel of gasoline and several of coal oil I believe, near. The citizens think them but little better than murderers. I got my wrist hurt today when I was putting traps in the barn he ran against it. I found where ^{in the building} ~~it was~~ ^{hidden} today. It is the hollow at the north end of the field.

Home, Sunday, April 24, 1891.

Was nice to-day except a very strong wind from the southeast south, west, and northwest this evening.

All but Pa went to S. Land church at the funeral church. Porter and I went down to Mr. Wislers. Had quite a good one. Were a lot of boys here, also three preachers. Mr. and Mrs. Lily were here to see, also Grandson this afternoon. Chas. J. was here a little while this evening. Had rather calf to day, also some pigs last night. Have 64 pigs from 8 sows. Were quite late with our chores this evening.

Ben Miller,

Rock Creek, Kansas Monday, April 27, 1891.

Was a fine day. Quite cool this morning. I cut stalks all day. Finished cutting the stalks in the west, north field about six o'clock. A cow and a steer were in the wheat when I got home and I went right back and got them out.

Rudolf hiked all day. Pa and Porter fixed fence etc. this forenoon. Porter planted corn in the afternoon. ~~Ben M.~~ Ben M.

We turned the steers up on the rye to-day noon. Bella Horton and Eva were here to-day. Charlie Young was here to-day and wanted to husk out some of our ^{old} fodder for the fodder. Pa let him have part of it. We have a good deal more fodder than we will use. The cattle will hardly taste it any more. Grass is getting quite good. Schaulis turned his 33 of his cattle in Grandmas pasture to-day. I set a gopher trap to-day noon but did not have anything yet this evening. I cut stalks again to-day. Rudolf hiked. Pa and Porter hauled corn from Grandmas this forenoon and Porter ~~Pa~~ planted corn in the afternoon. I was writing for yesterday and forgot and got to-day's then.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Wednesday, April 29, 1891.

Threatened rain in morning. Sprinkled a little. It then cleared off and the sun shone very warm and the wind blew very strong from the south all day. Was very disagreeable. It clouded up again this evening. Sprinkled a little. I cut stalks all day. Glad Maud and Mag in afternoon. They acted very badly. Were fighting about all the time. Rudolf hiked all day. Porter planted in afternoon. The women folks and Pa trimmed the raspberries. We practiced tonight.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Tuesday,
April 26, 1891.

Rock Creek, Thursday April 30, 1891.

The storm passed over last night with only a sprinkle but with considerable wind. Was quite nice today. Not very warm as there was a cool breeze from the north. Was ^{quite} cloudy this afternoon. I cut stalks all day. Rudolf hilled all day. Porter planted in afternoon. Pa and his hauled manure in forenoon. Frank Mishler went to town to day and got our mail and brought it up this evening. I got a sample copy of a paper and a letter. We all read to-night. Paul is down at Grandma's. Hon. Moltke is dead.
Ben Miller.
The latest news.

Rock Creek, Friday, May 1st 1891.

Was cloudy just about all day. Sprinkled several times this forenoon and had quite a shower once this afternoon. I sprinkled some more 10.30 o'clock. I cut stalks all day. Rudolf hilled. Porter hauled manure and planted corn. Co went after Belle this afternoon. Grandma was in a little while today. I didn't get to see her. I wrote two business letters to-night, besides reading and talking a great deal.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Saturday May 2, 1891.

About 4 o'clock this morning we had quite a hail storm. It hailed for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour very hard. Hail were about the size of peas mostly, although I found a few that were an inch through. We were up and shut the shutters. Broke two ~~windows~~ glasses in the hot bed and knocked the blossoms off of the fruit trees considerable. ^{and injured the garden a great deal.} It rained almost constantly all forenoon. Was cloudy all afternoon. It rained so much that the roads were slippery. ^{that I} took trap and went to town this afternoon for the mail and a few other things. I stopped at Jimmie's agood while, also at Grandma's. Did nothing much but chise today. I sent off for the Kansas City Star today, also a prospectus of Talmage's new book.

B.L.M.

Dist. of Rock Creek, Township of Bernick, County of Nemaha
State of Kansas, Nation of The U. S. Continent of N. A. Hemisphere, western.

Sunday, May 3, 1891.

Was quite a nice day. I was the first one
up this morning. What a wonder! Was 8.30 o'clock. Nearly all
of us went to school. I anyway. Willard John Michler and Lewis Horton
came home with me. The Sharrah girls and a Distaffes
girl came with Nell and Bertha. Rudolf's brother was here
also. We all went up to singing this afternoon.

Stevenson did it worse and better. J. L. D. He did
very well. Pa took Belle back this afternoon.
Grandma was here a short time this afternoon.
I thought some of writing a letter to night but will not.

B. L. Miller

At Home, Monday, May 4, 1891.

Was quite a nice day, although there was
quite a cold east wind all day. As it was too wet
to work in the fields, Pa, Ma, Rudolf and Porter went
to town. Rudolf and Porter each got them a new Elgin
watch. They got back about 1.40 P. M. Rudolf went
right out to listing, while Porter and I went out to
husk corn fodder. We brought 8 shocks of
husked fodder home. I went to look for wolf holes
this forenoon and shot two owls. One measured
4 ft. from tip to tip. I didn't find any wolf holes.

I helped Bertha and Nell some about the washing.
Two sows had pigs last night. One had 10 and killed 2 one.
The other had 1 and has five.
May 5. Has only four now.

B. L. Miller

Rock Creek, Tuesday, May 5, 1891.

Was cloudy to-day, and real chilly. I had to wear my thick coat all day. I cut stalks all day with Jim and Mand. It was rather wet but I wanted to get done and so out. I think I can finish to-morrow forenoon. Rudolf hiked all day. He finished in the west, north field this forenoon, and hiked in the home so this afternoon. Porter planted this forenoon and part of the afternoon. Pa and him hauled the work in which we had hiked out of the shocks the rest of the afternoon. Pa went around ^{this forenoon} to see about getting ^{and another fellow} hands to help haul logs Thursday. Pate Hansen ^{and another fellow} were here and fixed the wheel of the wind mill to-day. The school was out to-day. Nell went. The first for over a week. The teacher treated them with candy. Nell and Paul are at Grandma's to-night.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Wednesday, May 6, 1891.

It was quite cold last night. It froze some ice and frosted some, although not enough to hurt anything. Was a nice day. Sun shone out all day but wasn't very warm. The first thing we did this morning was to separate the logs and ring the small ones and turn them out. I didn't get out in the field until about 9:30 o'clock, and so didn't finish this forenoon, but got through about 3 o'clock this afternoon. Altogether I cut about 125 acres. Where I was cutting this afternoon there was a wren's nest near. I climbed up and got her eggs, five. When I was through I went out and helped Pa hulk out fodder awhile and then we went out and got Bone's wagon, and fixed the rest of the wagon. Rudolf hiked to-day. Porter planted in afternoon. It is only a little after nine but I am going to go to bed now as we will have to get up early.

Ben Miller

At Home, Thursday, May 7, 1891.

Would have been a nice day, if it had not been for quite a strong wind that blew from the south all day. We hauled off 42 boys today. Got up a little before 4. Had 8 loads. They were hauled by Mr. Wisler, Ira Wisler, Jake Jug, Hon. Wescoat, Levi Horton, Pa, Rudolf and myself. They (the boys) averaged 29 lbs. got 4.25 for them. One of them was mine weighed 260 and brought \$10.50. Pa gave me \$10.50. I got the prospectus of "From Manger to Throne" today. It is very nice. We got back a little before noon. ^{Pa brought up barrels of salt for bread and the boys} Rudolf ^{filled} this afternoon. Pa, Porter and I hauled in the rest of our fodder. I also took Frouse's wagon home. Porter and I cleaned the raspberries in the forenoon.

Rock Creek, Friday May 8, 1891.

The wind blew all last night and all today to day, from the ^{very strong} south. It would have been a very nice day if the wind had not blown so hard, but this made the day very disagreeable. Rudolf listed all day. Porter planted all forenoon and part of the afternoon. Pa and I were working with the cows and pigs in the forenoon, and in the afternoon, I went after Belle.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Saturday, May 9, 1891.

Wind blew all night and until about 9 o'clock this afternoon from the south and very strong. After this it got very ~~cloudy~~ sultry and clouded up. Rained a little about dark. Will surely have more to night. We were going to ~~sleep~~ to-night but didn't. I planted corn this forenoon and part of the afternoon. I have all but one row planted that Rudolf has listed. Pa and Belle went to town this afternoon. Lillie and Jennie came home with them. Lillie will stay for a couple of weeks to help houseclean. I received a letter from Frank Robert. We all read to night until quite late. I bathed this afternoon. We have a peddler here to night, Ben Miller.

At Home, Sunday May 10, 1891.

It rained all last night and all forenoon. None of us could go to S. S. or church. We had in good time reading. Rudolf took Belle back this afternoon. Lillie and I were down at Grandma's a little while this evening. I rode Bird and Lillie, the pony. The peddler showed his goods this forenoon and Belle wanted to see them and she wouldn't be here tomorrow. We bought a good many things. Couldn't take Jennie back this afternoon.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Monday, May 11, 1891.

Was quite a nice day. I took Jennie back right away after breakfast. I did a little trading. This afternoon, I tried canvassing. Went to six houses and didn't get a name. Didn't get home until after dark. Shoes were all done. All seemed to like the books very much. Rudolf listed all day, while Cal and Porter hauled manure. Paul is at Grandma's to-night.

Ben Miller,

Rock Creek, Kans, Tuesday, May 12, 1891.

Was a nice day. Was cloudy this afternoon and quite warm. I planted corn all day. Rudolf listed. I planted what Rudolf listed yesterday and today all but 3 rows. Mrs. Lichly brought us a drink of milk this evening. Cal and Porter hauled manure to-day etc. We practised singing this evening.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Wednesday, May 13,

Was a nice day. I had the stomachache so bad this forenoon that I did not do much. In the afternoon I planted corn. Rudolf listed all day. Pa and Porter also Nell and Paul planted melons and beets this afternoon. Mat and Grandina went to town this afternoon. They went to the cemetery. We did not put the cows in the barn to night and won't from now on. We put in our time well rearing this evening. I sent for a fish net with Ma to-day. It is to be 10 ft long and 4 ft. high, cost \$3.20

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kans, Thursday, May 14, 1891.

Was a nice day. I helped Porter load manure this forenoon and in the afternoon I planted corn. I had to turn out rather early as I caught up with Rudolf. I set a gopher trap this morning and this evening had a gopher. I could have gone out canvassing to-day but didn't want to. Pa went down to Mr. Wisler's this afternoon and Mr. Wisler and him went fishing with their seine. Pa brought home about half a pailful of fish. Rudolf listed all day while Porter hauled manure. Ches. Jug caught five young wolves Monday and this afternoon all the women folk and Paul went over to see them. Pa was over at Mr. Snyder's this evening to see about shelling corn.

Ben Miller

Rock creek, Friday, May 15, 1891.

Was a nice day. I was choring around all forenoon, and in the afternoon planted corn. To-day was Belle's birth day. Lillie and I gave her a knife and Mr. Doobel was here this morning, and ^{with his wife} Ma subscribed for a book for her called "Curiosities of the Bible." Pa also subscribed for one for himself called "The Golden Dawn." About 10.30 she was surprised by 11 little girls. They brought dinner and they all ate in the woods. They had a fine time. Rudolf listed all day while Porter hauled manure. Lillie went after Belle this afternoon. Katie Baker, one of Belle's scholars, came home with her. I set a gopher trap this morning and had a gopher this evening. Gen Miller

C. L. Carter ^{about half} our oats didn't come up good and ^{Pa} ^{planted it to} ^{surprised} ^{Miller to} ^{put in} ^{corn} ^{about} ^{1 1/2 acres} ^{here} ^{are} ^{about} ^{1 1/2 acres}

Rock creek, Saturday, May 16, 1891.

Was cloudy all day. Rained several small showers in the afternoon. Rudolf listed all day and finished. I helped Porter haul manure in the forenoon and in the afternoon planted corn. I caught up with Rudolf about 4.30 when I unhitched and came in the house for about an hour when I went out again. I caught him again. We finished putting in our corn about 7.15 this evening. We have about 135 acres. I don't think we will ^{have} ^{the} ^{rest} ^{of} ^{it} ^{planted} ^{about} ⁶⁵ ^{acres} ^{of} ^{it} ^{Porter} ^{the} ^{rest}. Pa went to town this afternoon. He said it rained very hard there. Harry T. and Uncle Charley came to Sabbath to-day. Harry is going to stay with us all summer I guess. He wanted to come out to-day, but couldn't on account of the rain. Uncle Charley said he would bring him out to-morrow. Looks like rain.

Gen Miller.

Rock Creek, Sunday, May 17, 1891.

Was a very disagreeable day. It kept raining and misting almost constantly in the forenoon and some in the afternoon. I got up with the headache this morning and after the chores were done I laid down and slept almost all forenoon, I almost slept the headache off. Ma and Porter were the only ones that went to S. S. Porter went home with Art Lighty. Rudolf took Belle back for the last time this afternoon. She has only two more weeks. Will not come home next Friday. This afternoon I read while all the other folks slept. Ma, Nell and Paul were down at Grandma's in the evening. Uncle Charlie didn't come today. I wrote a letter to Frank Roberts tonight.

Ben Miller.

Rock Creek, Monday, May 18, 1891.

Was quite a nice day. Porter and I took a couple of mares over to Beeghly's this morning. Hauled hay in the barn rest of forenoon. I went over to Lighty to tell him he could get a board if he wanted it. He offered me a glass of beer which I refused. This afternoon Pa and Rudolf got wagon ready to shell corn tomorrow. Porter commenced harvesting corn. I went up with him to help him get started and then walked over to Mrs. Young's on an errand and found no one at home. Uncle Charlie, Harry and a young man of Mess Co. came this afternoon about 3.30. Harry stays all summer I guess while Uncle Charlie and that other fellow went back about six o'clock. We sang this evening.

Ben Miller

P.S. We commenced setting cream to day get 12 lbs. per lb. sell to Fulle City Creamery.

Rock Creek, Tuesday, May 19, 1891.

Wasn't a very nice day. Rained some in forenoon and some in afternoon, although not enough to stop work. Pa bought 593 bu's of corn from Grandma and John Lörter for 40 \$50cts. We shelled it this forenoon. Porter, Will Michler and I did all the shelling to the shells. After dinner Porter harrowed while Rudolf, Pa. and I went down to clean up. While we were down I borrowed Michler's seine. When we came home we finished hauling the hay we had in the field. There were two loads. Rudolf and I then went fishing. We got one ^{large} mess of fish and 4 young weasels. We got back about 18 min. till 7.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek, Kansas, Wednesday, May 20, 1891.

Rained last night considerable. ~~It rained~~
 Drizzled a little. Threatened rain all day.
 Rained quite a shower about 6.30 this evening when I was after the cattle. I didn't do much this forenoon.
 This afternoon Pa, Ma, Grandma and Lillie went to town. They got back just before the rain.
 I was out in the woods this afternoon and shot a muddhen and stuffed it. I brought up all of the cattle to-night. Started earlier than usual. The white-legged cow had a calf to-day.
 Rudolf plowed and Porter harrowed corn to-day. Ma got me a nice white shirt to-day. Price 92cts. out of my money. We read to-night.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Thursday May 21, 1891.

We had a lot of rain during the night. It wasn't raining when I got up, but began to rain before breakfast, and continued all day. An awful lot of rain fell, but it came down so gently that it nearly all soaked in the ground. Belle was ^{only} up a little. ~~I read~~ We marked some of the yearlings after breakfast and would have marked more but it was almost pouring down rain. I then came in and read the rest of the forenoon. In the afternoon I helped the women paper the girls room. The men chored around all day.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Friday May 22, 1891.

Was cloudy all day. Missed some rain. Sun didn't shine out at all. I didn't do much in forenoon. In afternoon helped them clean house. We cleaned three rooms & mine among them. Had all three carpets up and shocked them. The men fixed fence in forenoon and in the after-noon Porter went to town. He got a lot of mail. Rudolf moved the yard while Pa was being around. Read a good deal to night.

Ben Miller

P.S. No one went after Belle to-day as she will teach to-morrow. B.M.

Rock Creek Saturday May 23/89

Was cloudy all day. Mist & some sun didn't shine out all day. Cleared off after dark. I went down to standma's this morning and got our grubbing hoe. Pa, Rudolf, Porter, and I grubbed out Buck brush, sourdock, and burdock the rest of the day. I bathed this afternoon. None of us went to town to-day as we got our mail yesterday. Turned the work crosses out this morning. Porter took Mand S. over to Beechly's this evening, and didn't get back to do any of the chores.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Sunday May 24/89

Was nice this forenoon soon after dinner it began to cloud up. It sprinkled several times before six o'clock when it began to rain very hard and continued for about an hour. Ma and Bertha went over to see Pauline to-day. Pa went along to Sabetha to attend memorial services. He was going to come back with them this evening. They didn't get home. The rest of us went to S. S. Porter went home with Miskler's and Rudolf went with Levi's. Gordon, Will Gubert, and a young man by the name of Cascott came to-day. They went home about 4:30 as they were graded it was going to rain. I had a fuss with Porter this evening. He refused to milk a cow and I told him what I thought of him. We miss Pa and Ma a great deal to night.

Ben Miller

Rock Creek Monday, May 25, 1891.

Was cloudy all day. A rain has since. Ma Pa and Bertha got home about 10 o'clock. I got a short letter from Frank Roberts, also my mine I sent for. They sent me \$1.25 mine and I ordered one for \$3.20. Mike said yesterday he wanted us to work on the road today. It was so muddy today that I went down to see if he came. I was down a good while when he came and said I would work today. Porter and Rudolf then took teams and I went down. They used the grader. Worked all day. Pa and I just chored around today. I went out the bridge by our gate in afternoon. Buehrow had 10 pigs today. Another and the last has one and can't have any more. ~~Can't~~ do anything for her. Expect she will die. The Myron West cow had a calf this evening. Ben Miller.

Home, Tuesday, May 26, 1891.

Was a nice day. The men worked on the road all day. Finished working our road tax. Frank Bovers came today and made the frame for the porch. Would have put the screen out too but Pa and I painted the frame and it wasn't dry. Will come tomorrow and put the screen out. I went over to Mr. Snyder's right afternoon to get some paint. Stopped at Grandma's and got brushes. Did not do much today. Yours, Kecker.

P.S. I killed a black snake this evening when I was around fixing fence, and I guess I struck my watch some way. I can't make it go. Something must be broken. Ben Miller.

Home, May 27, 1891, Wednesday

Was a nice day. Frank Bowers came in put that screen on the porch this forenoon. Pa and I helped him I also wrote two letters this forenoon. Pa and I filled 20 sacks of wheat just before noon. After dinner we loaded up two wagons with wheat and Pa and Rudolf took it to town. Did not get back until quite late. I got two letters. I was down in the woods a while this afternoon. Porter harrowed corn all day. Rudolf in forenoon. I sent my watch to town with Pa to be fixed. It was just dirty. He cleaned it a little. Ho charge. Runs now. Ma rode over to Mr Kimmels with Rudolf and stayed there until he came back. Lillie went to town with Pa.

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Home, Thursday, May 28, 1891.

Was a nice day. I chored around this forenoon. Helped Pa and Rudolf haul load their wagons with wheat first. Pa ^{hauled} away all the wheat he will sell I guess. Sold 153 1/2 bu. at 17 a bushel. This afternoon we killed that sow that started to leave ⁱⁿ Monday she had 6. We put her over and she only had one more. She could not have been helped I believe. We took part of the fat off. Made 15 quarts of lard. I am going to town to raise three pigs. Harry went to town with Pa. Pa got a new cultivator today. Will get another one. Porter harrowed all day. Rudolf in afternoon. Lillie's school was out today she taught 8 months. Got only 15 all through. She had splendid success. Nell and Lillie went over this forenoon. Took Mary and the cart and led the pigs over and set them home. Lillie treated her school work. Sunday morning early.

Ben Miller

For Friday, May 29, 1891.

~~At the home of J. P. R. on Friday, May 29, 1891.~~

It rained quite a good deal between 4 and 5 o'clock this morning. Was cloudy all forenoon. Was nice this evening as it was too muddy to go in the field this morning we castrated dehorned and marked the calves. Got through about 10 when the boys went out in the field to harrow. After dinner Pa and Porter went down to Grandmas and hauled her wheat to town. Lillie, Belle and I began to get ready right after dinner to go to Morrill as we had made preparation for. We got started about 2 o'clock. Went in buggy with Cup and Bird. Had to go through Sabatha as Lillie wanted to get her hat but had to wait about 3/4 of an hour. We got to Morrill about 5.10 o'clock. I drove up to Mrs. Fishers and let Lillie and Belle out and then drove down and put the team in the livery stable. I then went in the bank and saw Frank Robert. Stayed with him a good while and then went to the restaurant and got my supper. Frank wanted me to go out with him. I then when went up to Mrs. Fishers and stayed there until time to go to the hall to hear the closing exercises of Morrill College. They were real good. I met a great many of my old friends. I went out with Frank R. after it was over. Belle and Lillie drove out the next day.

Ben Miller

For Saturday, May 30, 1891.

Was quite a nice day. Rained a little about 11 o'clock. We started off right after breakfast this morning to go fishing as we had planned. F. J. R. had a holiday, Decoration day. Seven of us went in lumber wagon. Went via F. J. R. Cyrus Wilson, Geo. McWitt, Martin Springer, Will Easton, Ben Spitznagel. We had 2 rifles, one shot gun and 3 revolvers, and about 400 or 500 cartridges. Shot over a hundred times going down. We went down by Falls City. We tried to fish near the right where Pony creek flows in the stream. Brewery, but as we couldn't catch any thing we moved out about 3 miles from Falls City out Walnut creek. It was about noon when we got there, so we put up our tent and ate dinner. After dinner 3 of them took the seine and went fishing. 2 of us took hooks and went up on the stream and one went to Falls City and got some beer all for himself. The boys with the seine got about 25 or 30 fish, while we with the hooks got one. I didn't get any. It was so muddy that by about 4 o'clock we were all tired out. We then came to tent. Some of them cleaned the fish while the rest of us were shooting around. They fried the fish and we ate all of them for supper. We had intended to stay all night, but as it was so damp and looked like rain we pulled out tent and started home a little before sundown. We were shooting lots coming home. Altogether shot about 400 cartridges during the day, shot 2 rabbits, and 6 to 6. Stopped in Hamilton coming home. Got home about 10 o'clock. One man threatened to have us arrested for shooting a rabbit in his pasture. Shot at it about 25 times. Frank and I slept in the barn. Had a splendid time but got very tired.

Ben Miller

Home, Sunday May 31, 1891

Wasnt a very nice day. We got up this morning quite late. I will just say that I was at Mr Roberts last night. When we went to the house, the girls teased us a good deal about catching a few fish. After breakfast we went up stairs and read Encyclopedia by the way Roberts have a new one. The Britannica in 125 volumes, cost 36.60. We intended to go to church but it sprinkled some and looked so much like rain that we didn't. Had dinner about 2 o'clock. About 2.30 we got ready and started for home, intending to stop at Myers. As we passed through Morrill we saw Sam Myers there and we supposed Nell might be there too we didn't stop at Myers. We got home about 5.30. It looked like rain when we started, so that Roberts tried to persuade us to stay all night. It didn't rain on us coming home but now 9 o'clock is beginning to rain. Ben Miller first heard of Bertha Kimmel's trouble today. She asks \$300 and as Tom Wilson said say it, he is in jail. Mr Kregar wont let her marry him.

Home, Monday, June 1, 1891.

Lot of rain fell last night. Must have rained almost constantly all night. Was too muddy to work in the field. The boys mowed weeds this forenoon with the exception of Porter taking the pony over to Beeghly's this morning. Ma and Pa went to town this morning. Took Lillie up to Fred's to help Jennie make Lizzie a silk dress. Got home about 2 o'clock. I helped the girls wash this forenoon. After dinner Rudolf and I took Paes, Mag and Francis down to Gra Mishler's to Little Johnnie. When we got back Rudolf went to harrowing corn. Porter mowed weeds all afternoon. I chored around in afternoon.

Ben Miller

P.S. Grandma gave Ma \$25 and when they went to town today they got \$4.50 worth of furniture, viz, bed room set, 1/2 doz chairs and center table.

B. G. M.

Home, Tuesday, June 2, 1891.

Was a nice day, quite warm though and very warm this evening in my room anyway as the wind is from the south. Looks like rain. The boys finished harrowing a little after 1.0 o'clock this forenoon. I had one cultivator ready and another partly ready. They then cultivated the rest of the day. What is the first of our corn ploughing. I then fixed up my corn cultivator and ploughed to this afternoon. My cultivator don't do as good work as I should like to have it do. I have one new one and Porter the other. Pa moved weeds and ground feed to day. The folks cleaned the sitting room today. I am very tired this evening.

Ben Miller

Home, Wednesday, June 3, 1891.

Was very warm to day. Threatened rain in afternoon. Bull sprinkled a few drops. Rudolf Porter, and I plowed corn all day. It made me very tired. Pa I planted some late potatoes to day. Not very many.

Ben Miller

There was a man around looking at Tommy yesterday, he seemed to examine him very closely. Today he was here enquiring for German folks. Bertha didn't want to talk with him so Ma didn't tell him there were any Germans at the place. Grandma thought probably he wanted to steal Tommy so I went over and got him this evening and put him in the barn. B. S. M.

Home, Thursday, June 4/1891

It rained a good deal in the night. Rained a little while we were milking. We went out in the field to plough anyway. Was a little wet. But the first thing we did after breakfast was to put some turpentine in the calves' horns or rather holes where the horns were. There were maggots in 3 of them. There was only a little piece in the east field so the boys finished that this morning while I went in the west. Pa went to town to-day and got the furniture they bought Monday. Ma and Bertha were down helping Grandma clean house to-day. I am quite tired.

Ben Miller

Home, Friday, June 5/1891.

It rained a lot during the night, was raining when I got up and rained all day. A great deal of rain fell but it came down so gently that it didn't raise the creek much. Could do scarcely anything to-day. I read the book "Black Beauty" to-day. I read a little last night and finished it this evening. It is a very fine book. It belongs to Henry. The folks took up the stars carpet to-day. I helped Bertha dust it and then to put it down. To-morrow morning I get here to-day.

Ben Miller

Home, Saturday, June 6, 1891.

Was cloudy all day. Rained some in the morning and misted this evening. I helped in the house this forenoon. Churned etc. In the afternoon, read and played on the piano a good deal. Pa and Ma went to town this afternoon. Brought Jennie and Lillie out. Jennie brought her dulcimer and played for us to-night. He got a nice lot of fruit. The boys grubbed and pulled weeds today. Porter took Ma and I over to Beech's in forenoon. They weighed the most of the horses this forenoon. It is nearly 10 o'clock.
Ben Miller.

Home, Sunday, June 7, 1891.

Was cloudy all day, misted a little. Was so muddy and looked so much like rain that none of us, except Rudolf, went to Sunday School. I read all forenoon and in the afternoon went down to Grandma's. I had a very nice talk with her. She gave me a whole lot of old magazines which she had laid away. I was very glad to get them. She also gave me a book published in 1856 giving lots of maps of the U.S. as it was then. It is an interesting book. We saw some tonight.
Ben Miller.

Home, Monday, June 8, 1891.

Was cloudy all day, scarcely saw the sun. Mistled some in afternoon. Was too muddy to plough corn. I had to go to town this forenoon and get some things which Ma forgot Sat. The boys mowed weeds and fixed fence in forenoon. This afternoon Bud and I went fishing, the first time with my new net. We got quite a lot of nice fish. More house mess. It made us both very tired. Old Larry who went along and carried the bucket. Bud and Porter weeded the raspberries this afternoon.

Gen Miller.

Home Tuesday, June 9, 1891.

Was very warm to-day. Threatened rain. A big cloud came in about sundown. It might rain to night. It was quite cloudy wet this morning but we ploughed corn anyway. Our corn is getting so weedy that we must plough whenever it is possible. I had to and Fred all day. The plough didn't work very good to day. They picked a good many of the cherries to-day. The ones in the orchard. They aren't quite ripe, but the birds are taking them so bad that if we don't pick them soon we won't get any. I am very tired to night.

Gotlieb Miller and his family were here to-day.

Gen Miller.

Home, Wednesday, June 10, 1871.

It rained last night or rather this morning. About 4 o'clock. It rained quite hard for a while. I was too maddy to go out in the field right after breakfast so I made Lillie a model; I copied from Jennie's. Lillie will give me a dollar for it and if I will copy the directions off for her. Jennie paid \$1.00 for hers. They all seem to think mine is just as good, although not quite as thick. The boys and Pa picked cherries until about 10 o'clock when the boys went to the field. I did not go out this forenoon but helped pick cherries after I finished the model. It took me about 2 hours. Riddell Porter and I ploughed corn this afternoon. It went quite nice. Paul and Harry are at Grandma's to-night.

Ben Miller.

Home, Thursday, June 11, 1871.

Was quite a nice day. Riddell Porter and I ploughed corn all day. I ploughed alone most of the day in the lower field. The boys finished in the north field. I was near the creek this afternoon and I hitched the team and went in bathing for a little while. Pa went to town this afternoon. I sent my watch along to be cleaned. It was so very dirty. Helen came out with bins to stay until Saturday. Grandma came up with bins to stay all night. The boys and I started to go down to the creek to bathe this evening, but the folks called me back. The boys hardly went in they said it was so cold.

Ben Miller.

Home, Friday, June 12, 1891.

Was a nice day although very warm. Threatened rain in afternoon. Porter, Rudolf and I ploughed some all day. Got a lot ploughed. Aunt Lillie, Mary and Jay and Grandma came out a little before noon. Uncle Rich was out in the afternoon. He bought our ¹⁸steers for 5 cents to go a week from tomorrow and our 21 hogs at 4 cents to go Monday. Belle went to town this afternoon to get some things about the sewing. I got a letter from Frank Roberts also a catalogue from Morrill College. He went to singing to night. This was the second night, but the first one for us. Prof Smith from Falls ^{city} teacher did not get home until about 10.30 P.M. Ben Miller

Home Saturday, June 13, 1891

Was quite warm this forenoon. Clouded over partly in afternoon. Began to rain a little after six and was raining when I went to bed. Porter, Rudolf, and I ploughed some until 5 this evening when Rudolf broke his plow so I brought his home and he ploughed with mine. Pa, Harry and Helen went to town this afternoon. Pa and Harry got in the rain some coming home. Porter was gone to a love feast this evening but did not on account of the rain. I was in the rain some in getting the cattle and we milked during the rain. Pa told me today that he would let me go to Pawson Tuesday and come back Thursday. It was quite a surprise to me as I had given it up. Ben Miller

Home, Sunday, June 14, 1891

Was not a very nice day, as it was muddy from the rain last night and was cloudy a good part of the day. I didn't go to S.P. today. ^{They better went in the spring wagon.} Was too lazy I guess. Charlie Gue came home with Porter and this afternoon Art Lichty came over, we had a very pleasant time. Rudolf took Jennie's bicycle this afternoon. Harry went along. Nell went to Mr. King's today. I didn't get to read as much today as I would have liked to. I slept part of the time. The folks were at S. S. P. K. drove 10 of the hogs in the scales this evening to have ready to start early in the morning.
Ben Miller

Home, Monday, June 15, 1891

Was quite a nice day until about 4 o'clock when a thunder shower came up. It rained about 10 minutes very hard. Porter and I were out plowing and got quite wet. Before we were through milking it began to rain again. Was raining hard when I went to bed. We got up a little after 4 this morning and Pa and Rudolf got started off with the hogs about 5. They got back about 7:15 and took the other two loads this afternoon. There were 24 hogs altogether. They averaged 280, but 4 etc. Porter went right out in the field to plow after the milking this morning. I had to take Holly over to Beeghly's. I got in the cornfield a little after 9. Pa brought the binder out today. Miss Newton is here on a visit.
Ben Miller

Home, Tuesday, June, '6, 1891.

We had a very heavy rain last night, so heavy that we couldn't go to Peru as we intended to do. We were greatly disappointed. It threatened rain several times today, sprinkled some. We drove our steers off today, got up a little after 3. Got started before 4.

They averaged 1293 lbs. We put them up on Feb 19, they then averaged 961. 10 were 3 yds and 8 2 yr. olds. Got 3 cts for them. Pa Porter and I drove them. We had our breakfast at the restaurant. I got my hair clipped today. They already look worried. We got home just about noon. Pudding trimmed hedge this forenoon and all of us this afternoon. Am very sleepy.

Ed Miller.

Home, Wednesday, June, '7, 1891.

It rained during and rained one heavy shower after I got up. I didn't get up until 6. After breakfast it cleared off and we trimmed hedge this forenoon. As we were eating dinner it began to rain again and rained very hard until 3. The creek was the highest it has been this year. It knocked the wheat down very badly. I straightened up my room and read *Wings of Temison*. He had another calf today. Is cloudy now.

Ed Miller

Home Thursday June 18/89

Misted all fore noon. We did not do very much of anything. In the afternoon it stopped but was cloudy about all the time. Rudolf and I trimmed hedge this afternoon. Trimmmed about 80 rods in about 3 hours. Pa and Porter mowed weeds part of the afternoon. Pa bought a calf from Mr. Kregg today for a dollar. It is a heifer calf not quite a week old. We sang a good deal tonight.

Ben Miller

Home Friday June 19/89

Was cloudy about all day. Was too wet to plow so on this forenoon Pa and I trimmed hedge while Rudolf and Porter mowed weeds around the hedge. In the afternoon we plowed corn. It was quite wet to plow. Were quite late with our work this evening.

Ben Miller

Home, Saturday June 20, 1891,

Was very warm to-day. Porter, Rudolf and I ploughed corn all day. In a.m. Lillie went to town this afternoon. Nell went along and then went out to Mr West's to stay a week. I sent for an encyclopedia to Mont. Ward & Co, in 10 volumes to-day. It costs \$16. It is Chambers'. We also sent for some other things altogether \$26.18 worth. We got a lot of mail to-day.

Ben Miller,

Home Sunday, June 21, 1891.

Was a nice day. All except Belle went to S.S. I taught a class to-day. Lived it quite well. I stayed for church. Mollie Beezly came home with Lillie. I didn't get much time to read to-day as I had to take Lillie to town this afternoon. She is going to sew with Jennie this week. Rudolf went to Mr. Gable's to-day and Porter to Fortois. Neither came home early. Porter quite late. Diandona and Fannie McBride were up this afternoon.

Ben Miller

Home Monday June 22, 1891

Was a nice day. Rudolf
Porter and I ploughed corn all day.
It went quite nice. 3 men
came out from town today and
set up our binders. Pa mowed
some grass for Grandma this after-
noon. After 10 o'clock now.

Ben Miller

Home Tuesday June 23, 1891

Was quite a nice day. The wind
blew quite strong from the south
all day. Was quite busy plowing
corn which Rudolf Porter and I
did all day. I got very tired
I bathed and then went
right to bed. Pa mowed weeds
and plowed potatoes today.

Ben Miller

Wednesday

Home June 24, 1891.

Was quite a nice day.
 Would have been quite warm
 if the wind had not blown quite
 strong from the south all day.
 Porter & Rudolf and I plowed
 corn all day. There was singing
 at the church to night. Only Porter
 went, I couldn't stand to see
 so much sweat and then I understood
 I was so dirty that I bathed to night.
 Mr. F. [unclear] came to help set up
 that horse doubletree to night. The
 girls were gooseberrying to day. I worked
 in the truck patch to day. Ben Miller.

Thursday

Home June 25, 1891.

Had a very heavy rain last night.
 Rained about all forenoon.
 Could do much in forenoon.
 In the afternoon it cleared off
 and got very hot. Porter and I
 went fishing while Pa and Rudolf
 trimmed hedge. We got a large
 mess of fish also a turtle. Harry
 went along to carry the fish.
 We put rings in the cows noses
 this forenoon. I fell down in
 the mud. We got our mail
 to day. Mr. Fouse brought it. It
 made me very tired to fish. Ben Miller.

Friday

Home, June 26, 1891.

Was quite a nice day, although very warm in afternoon. As it was I went to plough corn this forenoon we just chugged around. Pa and Ma went to town about 11. Got back about 5. Lillie and Corrie came along. Porter and Rudolf ploughed corn this afternoon. I would have ploughed corn but I had such a diarrhoea and my stomach ached so that I didn't. I helped pick a few cherries. Mrs Jack Dyer was here this afternoon. Harry got the cattle alone to night.

Ben Miller

Saturday

Home, June 27, 1891.

Was quite pleasant in forenoon. Threatened rain all afternoon. Rained one shower in afternoon and one after dark. Porter and I ploughed this forenoon. Rudolf couldn't go out as Pa started to cut the wheat and had to have his team. "Quick" Turner came out to help start it. They only made 2 rounds this forenoon. Auntie Joy wrote us that Hugh and Walter were coming to Salem today, and wanted someone to meet them. ~~But~~ I had intended to go but Ma asked the creamery man what time the train came in and he said at 8 this evening. And it was generally late and the roads were not safe to travel after dark. Ma then asked him if he would go to the train and see if they came and if they did to tell them to go to a hotel and I would go after them in the morning. He said he would as he lives in Salem. Just about half an hour ago they came. Had walked all the way from Salem. They came on a different train. Got there at 5.30. The other 10 when they got here. He was very sorry. I helped with the binder this afternoon. It didn't work well only made two rounds. Pa and Rudolf shocked it after I had brought the horses home and got the cattle. I was too wet to cut wood. It got ~~at~~ up all the time. None of us went to town today. Nell came home from Mrs West's today where she has been for the past week. Rode out with Ben Smith.

Ben Miller

Home, Sunday June 28, 1891.

Was a very pleasant day. The first thing I did after breakfast was to hitch up Wagg and go after the boys' baggage which they left at Bill Punyon's last night. Hugh went with me. When we got back, Hugh, Walter, Porter and myself went to S. J. at the Dubard church. The rest of the folks except Ma and Paul went to town over East expecting there would be preaching but the preacher didn't come. Ma was down at Ma Mischler's last night. Ada had a girl baby. After dinner Hugh, Walter, Rudolf and I went down to the woods. Went in swimming a while and then went down to Grandma's. Frank Sammons, Della and Aunt Lollie and the rest of the children came just as we did. Frank told us he saw a swarm of bees just on the other side of the red bridge, after which we went over to see them. When we came back Mrs. Mischler was there and told us we could go over to their place and get a hive, which we did. We then went over, there were Will, her, and Susan Mischler, Mr. Stanley and his hired man, Wallace Sherrah, Mr. Beely, Hugh, Walter and myself. We got the bees without any trouble. We then went down to Mischler's swimming hole and watched a lot of them swim for a while and then went back and looked at the bees and then went and saw Ada's girl, after which we came home. We then ate our supper after which we hitched up Wagg and Bird to the spring wagon and then went down and got the bees. Walter stayed at Grandma's to-night. He is going to work there.

Ben Miller.

Home, Monday, June 29, 1891.

Was a very pleasant day. Porter, Hugh, and I went out with two teams and a horse in the cornfield this morning. Hugh and I took turns about hoeing until about 11 o'clock when he sent for me to come and help Rudolf shake wheat. They went out to cut in the morning. Hugh then took my plow. When I got to the binder, they had just broken a wooden roller, which the saw was run on. It took us till noon to get it out. Pa went to town right after noon to get one. Had to send to St. Joe. Expect will come to night and a man will bring it out and put it on in the morning. Hugh, Porter and Rudolf ploughed all afternoon. I went up and shook the wheat after noon. Harry and Paul helped me some. Got through about 5. I then came home and Pa, who had just got home, and I went and baled facts till supper.

Ben Miller.

Home, Tuesday, June 30, 1891.

Was a nice day. That man came out and fixed the binder this morning. It went pretty good to-day, where the wheat stood up straight. Rudolph shocked all day. I oiled the binder this morning and to-day noon too. I was in the field 7 1/2 hours this afternoon. I got there at one o'clock and quit it at 8:30. Harry and Nell helped some this afternoon.

It was awful bad shocking this afternoon as the wheat did stand up straight and so it didn't bind them good. Was very slow. Wheat is very ripe.

Pa, not Rudolph nor I helped mill to night. To 10, 15 now all are bed except me. I was up at 4:30 this morning. Porter and Hugh ploughed corn all day. Ben Miller.

Home, Wednesday, July 1, 1891

Was quite a nice to-day here, but we saw it raining almost all around us here it only sprinkled a little. Rudolph and I ate a piece when we got up and then went right out in the field. Were out there by 5:15. We wanted to catch up with Pa and Walter came up and helped us shock to-day. It was awful shocking in the wheat which we finished about 3 o'clock. Then they went over to the rye. I helped Pa take the machine over while Rudolph and Walter finished shocking the wheat. We got quite a good deal of rye out to-day. I cut some. I came home earlier than the other to help do the chore. All of us boys battled to night. Porter and Hugh ploughed corn all day. Ben Miller.

Home, Thursday, July 2, 1891,

Was quite a nice day. We were cutting
rye all day. I cut most of the day.
Pa and Rudolf shocked while Potter and
Hugh ploughed corn. I broke that 4 horse
double tree to night. The last round I made,
broke the setting. Wasn't my fault, Pa didn't
say anything to me. Ma took Jennie
back to day. This ~~off~~ in the forenoon.
She drove Frank Bowers' horse as were using
all of ours and his was running in grand
pasture. ~~I got a letter from Frank~~
~~today.~~

Ben Miller,

Home Friday, July 3, 1891.

Was quite a nice day. We finished
cutting our rye about 3 o'clock this afternoon.
Had about 18 1/2 acres. I cut in the forenoon
while Pa and Rudolf shocked. In the afternoon
Pa cut and I shocked. I was getting to understand
the binder quite well now. It works well.

Harry and Nell rode to town on the prairie this
afternoon and got some fire-crackers and some
other things. I got a letter from Frank
Roberts today and one from Mont. Ward & Co
saying they had shipped my goods, encylopedia
&c. Potter and Hugh ploughed corn all day.
Rudolf ploughed a little this evening after we
home from cutting. We cut with 3 horses to
It worked well.

Ben Miller,

The Glorious Fourth

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Sat
Gome July 4th 1891

Was quite a nice day except a big shower in forenoon threatened several times. Right after breakfast Porter, Rudolf and Hugh went out to plough while I went down to Mr Michler's to get some ice to make ice-cream. Harry and Paul went along. We got quite wet as a shower came up then. I had Harry and Paul covered up with the rubber blanket, they didn't get much wet. These men turned out when the shower came. As soon as it quit Porter, Rudolf, Hugh and I went fishing. I didn't get much of a mess. At home about noon. This afternoon Rudolf and Hugh ploughed some while Porter and I also water went to town. I got a box of books from Mr. W. G. The main thing was Chamber's Encyclopedia cost 16.00. It's very nice. We didn't go to any celebration, celebrated at Merrill, Falls City and had a picnic at the springs. There was singing at the church to night. None of us went but stayed at home and cracked fire-crackers until almost 11 o'clock. Grandmother up to day. We had ice-cream for dinner and supper. We saw the fire-works at Merrill to night. Hugh and I got up at 3.30 this morning and shot the gun off right by the boys window but failed to make them. I shot the gun off at 11 o'clock. Ben Miller.

Gome, Sunday, July 5, 1891.

Was a nice day. Most of us went over east to church today. Had a new preacher. His name is Roberts I believe. Ma, Pa, Lillie and Rudolf went over to night. The preacher quite well. We had a large crowd here today altogether 26 persons for dinner, viz. Mr Uncle Fred and Aunt Horra Paul Roy, Gottlieb and Pauline, Uncle Richard Auntolla and Jay. Grandmother and Walter and Will Michler besides our own folks. Had quite a good time. Hugh has been too dipping my hair all the time I have been writing this. He is clipping it short all over. Hugh, Porter and I froze a little ice cream after supper. It is about 11 o'clock so I will close.

Ben Miller.

Home, Monday July 6/1891.

Wasn't a very nice day. Threatened rain all day. Began to sprinkle about 3.30 and I sprinkled and misted a good deal the rest of the day. We went to stacking wheat this morning. The reason was because it was so loose that we thought if a rain came it would wash it through it. We had two wagons, Porter and Ruddy each had a wagon. Hugh and I stayed out in the field and pitched on, while Pa stacked. Walter helped Pa in afternoon. We had a stack almost done when it began to sprinkle. We finished it, but didn't start any more. Hugh and Ruddy ploughed the rest of the afternoon while Porter and I worked. Mr Eckert (The Lutheran minister who is here on trial) is here to-night. He seems to be very nice.

Ben Miller

Home, Tuesday July 7/1891.

Had a rainy day. Began to rain about 9.30 and has rained almost constantly ever since. It is now nearly 10. A great deal of rain has fallen. It is very bad on a good many who haven't their fall wheat cut yet. The men started to plough this morning while Pa went to mill. The men came in when it began to rain and closed around the rest of the day. They all there had their hair clipped short like mine. Harry went to town with Pa. It rained before Pa got to town so Harry stayed. It rained all the way home on Pa. Didn't hurt the flour any. I had a great deal to do. Mostly in Ben's barn. Mr Eckert is still here. Glad to stay on account of the rain. It is now 10 and I am the only one up.

Ben Miller

Home Wednesday July 8/89

It cleared off during the night and was very nice to-day, although quite muddy. Pa took the last of our wheat to town to-day. Was about 16 bu. He exchanged it for flour and got bought 700 lbs of ⁴⁵flour for 9. He will get the flour when he needs it. He brought his two wagonful of bran. I took a dip this forenoon and mowed weeds and in the afternoon helped put the bran away and chored around. Mr. Eikert went away to-day. Walter came up this evening and I clipped his hair and then we (7 of us young folks) went up to singing. ~~Heck~~ didn't come. We sang a little and then adjourned for 6 weeks. ^{got home a little before 11.} The boys fixed fence in forenoon and ploughed corn in afternoon. Ben Miller

Home Thursday July 9/89

Was a very nice day. This forenoon Hugh Porter and Rudolf ploughed while Pa and I went back and set the wheat shocks apart some and ploughed beets, etc. with the single plow. Had a very early dinner and then started to stacking the wheat. Hugh and I pitched in the field, Rudolf and Porter each had a wagon while Pa with Walter stacked. We came in for supper a little before six and then went out and worked till dark, almost. Got in a lot of it. The women folks did the milking. Got now 9.35 and I had better stop as we have to get up early in the morning. We had lots of fun this afternoon. Am not much tired. Ben Miller

Home, July 10, 1891, Friday.

Threatened rain all ^{of forenoon} day. Has quite nice in afternoon. We stacked wheat all forenoon and until about 3:15 this afternoon when we finished. We made 3 large ricks and one round stack about 44 loads altogether. Only had about 143 or less. There is an awful lot of straw. After we were through with stacking, all 4 went out to plough. I had a fuss with Ford to-day. He acted so ornery about pitching the bundles, he would not work. Was quite windy to-day.
Ben Miller

Home, Saturday July 11, 1891,

Was quite a nice day, ^{with a slight shower} although very windy. All 4 of us ploughed corn all day. It is awful hard ploughing. I turned out at 5:40 and got the cattle and then took the pony over to Mr. Beahm's. He put me back until almost 10, because Mr. Beahm's or Will weren't at home when I got there. Pa and Ma went to town this afternoon. They got Mr. Kregar's mare as we had all of ours in the field. They were in the single buggy.
Ben Miller

P.S. Mr. Mable broke his binder to-day and so came around got ours to finish his wheat.

Home, Sunday July 12, 1891.

Was quite nice day. Left a very strong wind from the south. Was also quite warm. Part of us went over east to church and part to the funeral church to S. S. I went to S. S. I then went home with Art Glick. Will & Miss went also. Had quite a good time. Will came along home with me and stayed a little while. Is after 10 o'clock, I will close.

Ben Miller

Home Monday July 13, 1891.

The first thing this morning was a thunder shower about 4 o'clock. Didn't amount to much. Rest of the day was quite nice. Porter, Kuddoff, John and I ploughed corn all day. Though didn't get out very early as Pa needed his team to go find some feed. I quit a little early and took the pony over to Mr. Seegle's. Got home about 9 o'clock. ^{Paul} Max and Lillie went to town today. Lillie went over to Seneca to visit until Wednesday.

Ben Miller

Home, Tuesday, July, 14, 1891.

Was a nice day, Rodolf Postegard
 & I ploughed corn until about 4.30^{PM} when
 I quit to rake hay. Pa took Hugh's team
 and mowed hay & grass all day. While Hugh
 had weeds. The women folks were
 out hoing again to day.

Ben Miller

Home, Wednesday, July 15, 1891

Was a nice day. He worked at
 the hay to day. I mowed and
 raked in afternoon and ploughed
 corn until about 10 A.M. and then
 loaded the rest of grain on
 Pa went to town to get
 to get Lillie who came from
 Seneca to day. We are all having
 Monday. I got a catalog of
 Washburn College to day. I am
 nice. Worked at the hay very late to night.
 Got in a little before 10 P.M. Ben left

Home Thursday July 16, 1891
 Was a nice day. He worked at
 the hay all day, mowed and
 raked.

Ben Miller,

Home Friday July 17, 1891

Had quite a heavy rain during the
 night. Our whole family went to town today
 this forenoon to get our suitcases taken. We had a
 family group taken first. One to cost \$7.00 ^{for my} ^{are very} ^{large} dozen
 and Ben all but Paul had ours taken separate
 and Paul will have his to morrow. All will get one dozen.
 One to cost \$2.00 per doz. One celluloid (Gutchings
 is the fellow's name that took them. He has a car here.
 The boys were scattering hay that we had in
 bunches this forenoon and setting up the rye shocks
 that had fallen down. This afternoon we all
 worked at the hay. I raked most of the time. Mowed
 a little. Got in one bumble bee's nest. I didn't get stung.
 He came ^{from the north field.} ^{big} smoke and once in a while a blaze ~~the~~
 in the direction of Sabatha this being about 7 o'clock. Must
 have been a large building in Sabatha burned down. Maxam is here ^{to night} ^{July 17.}

Home, Saturday July 18, 1891.

Was quite a nice day except a
 thunder shower about 3 o'clock this
 afternoon. We worked at the house
 today, had to stop about an hour on account
 of the shower this afternoon. We went and
 fixed the hog fence then. Bertha, Harry &
 Paul went to town this morning. All had their
 pictures taken. Aunt Har brought Paul a
 suit, pants and coat and he had his picture taken
 in town. Aunt Har came out with them, and
 Aunt Sallie, Julia White and Della drove out and
 spent the day. It was a very large fire in
 Sabetha that we saw yesterday evening. 4 buildings
 burned, including a liver stable. I battled to-night.
 Ben Miller.

Home, Sunday July 19, 1891.

Was a nice day. Clouded up this evening.
 Look like rain. I went to S. S. today. Came
 home afterwards. The three boys went off
 visiting. This afternoon the girls went up to
 see Mrs. Jones. Albert Ackerman and
 Minnie Lawrence came out a while this
 evening. The boys were quite late about
 getting home to-night. Hugh especially. He
 didn't come until 7:45. I read a great deal
 today in Ben's paper. Like it very well.
 Ben Miller.

Tome, Monday, July 20, 1891,

Rained a little during the night. Began to rain some during breakfast. After breakfast we started out to trim hedge. Pa, Hugh and I went first to set up some of the new plows but had fallen down. It rained a little almost all the time but not hard until about 1:00'clock when we went over to Mr. Fuss's until it was mostly over. I changed my pants when I got home. We then trimm'd a little more before dinner. This afternoon Rudolf, Porter, Hugh and I ploughed row. We got a lot ploughed. It was awful hard work though, just wore me all out.

Ben Miller

Tome, Tuesday, July 21, 1891,

Was quite a nice day! A strong wind from south all day. We started out to cut our oats this morning. Rudolf and I went alone to help get started, after which Rudolf, Walter, who had just come a little while before and I went and scattered some hay that had been bunched and got wet. As soon as this was done Rudolf and Walter went to shock oats while I went to raking. It took me until about 4:30 P.M. to finish raking. I left work at evening. Porter and Hugh ploughed in forenoon. After noon Porter and Walter shocked while Hugh and Rudolf hauled hay until about 5 P.M. when Pa had them quit and I put their team on the binder and they help us shock. Walter then rode the lead horse the boys upset a load of hay this afternoon. We stayed in field until about 9:00 P.M. when we were at home.

Home, Wednesday, July 22, 1891,

Was a ~~very hot~~ ^{very hot} day. ^{I forgot that it rained a little this} We went right as ^{of tomorrow}
 the oats this morning. Parent, Walter raked for him
 while Hugh, Rudolf and I worked. Finished a
 little before 11. ~~But~~ was down quite badly in
 some places. Porter helped Mish left thresh
 all day. Ma and Nell took Aunt Man and John
 to town today to go to Seneca and took Lillie and
 Paul over to Pauline's. Lillie is going to see there,
 Paul wanted to go along. I got a book to do
 Black's & Halling's Receipts, I got it free by renewing
 our subscription to The Blade. We had to lay
 in afternoon. We finished filling the
 east man in the barn today. I hardly believe
 I ever sweat as much before as I did today. My
 shirt, a thick one, was just wet. Ben Miller,

Home, Thursday, July 23, 1891

Was a nice day. Pa mowed in forenoon,
 Rudolf and Hugh hauled in two loads of
 hay this forenoon the only dry hay we had
 this. Porter and I helped unload it. I hosed
 while they got it and Porter mowed weeds, after
 they had that in. Hugh and I hosed while
 Porter and Rudolf mowed weeds in orchard.
 I mowed this afternoon, Walter raked while
 the rest hauled hay. Started a stack in the
 field as the barn is almost full. Porter
 father came to night. Ben Miller

Home, Friday, July 24, 1891.

Rained a little in forenoon, enough to stop stacking hay. Was nice in afternoon. I mowed ^{grass} all forenoon. The boys started to load hay but it soon got to damp when it sprinkled and they quit and mowed weeds. In the afternoon we all worked at the hay. Porter's father went to town and then helped with the hay in afternoon. I loaded hay this afternoon and then helped pitched out the stack. There were seven of us. We got in an awful lot of hay this afternoon. Found a lot of bumble-bee nests to day. I run into two while I was mowing. I got stung just below the eye. Horse got stung too. Rudolf and Hugh got stung too.

Ben Miller

Home, Saturday, July 25, 1891.

We had a heavy rain during the night. Threatened rain all forenoon. Sprinkled a little. I just chored around this forenoon. I went down to Grandmas and got a scythe and the 3 boys mowed weeds in the orchard. In the afternoon, Pa went to town, Hugh and Rudolf trimmed hedge, I mowed the yard, killed two nests of bumble-bee without getting stung, leather, etc. Porter and his father went off this afternoon over near Falls City. Took a team and the buggy, will come back to-morrow.

Ben Miller,

Rome, Sunday, July 26 1891.

Was a nice day. Part of us went to S. S. at the Hubbard church and part went to preaching at the Lutherans. I went to S. S.

When we got home Fred Klepper had brought Willie and Paul home from Pauline's where they went Wed. Paul wanted to go back again.

Auntie Joy and the two girls came this afternoon quite unexpectedly as they had intended to come a week later. They went down to Grandma's as Aunt Lillie, Della, Frank and Myrt were down there. I read a lot to-day in the book "Ben Hur". I almost forgot to say that it rained slowly from about 3 till 6 o'clock. Looks as if it may rain more. Peter came this evening. His father didn't. Ben Miller.

Rome, Monday, July 27, 1891.

Was a nice day. We worked at the hay all day. I mowed until about 4 o'clock. As I had finished the piece I was mowing on I then helped pitch until dark, stopping at 5 o'clock for supper. I killed one nest of bumble-bees to-day. No sting. Ma and Auntie Joy went to town this afternoon. We expected to get our pictures but didn't. Grandma, Auntie Joy, and Aunt Sam are here to-night.

Ben Miller

Home, Tuesday, July 28, 1891

Was doudy all forenoon and part of
 Afternoon. Drinkled several times in
 forenoon. Couldnt work at her. Doye
 trimmed hedge while Walter and I
 dived around. In afternoon, we got
 the binder rigged up and went out to
 cut some timothy for seed, but about
 4 acres, all the time we had. Pa and
 Walter and I shocked, the other boys
 trimmed hedge until about 4 o'clock. The
 hay then being dry enough all but Porter and
 I went at the hay. I cut and Porter shocked,
 I got through a little after six. Brought the
 binder home. Other men were out till
 dark.
 Ben Miller.

Home, Wednesday July 29, 1891

Was a very warm day. I mowed
 until about 4:30 o'clock P.M.

The rest were hawling. Bertha was
 out helping pitch until I got
 ready about 5 o'clock when I got
~~out~~ took her place. Gillie did ~~the~~
 to yak to-day. Auntie Jey went
 to town, this afternoon to visit
 Mrs. Wilkins dam and Attde
 while ago about 9:30 P.M. Pa and
 I went out and put her horse
 away.

Ben Miller.

Home, Thursday, July 30, 1891,

Was a very warm day. I pitched hay till about 6 o'clock. Gillie raked in forenoon. In the afternoon she mowed and Bertha raked. It rained a little today about 5 o'clock. Rained more a row & w, only thunder showers. We didn't go out after supper. Today was the school-meeting. No one in but from here. Grandma and Aunt Jane were up today visiting with Mrs Wilkins. I am very tired to-night. I finished reading "But for" to-night.

Ben Miller.

Home, Friday, July 31, 1891.

Was very warm and sultry in forenoon. In afternoon was cloudy most of the time. About 6:30 it began to rain and rained for about an hour and a half very hard. Kept on raining some until I went to bed. Couldn't do much at the hay this forenoon. Wasn't dry enough. I finished mowing about 9:30. The boys trimmed hedge until about then. We got ~~one~~ two loads in forenoon. Had dinner about 11:30. Bertha happened to get wrong time. In afternoon we hauled in 12 loads by 5:30 when we went to supper. After supper we ~~were~~ expected to ~~put~~ get the two remaining loads. But it rained when we only had one. So we lacked one load of finishing haying today. Porter's father came to day noon and helped at this afternoon. I pitched in the fields ~~not wet this evening~~ Ben Miller.

Home, Saturday, August 1, 1891.

Was a nice day. Rather muddy. Rained a good deal in the night. I was churning around until about 11:30 when Pa and I went up and scattered a load of hay out, that we had in bundles and that in the top off the stack. The boys trimmed bed of this forenoon. In afternoon Pa, Hugh, Willie and Mr. Darringer went to town, while Porter Rudolf and I topped out the stack and finished hay for the present. Have a little more to cut in a few weeks that was pastured late in light canal over. This evening and Art and Rudolf went over southwest of Sabella to spend Sunday. I didn't feel good today. Seems I worked too hard yesterday afternoon. Bathed to night. Ben Allen.

Home, Sunday, Aug. 2, 1891

Was a very cool day. I went to S. S. and church at Burk's Church today. Came home afterwards as I expected some of Uncle Fred's folks would come. Failed to come. I read a good deal today. Pa went over west to congregation this forenoon to see about hiring Mr. Eckert. They decided not to hire him. Ma, Pa, and Carl were at Grandpa's this afternoon. Rudolf has come home yet 11:30. We tied Art's saddle on the old stable and fixed a tin pan in the stairway for Rudolf. Auntie Joy is here this evening. We played and saw some. Pa, Belle, Willie and Bertha went over east to church this evening. There was a celebration out at Bern today in honor of the 50th anniversary of Switzerland's independence. It felt very good. Sabella and I went to Bern today. The excursion went from Sabella to Bern. We saw the national flag flying from the tower.

Home, Monday, Aug 3, '89.

Was a nice day. Ma and Rudolf, helped
us thresh to day. Porter, Pa and I tore down
the old row fence and hauled in two loads of rye
this evening. Auntie Joy started home this
morning. I wrote for a catalogue of a school
at Bee Moines this evening. Rudolf got home
about 11 o'clock last night. Our trucks worked well.

Ben Miller.

Home, Tuesday, Aug 4, 1891.

Was a nice day. We stacked
rye all day. Had two wagons
Porter and Rudolf hauled. Trigh
and I pitched in the field. Pa stacked
and Walter banded the bunnies to him.
There were an awful lot of bands
eaten by the crickets. Along the
corns almost every band was
eaten, so we had an awful lot of
banding to do. Came in for
supper about 5:30. Got two
loads after supper. Girls milked.
Ma and Aunt Nan went up to Fred Dukert's
to day. Went into town and got ^{the} mail. Ben Miller

Home Wednesday Aug. 5, 1891

Was a nice day. Cool, worked at eye all day. I saw all yesterday. Finished after sundown. Had supper about 5:30.

Got two loads after supper. Sule milked Grandma and Aunt Hannah here to night. Both rode up on pony. Harry took her down for them.

D. Miller

Home Thursday Aug 6, 1891.

Was cool & dry. A very strong wind blew from the east, southeast and south all day. Blew off lots of apples, pears etc. We stacked oats all day. The wind made it very disagreeable. We had our places the same as yesterday. We got an invitation this forenoon to a ^{surprise} party over at Mrs. Snyder's this evening. Being Maria's 14th birthday. Belle Gillet, Bertha, Nell and I went. Took spring wagon from and back. Had ice cream, cake, and quite a good time. Got home a little before two o'clock.

D. Miller

Erida

Home, Thursday Aug 7, 1891.

Was a very clear day. I didn't see a cloud today. We had a very strong south wind all today. Very disagreeable and warm. Staked out until about 3, 15^{PM} when we finished. Staked timothy rest of the day. All had places same as yesterday. Belle and Bertha took care and the cart and I went visiting this morning to see until Sunday. Will visit Shepfer's, and Mrs Pauline and others. I wrote a letter to Frank Roberts this evening. I was riding on the back of the wagon today, carrying my pitchfork when I slipped off and struck the pitchfork through my shoe and through my right middle toe. Didn't strike the bone. It hurt but so very much. I worked on just the same.

B. Miller

Saturday

Erida, Aug. 8, 1891.

Was clear and wind and cool in forenoon. In the afternoon was just the opposite. We finished our staking today. Had two loads of timothy to haul in morning. Were all through by 10 o'clock. Then dug two piles of potatoes. After dinner Pa and I each took a team and went to town to get hog fencing. Grandma and Aunt Ann went with Pa and Garry and Walter with me. Couldn't get but three rolls of fencing so Pa brought that and I brought a few more for Grandma and other things. Got our pictures today. Are good.

B. Miller

Home Sunday Dec 9, 1891.

I went to S. I. today & came home after tea was out. Uncle Charlie, Uncle Rich, Jay, Grandma, Aunt Nan, Mrs. Davis, Fred, Lizzie and Harry were here today. Uncle Charlie wanted me to go out to Ness with him and drive Tommy back. I should like to very much but guess can't. I enjoyed myself very much today. Will W. Whaley was up to talk over school matters with me this evening. P. S. Belle and Bertha got home from their visit they started on Friday.

Home, Monday Dec. 10, 1891.

Today was quite warm Pa was 57 years old today. We got him a gold watch chain. Sent to M. W. & Co for it cost \$1.00. Aunt Lora sent him a fine white silk handkerchief. Had a fine supper for him, Grandma Aunt Nan and Mrs. Davis were up. I took Walter to school this morning. He went home. Pa went to town and got rest of his fever this forenoon. In afternoon Pa, Ruddy and I put it up while Hugh and Porter tinkered the bridge.

Ben Miller.

Home, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1891

I predicted rain all forenoon. It rained some. I started mowing our last hay this morning. It was some that we pastured the steers on late. About 5 or 6 acres. It was so damp that it didn't mow good so I stopped until after dinner. Mowed all afternoon. Porter and Hugh trimmed hedges in forenoon while Pa, Rudolf and I fixed hog fence. In afternoon all four of them trimmed hedges. It didn't mow a bit good today. There was so much bluegrass that it would stop the mower every little bit.

Ben Miller

Home, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 1891

Was a nice day. I mowed until about 3 P. M. when I finished. The hay was so dry that the men couldn't do much with it before noon. I trimmed hedges in the meantime and got one load before noon. Pa raked until I got through mowing when I raked. Aunt Har went to town today. Brought our mail.

Hugh upset a load of hay this evening in crossing a small ditch. Broke the rack and a board or so on the rack.

Ben Miller

Grandma sold some walnut trees to some men from Dawson to put into log ^{to the old country} and ships. Today four men came to cut them. We are boarding them.

Ben Miller

Home, Thursday Aug. 13, 1891.

A nice day. We finished haying for this year today. I raked until after 11 o'clock when I finished. Men hauled hay in forenoon. Filled the barn and log stable. I helped haul in afternoon. We made a small stack but through by about 5 P.M. Today was Paul's birthday. He is 5 years old. Ma got him a rocking chair for a present. Grandma gave him a half dollar. Belle and Lillie went to town this forenoon. Got a new carpet for the sitting room which Frank Hammer had sent for. Mr Roberts and Mr Moore from Morrill were up this afternoon to see about ~~me~~ getting us to go to Morrill to school this year. I don't think any of us will go. Is. P. 58. Ben Miller!

Home Friday August 17, 1891.

Was a very warm day. Was just 92° above zero, on the north side of the stone house, almost hay. He hauled hay to day. With 3 wagons, most of the day.

I helped load the wagons. Mr Zuber and S. Heim came about noon and stayed most of the afternoon. I was in the house a good while. Mr Zuber wants me to go to Morrison to the Lutheran school. He said he would send me a catalogue. Mr Zuber reached at the Lutheran church to night. Ma, Belle, Lillie, Esther, Fred and I went over. Got back about 11 P.M. and read a very good sermon, as he always does.

The women folks were changing carpets & the clouds and just constant lightning. A good deal of Ben Miller!

Home Saturday Dec. 15, 1891

Had a very heavy rain last night. Needed it very much as it hadn't rained for two weeks & believe ground was very dry. Tom was suffering for it. Pa went to town this forenoon and didn't get back until dark. He got a male pig from Fred Gilbert. The boys and I were fixing fence and putting well to drain it, was to get to haul manure. I read and Minnie Herbert came to night as I had written them to do. Got here about a o'clock. I had given Tom and I bathed & rinsed. I forgot to say that it was cloudy all day.

Pa. C. Miller

Home Sunday Aug. 16, 1891

Was quite a nice day, (to be sure, most of the day and quite warm). Frank and I didn't go to sleep until after 12 o'clock. Had a fine talk. He didn't go to D.D. D. da. Frank and Minnie went home this evening. We had a very nice visit with Ma, Grandma and Aunt Helen were up to day. Jack & Soper were here today to make out the number bill for the bank. Mr. Brown's baby died and was buried today. It happened that none of us could go. Will Phillips was up this evening and gave me an invitation to a party at her place Thursday eve. I almost did not go.

Pa. C. Miller

Home, Monday, Dec. 17, 1881.

Was warm to-day. Was too wet to haul manure in forenoon so the boys fixed fence and I mended, the potatoes went down to Grandma's for wise stretchers, etc. In the afternoon I went over to Sammie's to see if they would shell for Grandma tomorrow. They said they would so I went up to Tom's and Jack's to see if they would haul for her. I had the room when I got back I was going to go around here to see about getting tea, when Mr. Roberts and Mr. Eyer from Morrill came, so I went. They want me to go to Morrill to school. I do think some of it now. They are here to-night. Ca was sick to-day, ~~with~~ trouble with stomach. Ben Miller.

Home, Tuesday, Dec. 18, 1881.

Was very warm to-day. We shelled corn for Grandma to-day. Had it hauled to town right from the sheller. We had two teams on the sheller. The boys did the shoveling. Ca went to town with a load right after dinner. We bought a ~~load~~ 50 bushels from Grandma. 25 yellow, she got 50 cts. for yellow and 50 cts. for white. I'd hauled a load up and I came up and weighed it and packed it. We got through shelling about 4 o'clock when I took Jim and Charlie off the horse power and took a load to town. Took the wagon to Tom's and came back as it was there. I didn't get back until after 9 o'clock.

Ben Miller.

Home, Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1891,

Was very warm today, Porter helped Jim Sharrak thresh today. The rest of us hauled manure. Today was Ma's birthday. She is 44 years old. We got her an \$8.00 rocking chair. I gave \$1.00. She was sick all day. Hugh and I went down to Grandma's this evening to see Aunt Kate as she is going to town to-morrow and home Monday. We didn't get home until after about 11 o'clock.

Ben Miller,

Home, Thursday, August 20, 1891

Rained last night and a shower today. Was very warm today. Threatened rain in evening but cleared up again before sundown. Rudolph went over to help Levi Porton thresh this forenoon but came back soon as they weren't going to thresh this forenoon and to get another hand to thresh this afternoon. So Hugh and Rudolph went this afternoon. All 4 of us hauled manure this forenoon and Porter and I this afternoon. Each had a team. All of the young folks from here except Nell went down to Michigan to a party to night. Didn't get home until 9.30. Had a very good time had ice cream. Porter took Mollie Bagby, had Bird and the cart. Lillie went to town today and had her teeth fixed.

Ben Miller,

Home, Friday, August 21, 1891.

Was quite nice until about 13 o'clock this afternoon when we had a very hard storm of wind and rain. Lasted about an hour. Blew off lots of apples. The boys and Hugh helped Levi finish these this forenoon. Porter and I hauled manure. I didn't do much else this morn. The boys looked about the place while Pa took those 4 wood-choppers to town. Two of them will come back again next week. I am very tired and sleepy. Had about 3 hours sleep last night & 1 1/2 this P.M. Bear Miller,

Home, Saturday, Aug. 22, 1891.

Was very cool to day. Too cool for comfort. Pa and Nellie and I went to town this forenoon and didn't get back until after 6. Nellie and I each had our teeth fixed. I had 5 filled and one pulled. The one I had pulled was a jaw tooth. I had it pulled by electricity. It didn't hurt very much. He charged me \$5.00. The boys fixed fence and hauled manure.

Bear Miller.

Home, Sunday, August 23, 1891.

Was very cool to-day. I went to L. D. and from there down to Mr. Wisler's. Had a good time. Uncle Arch and Uncle Rich came out to-day and will stay a good while I guess. I didn't have time to read much to-day.

Ben Miller

Home, Monday, Aug. 24, 1891.

Was cool to-day. Porter helped Jim Sharratt truck to-day. Didn't come home to-night. Rudolf, Hugh and I hauled manure. Each had a team in forenoon. In afternoon I did not as Belle had to go to town and get her belly fixed. Uncle Arch and Uncle Rich took her. Grandma and Jennie came out with them. Grandma is here to-night. Uncle Arch showed me how to play chess to-night.

Ben Miller

Home, Tuesday Aug 25, 1891

Was a nice day, ~~and~~ Rudolf plowed
to-day. Hugh and I hauled manure
until 4 o'clock when Porter came and
took my wagon. He had been helping
Jim - I don't know, Grandpa, Uncle
Richard and Grandma arrived down at
Grandma's tonight.

Ben Miller

Home, Wednesday August 26, 1891

Sprinkled some in forenoon, About noon
it began to rain so hard that we had to
quit work. Rained for about 1½ hours though
Rudolf plowed all day. The rest of us
hauled manure in forenoon. In after-
noon Porter plowed also. Hugh, Harman and
I cut weeds and Hugh and I went to look at a
beetree. Think we will try to get it ^{the honey!} to-morrow. I
went with Lillie and Jennie after plums
this evening. Plums are thick and nice.

Ben Miller

Home, Thursday August 27, 1891.

Was a nice day. Rudolf and Porter ploughed all day. Hugh, Pa and I started out ^{this morning} to get the bees we found yesterday. We didn't have good luck as Hugh got stung very badly and I got stung a good deal about the neck and once above the eye so that my eye nearly swelled shut. We fix hired fix a road this afternoon to haul stone over. About dark we started out again to get the bees. Herman went with us. We had better success as we got ~~the~~ about a half hives of honey and about a quart of bees which I put in with my others. Hugh got stung only 3 times, while I got stung about 17 times mostly on my wrist. We got home about 10.30. Max was at town this afternoon.
Ben Miller

Home, Friday, August 28, 1891.

Was a nice day. Pa, Hugh and I were fixing a road to haul stone over all day. ~~Porter~~ Rudolf ploughed all day while Porter ploughed in forenoon and went to see Alliance picnic which was held in Shackleton's grove and Jimmie's place. Pa, Pa and I went over to see Hoover's today. Will, Will and Guy came to night. Will haul a load of things up for the girls. Pauline and Minnie today were here to day. Minnie will stay till Sunday. ~~With Hoover~~, Bertha, Bert and Martha Adams are also here, altogether there are 19. We had lots of music this evening.
Ben Miller

Home Saturday, Aug 29 1891

Was a nice day. I dug potatoes most of the day. Some of the girls and some folks here. P. and Lilli went to town this morning. Uncle Will, Guy and Hugh went later. Porter's horse I made in sack to haul stone on, to day. Bill and Therna were fixing up the bridge at the steep yard. I got a letter from Frank today.

Ben Miller

Home Sunday Aug 30 1891

Was a nice day. I went over to dig the bush in the field to get the lot of brandy's to be sold. We had lots of company. They brandy was for the day. I brand brandy to me lots. I don't know if my education. I don't know what to do. We only up the wagon was coming to the early in the morning.

Ben Miller

Peru, Nebraska, Monday, August 31, 1891.

Was a nice day. We got up before 4 o'clock and went out and fed the team and got breakfast. Right after breakfast we started to Peru. Pa, Lillie, Belle and Lell went with our team and Uncle Will, Hugh Guy and I went with Uncle Will's team. We got started by 10 min. after 5. We went through Salem, Verdun and Nemaha City. We had good roads until we were nearly to Peru. We ate dinner about 6 miles north of Verdun. Got to Peru about 7 o'clock. We unloaded our things at the girls' rooms and then went out to Auntie Joy's and stayed all night. We were very tired.

Ben Miller

Peru, Nebraska, Tuesday, Sep. 1, 1891.

Was a nice day except for the wind which blew quite strong from the south. Hugh and I went down to the Missouri River this morning before breakfast. It is about 1/2 mile from their place. Got back just as they were eating breakfast. After breakfast Auntie Joy, Hugh, Pa, the girls and I went in town to fix the girls' rooms. We drove in. Hugh and I took the team and went out in the country and got some straw to fill a bed ticks. We all went out to Auntie Joy's for dinner. After dinner ^{we} went back again. We drove down town and got several things for the girls. Hugh and I then went through the school building, library and engine house. Pa and Auntie Joy came afterward. I got to speak to the Pim. about my studies. He advised me to go elsewhere. The school is very nice but the town is awful ugly. Built up among the bluffs. Hugh, Walter and I walked home. We went by the barber shop where George and I got shaved, and then down to the river and then home. The mosquitoes bit us bad by the river. The girls stayed all night at Auntie Joy's in Peru.

~~Home~~, Home, Wednesday, Sept. 2, 1891.

It began to rain about 2 o'clock in the night and rained until six o'clock, ~~at 11:45~~ Put off a quarter till eight Pa and I started home anyway. We went through Perm taking the girls to their rooms. It was very slippery for a few hours. After that the roads were good. It sprinkled a little while we were near Yamaha City. We came back the same way we went ~~at~~ almost. We bought some apples on the way. We ate our dinner a few miles on this side of Yamaha City. Got home about 7 o'clock. In time to help with the chores. Every thing went right while we were gone.

Ben Miller

Home, Thursday, September 3, 1891.

Was a nice day. Holl had a mule last night, a nice one too. Is black. Rudolf hauled stone all day. Porter helped Horse thresh all day and Herman and I snapped a load of corn in the morning. I then hauled stone the rest of the day. Pa helped us load. I hauled one in forenoon. I got quite tired.

Ben Miller

Home, Friday, September 4, 1891.

Was a nice day, Porter helped Fouse finish
thresh in forenoon and in the afternoon worked
on the road for his poll tax, Rudolf and I hauled
stone in forenoon and in afternoon were
taking the straw off our old cattle shed,
hauled it in a ditch in the north field.

We tore the shed down as it was in the road
of the barn we will build soon. We quit early
and this as Mr Huber was going to preach
in the Lutheran church to night. Ma, Bertha, Rudolf
and I went. Mr Beyer rode home with us.
Mr Huber preached an eloquent sermon
as he always does. Got home about
10.30 o'clock. Ben Miller
P. S. Pa. went to town this forenoon.

Home, Saturday, September 5, 1891.

Was a nice day, quite warm. Porter finished
working out his poll tax this forenoon. Pa, Rudolf
and I castrated the pigs this forenoon. morning
Pa has 56 sow pigs and 41 boar pigs, I have 2 of
each kind and Zell has 2 sow pigs. After this
I went around to get hands to help thresh
on Monday while Rudolf and Herman finished
taking the straw off the shed. In the afternoon
Pa, Bertha, Rudolf and I went over to the church
to preparatory services. When we came back
we cleaned out the stuff from the south side of the
garden fence and burned it. Porter and Herman
snapped two loads of corn this afternoon.
Ma, Pa and Porter went over to church to night.
We played and sang some to night.

Ben Miller

Home, Sunday, Sept. 6, 1891.

Was a nice day. Pa, Bertha, Rudolf and I went over East today. We had sacrament. Rudolf joined the church. We didn't get home until almost two o'clock. When I went to help Bertha out of the spring wagon over at the church she caught her dress on the brake and fell flat on her back on the ground. Ripped her skirt badly. We gave her all the pins we had and she fixed it up. Hella, Frank and Grandma were here when we got back. I wrote a letter to the girls this afternoon. Porter was at Bagley's today. It looked like Indian Summer today.
Ben Miller

Home, Monday, Sept. 7, 1891.

Was a nice day. We threshed today. Levi Horton and John Westcott are doing our threshing. We just finished the oats. Had a little over 540 bu. off about 14 acres. A little better than 38 bu. to the acre. They broke a pinion on the mower about 10.30 and had to go to town for it. Didn't get to threshing until almost 3 o'clock. I was pitching bundles all day. Got quite tired. Lillian had a cattle sale today. What John had his horse ^{and cart} hitched in Sat. last night ^{while he was} courting a girl. When he got ready to go home his horse and cart were gone and he has as yet found no trace of them.

Ben Miller.

Home, Tuesday, Sep. 8, 1891.

Was a nice day. We threshed again today. We threshed timothy seed in forenoon. Had 3 1/2 bu. off of about 7 acres, & tabled all forenoon. Was awful nasty work, I got my pants so full of timothy seed and chaff that I had to change them. Got lots in my eyes too.

In the afternoon set the machine and threshed out one stack of rye, 91 bu. & pitched bundles. Silla & Boston came over and helped Ma and Bertha today.
Ben Miller.

Home, Wednesday, Sep. 9, 1891.

Rained all forenoon. Couldn't thresh. The threshers won't come back until Friday ~~until~~ for the folks want to go to the fair to Morrow. In the afternoon we went out and got two loads of snapped corn. Pa and Rudolf took one load and Porter and I one. When we got in I went down to the melon patch. I got two melons and a muskmelon.

Ben Miller.

Thursday,

Home, Wednesday, Sep. 10, 1891,

Was a nice day, they all went to the fair except me. Pa was going to stay and then I told him I would so he went. I did scarcely a thing but seed. The folks got home about 6. They said the fair wasn't very good. Pa got me a trunk, shoes, and underclothing to day. The creamery man was the only one that came to day.

Ben Miller,

P. S. We got two letters from the girls to day.

Home, Friday, Sep. 11, 1891,

Was a nice day; we threshed to day. Threshed the eye and one stack of wheat. The eye averaged about 1.6 bu. to the acre. 9.5 bu. We threshed a little while after dark. I put bundles to day. Am tired, John Whittles is staying all night with me.

Ben Miller,

Lone, Saturday, Sep. 12, 1891,

Was a nice day. We finished threshing
 today, after dark, threshed wheat all day.
 Had $352\frac{1}{2}$ bu. Averaged over 25 bu to the acre.
 I am awful tired to night.

Ben Miller.

Lone, Sunday, Sep. 13, 1891,

Was a nice day. I didn't go to S. B. today as
 I had to mark my clothes and pack my trunk.
 Herman helped me mark my things. I also
 bathed. I didn't get through until afternoon.
 I then wrote a long letter to the girls, a sheet
 a nice. I didn't get to read scarcely a bit of
 Uncle Rich, Aunt Ella, Jay and Edna were
 up a while this evening. E. Klein and wife also
 called. Mr. Lichts also. Potter wanted a horse
 to take Moll down to the St. B. church to preaching
 to night and Pa didn't let him have one, it
 make him mad.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Monday, Sep. 14, 1891,

Was rather windy today. We got up at a little after 3 o'clock this morning, got breakfast and then Rudolf took us ^{Pa and I} to Sabella where we ^{Pa and I} took the train for Topeka. Pa got a round trip and fair ticket for \$2.69. Mine cost 2.20 to go. We had to lay over at Boston 3 hr. 50 min. I met a young man ^{W. P. Evans} from Topeka here and he told me a good deal about the school. We got to Topeka at 12.35. Took dinner and then started for a boarding place. I found a place to board the 2nd place I went to. We then took the street car and went to the depot where we hired an expressman to bring my trunk ^{us}. We rode up with him. He charged 50 cents. Pa and I then went up and looked at the college. I am very tired to-night.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Tuesday, Sep. 15, 1891.

Was a nice day. I went to the college building at 9 this morning enrolled and got my admission card. Didn't get back until about 11. When Mr. Haynes and I talked until noon. After dinner we went down town. He took his washing down town and I my watch to get fixed as it wouldn't run when it was turned on its face. The jeweler picked out a few pieces of dirt and it went alright. He charged nothing. We then went to the fair grounds. Got in at 2.30 and stayed until 6. Got to see lots all ^{of} not all. I came home alone. Pa went to the fair this morning. He was up this evening I say good-bye. He stays all night down town as we leave for home a little after 7 in the morning. I am tired to-night. Ben Miller

Topeka, Wed. Sep. 16, 1891.

Was quite a nice day. To-day school opened. & as well as many other new students had quite a time to find the right rooms. By a mistake of this kind I missed my German class. My studies are Physics, Physical Geog. & German. We had to study a little this afternoon. I went down town alone this afternoon to get a Natural Philosophy. Studying seems strange to me.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thursday Sep. 17, 1891.

Was a nice day, except the wind which blew quite strong from the south. Went to school ^{this forenoon} and studied in afternoon. Mr MacFarland and I took a short walk this evening. I think it did us good. When I came back I wrote a letter home.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Friday, Sep. 18, 1891.

Was disagreeable to-day on account of the strong south wind. We went to school this forenoon. We went to school. This forenoon we got out at 12 instead of at 1 in order that the students may attend the fair. Mr. Deynes and I went down to the post office and then out to the fair grounds. Stayed there until about 7. I had a very good time. I met Jerome Winchell and he requested me to call on him. I got to see so many things that I didn't see Tues. We got a sandwich at the fair grounds and then came in on the car. We went into the state library and read awhile after which we went to the theatre at Lawrence. It was ^{the} East Mail and was very good. We didn't get home until about 11 o'clock.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Saturday, Sep. 19, 1891.

To-day was disagreeable on account of the strong wind from the south. I read and studied this forenoon and this afternoon Mr. Deynes and I went to the library and each took a book to read. I took "A Year in Prussia" and Mr. Deynes "Alcohol and the State". Mr. Deynes was down town both this forenoon and afternoon on business. We will both bathe to night. I am sleepy from last night.

Ben Miller.

Sunday.
Topeka, Sep. 20, 1891.

Was quite warm today. Mr. Heynes, Mr. Stone and I walked down to the First Baptist Church to S. S. and church. S. S. at 9.30. Church at 11. I had a very pleasant time. Mr. Heynes and I walked home again. In the afternoon we read and studied some and each wrote a letter. I wrote to Frank Roberts. I bought The Capital today and Mr. Heynes will buy it next Sunday. Mr. Bonnell and I went to the Central Congregational church to night. I enjoyed myself very well. Mr. Bonnell stopped and talked with us a long time after we came back. Didn't get to bed until about 11.

Ben Miller.

Monday.
Topeka, Sep. 21, 1891.

Was a nice day. We overslept ourselves this morning. It was 7 o'clock when I got up so I didn't get much time to look over my lessons before school time. Our Physical Geog. didn't have any recitation as the books haven't come yet. This afternoon I went up to college as the Woodruffs are arranged. I was measured for a uniform. Will cost \$17.35. Will get it in about two weeks. I am sleepy and will close. Is 9 o'clock.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Tuesday, Sep. 22, 1891.

Was windy again today. I managed to get up a little after 6 this morning and felt better. Everything went off as usual at school. I got a German grammar today. ^{cost \$1.50} We worked hard this afternoon and then this evening Mr McDonald and I took a walk. We walked clear over to Potwin Place. We got to see some fine dwelling houses over there. We must have walked about 3 miles altogether and it made us quite tired. I paid for my board for the following week, today, viz. \$3.50

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Wednesday, Sep. 23, 1891.

Was windy and disagreeable again today. Nothing unusual happened today except we got our Phys. Geog. Mine cost me 90¢. I now have all the books I need at present. We studied extra hard this afternoon and got about all of our lessons and then this afternoon Mr. Keynes, McDonald and I went down town to hear Ex Gov. Geo. T. Anthony speak. We walked down, took the car home. He delivered a very good speech on "Party is Country, Partisanship is Patriotism". I took a shirt to the laundry and got some letter paper. We didn't get home until about 11.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thursday, Sep. 24, 1891

Was a peculiar day. Every thing seemed to give evidence of a storm or rain soon. It is very sultry this evening. Got up a little after six this morning. I got home about 12.30 to-day as our class in Physics was dismissed earlier than usual. I studied and wrote a letter to Aunt Han this afternoon. I am sleepy and am going to bed now as I have my lessons. It is only 9.05 now. I read a little this evening. Mr. Bonnell wanted me to go over and study with him to-night but I declined. Will go some other time.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Friday, Sep. 25, 1891

Was a nice day. The Prin. gave a talk in chapel this morning on "Tobacco." At 11 o'clock to-day I took rhetorical. I had to be excused from my Phys. Geog. as it recites at that time and each student is required to take rhetorical one hour a week. Prof. To leaves has charge of this department. Mr. Heynes and I went up to the college this afternoon and went through the museum and then read awhile in the library. I got my Latin and German lessons to-day. We went to the W. Co. Literary Society to-night. I didn't join. I didn't get to bed until about 11. I got a letter from Frank R. to-day.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Sat. Sep. 26, 1891.

Was a nice day, I studied and read this forenoon and this afternoon Mr Heynes and I went down town. I went in the city library and read about an hour while Mr Heynes went over to North Topeka on business. When he came back we went through the State House. We were there about 2½ hours. Saw so many interesting things. We then went over to the State Journal office and watched them print their paper. That was interesting. We then went to the laundry and got my shirt, cost 10 cts. I also got a 5 ct worth of candy. We walked down town and rode back because we were both tired. I am sleepy and will go to bed soon although it ain't 9 o'clock. I bathed in a washbowl to night. Ben & Kelly

Topeka Sun. Sept 26, 91

It rained in the forenoon + night.
 Cleared off in evening + clouded up again.
 Mr. Stone, Heynes, + I went to Sunday School and church in the morning and attended the Young Men's Christian Association in the afternoon. It rained on us when coming home from church in the morning. We attended Yesus Services in the afternoon. In the evening we attended services at the central Congregational Church. Studied some in the afternoon and evening.
 Got a letter from B. L. N. this evening. Written by Alex. McDonald.

Sept. 28, '89,
Topeka Kan. Mon.

There was a change in the weather to-day. I was clear & pleasant. We went to school and had our lessons good. We have very hard lessons for tomorrow, which kept us very busy all of our spare time. McDonald & I went to the College at four o'clock & drilled in the "Military Company" for an hour or more. He & I sent for our clothes of honor & war.

H H McDonald

Topeka, Kans. Tues. Sep. 29, '91.

Was a nice day. Had very interesting lessons in Physics and Phys. Leag. to-day. I got two letters today. One from Ma and one from Aunt Harri. I answered Ma's to-night. We didn't have long lessons for to-morrow so I got about all of my lessons by 4 o'clock when Heynes, McDonald and I went to the fairgrounds where there is a state reunion going on. We walked both ways. Stayed about 1 1/2 hours. Didn't get to see scarcely anything. It looks to me as if it were a "fizzle". It is very cool. There was a slight ~~fall~~ frost last night. The first of the season. Went 9 o'clock yet but I am going to bed now.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Wednesday Sep. 30, 1891,

Was a nice day. Everything went off well this forenoon. I had to get another book to-day, viz. "Physical Laboratory, Manual and Note book." It cost 35 cts. Is for use in the laboratory for our physics' class. We will use it one day a week. ~~It~~ I was assigned very hard lessons for tomorrow so had to study very hard this afternoon and evening. I didn't have any to take exercise this evening. I have all of my lessons except Physics which I need to review in the morning. Mr. Harris Pastor of the Presbyterian church called upon me this afternoon. He wishes me to attend his church and I do. Mr. Winchell sent him. It is only 8.35 but I will go to bed soon, as my underclothes which I put on this morning scratch me so that I want to get them off.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thurs. Oct. 1, 1891,

Rained some during the night and at spells during the forenoon. Everything went off as usual to-day. I got a new book to-day, viz. Physical Laboratory Manual and Note book, cost 35; It is to use in the laboratory. I was assigned very hard lessons for tomorrow. Simpson and Peffer speak down town to night but I didn't have time to go. Reynes and Donnell went. Mr. Donald and I didn't. We drilled an hour this afternoon.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Friday, Oct. 2, 1891.

Rained several little showers this forenoon, was cloudy in afternoon. As to-day was the day the day for rhetoricals we had to be excused from Phys. Geog., both recit at the same time. We were given a list of books that we must read during the year. We went to the library this afternoon. I wanted to get a book on the life of Nathaniel Hawthorne, as I have to write a composition on his works, but couldn't. I got my German and Latin this afternoon. Read the rest of the time. The Argo came out to-day. I wrote a letter to the girls this evening. There is a reception at the cottage tonight but I didn't go. Mr Chamberlain told me this morning that I was getting pale. He thought I didn't take enough exercise. Is after 10.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Saturday, Oct. 3, 1891.

Rained all day. I scarcely believe there was a time all day when it wasn't either raining or misting. Was also very cool to-day. I wrote a letter to Hugh Joy this morning and took it and other letters down to the mail box through the rain. The rest of the day I studied and read Irving's Works. Read more than I studied. Mr Heynes went down town this afternoon. Lonnel, Heynes and I read Shakespeare this evening.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Sunday, Oct. 4, 1891.

Was nice today, only quite chilly. I went to the Presbyterian church to S.S. and church today as Mr. Harris was here Friday and wanted me to go. Had communion. I got acquainted with several. Bonnell and Heynes went to the Central Cong. and in the afternoon went to Oakland. They wanted me to go along but I stayed at home and went to vesper services and to Y. M. C. A. at the college. In the evening Bonnell, Heynes and I went to the Central Cong. to hear the fifth chap. of his story, The Life That now is. Heynes and I were over at Chamberlain's a little while before we went to church.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Monday, Oct. 5, 1891.

Was quite nice today. In our physics today I was sent to the laboratory for the first time. Studied this afternoon. We also drilled an hour.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Tuesday, Oct 6 1891.

" It rained some during the night and morning. It was very chilly, + a cold wind blew from the northwest. Clouds cleared off toward evening and there will surely be a heavy frost tonight. Everything went as usual in the forenoon we all went to school. Faines + I went to town @ 4.00 P.M. + got back about 8.00. We walked both ways. Over 4 miles. We were tired on arriving home. I put in an application at the City Library to day. I also paid for two weeks board in advance.
P.S. Got a letter from home.

WRITTEN BY
ALEX. H. McDONALD

Ben. Miller

Topeka Kan. ^{Wed.} Oct. 7 91

There was a very heavy frost last night, but it cleared off today and was quite warm and pleasant.

Overslept myself this morning and did not get up until 7.0'clock.

Somnus erat gratus.

(my) Physics will not recite tomorrow on account of Rhetoricals. Faines + I went to town this afternoon. Mac went also. We went mostly for the walk. We were gone about two hours.

I was trying to read French under Mrs. Stone this evening.

Est 9.45 et abieimus somno nunc.

Ben

Ben

Topeka Kansas,
Thursday Oct. 8, 1891.

The weather was favorable
It cleared off in the evening,
Everything went as usual at
school except that our class in
Physics did not recite on account
of Rhetoricals. Haynes & Mac,
went to town in the afternoon.
I stayed home and studied.
Mac and I drilled this morning
and came very near missing our
breakfast on account of it. *Propter*
omnes. Gram dona, nam hodie gram non
aeger. Sum depressus et somnus erit gratus.
"Hodie bone!" Ben. J. Miller

Verbi ab Alexandria
McDonald.

Topeka, Friday Oct. 9, 1891.

Was a nice day. Had rhetoricals
instead of Latin this forenoon.
After ~~dinner~~ Haynes and I went up to
the College. Were going to the library
but as it wasn't open yet, I came home.
Haynes waited until it opened then went
in and read after which he went down town.
I studied some and read some this
afternoon. This evening we went to
the Gamma Sigma literary. We didn't like it
and as it let out before the W. C. G. S. we went
over there and joined that society. Was \$1.30
when I got home. The literary was late as there
was an athletic meeting before. Ben. J. Miller.

Topeka, Sat. Oct. 10, 1891.

Was a fine day. I wrote a letter to Frank Roberts this morning. About 10 A.M. Heynes and I went up to the college to see a game of tennis. I got tired and came home in about half an hour and finished getting my lessons. This afternoon Heynes, Palmer, Stenhouse and I went down town. All except Stenhouse went to the State Free shops. It was something worth seeing. We walked to the shops and back to the library where we took a car. I got my ticket at the City library to-day and got a book on the life of Hawthorne. This evening P. S. H. and I played a trick on Bonnell. We all went and called on him one at a time pretending to be hunting each other, and then two at a time. He didn't suspect it was a madcap job at all. S. and P. then came and stayed until about 10 o'clock. Heynes and I bathed after that. Was 10.35 when I got to bed.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Sun. Oct. 11, 1891.

Was a nice day. I attended S. S. and church at the Westminster Presbyterian this forenoon. Mr. Harris gave me an invitation to take tea with him Tues. evening. In the afternoon, Heynes and I read until 4 when we went to Vesper services and then to the Y. M. C. A. which I handed in my name to become a member. This evening we went to the Central Cong. and heard Sheldon's story "The Life that Now Is." Was 6th chap tonight. Was splendid.

Ben Miller.

Monday
Topeka, Oct. 12, 1891.

Was quite cloudy all day. Sprinkled a little this evening. To-day our Latin class changed teachers. We went from under Miss Lyman to Prof. Whittmore. I think I will like him as well as Miss Lyman. Both divisions of Latin and German recited together to-day. It made such a large class that I didn't get to recite at all in Latin. We drilled from 8 to 8:45 this morning. I was just in time by starting immediately after breakfast. Mac and I took a walk this evening. We walked out to the asylum grounds. Flynnes went to the theater to-night. Goethe's "Faust" was to be played. I should like to have gone but thought I couldn't afford it. Will be splendid I know.

Ben Miller

1517 West St. Topeka, Tuesday, Oct. 13, 1891.

Rained considerable last night. Was nice to-day. Had a pleasant time in my recitation to-day. Studied this afternoon.

Went up to the library this evening and got an envelope to send a cat. of the school to Aunt Ann. I took tea with Mr. Harris.

Went about 5:30. Stayed until almost 8. Had a very pleasant time. He invited me next Sunday. We have been drawing pictures this evening. Mac, Flynnes and I.

Ben Miller

Wed.
Topeka, ~~Thursday~~, Oct. 14, 1891.

Was a nice day. Our class in Physics won't recite tomorrow as most of the class will take rhetorical. So I didn't have many lessons to get. About 4 o'clock Heynes, Mac, and I went downtown for exercise. Read the home papers in the State Historical rooms awhile then went to the P. O.

I got a letter from Belle. Co Chamberlain also took us through the P. O. He came home with us. At supper Rob told us that there was going to be a debate between the Republican and Alliance parties at the Court house this evening. As we wanted to hear it Rob, Heynes, Donnell, and I went. There were two speakers on each side. Both sides produced good arguments. We rode home. Got home a little after 11.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Kansas, Thursday, Oct. 15, 1891.

Was a nice day. Our class in Physics didn't recite today. I was in the laboratory that period.

Our class in Caesar won't recite tomorrow so I don't have to get Latin. I got a letter from home today. Also a money order for \$2.00. Heynes, Mac, and I went downtown for the exercise this afternoon and I got it cashed. I wrote a letter home tonight.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Friday, Oct. 16, 1891.

To-day our Latin class didn't recite. I also didn't recite ~~the~~ rhetorical Phys. Geog. because I had rhetorical. This afternoon Haynes and I went down town and made the treasurer's heart glad, I hope, by paying our tuition which was \$5.00 for this fall term. The W. C. L. S. held their open ^{and 200th} meeting tonight and of course we went. Was very good. We didn't get to bed until about 11.30.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Sat, Oct. 17, 1891.

Was a nice day. We studied and read this forenoon. This afternoon Stevenson, Palmer, Haynes, and I took a tour of the city. We went to the electric car works first, then to the gas works next to the slaughter house where we stayed a good while. This was the most interesting thing we saw. We were in the park by the river awhile. We then came to the library. While we were reading there the fire alarm sounded and we ^{had} run out and ran until 14th St. ^{almost a mile or over} when we found out that there wasn't any fire. I then went down and played croquet with Palmer till dark.

Ben Miller

Topeka Washburn

Kansas
Sunday October 18 1891

It was a very fine day. Haynes & I attended church at the First Methodist, did not attend Sunday School.

Haynes went to South Topeka on a bump. I came home alone. I read until about 4 o'clock, when Stinson & ~~Thomas~~ stopped in & they and I went to vesper services. We then adjourned to the Y. M. C. A. Rooms, Marquis E. Fryer came in also and started the audience.

Haynes and I attended the first Congregational Church in the evening.

"Jubi" at "Mac"

Benj. L. Miller

P.S. Mac did not put in his appearance to night.

Topeka Washburn

Monday, October 29 1891.

It was cool this morning. We drilled this morning. A part of our drill hour was taken up by throwing some trees over the fence. We got our lessons in the afternoon & Mac, Don, Haynes, & I went to the Grand Opera House & heard Burton & Peffer speak. We also viewed a S. S. bicycle parade afterward. We did not stay to hear Peffer because he was cracked. We got home about 9:20.

"Jubi" at "Mac"

Benj. L. Miller

Washburn Topeka 249

Kansas
Tuesday October 20 # 1891

We had another nice day. We had hard lessons to get this afternoon.

We - I am not quite through yet, nevertheless Haynes and I went up to the library this afternoon. Haynes got out of humor at — and went over to Donnell's.

Haynes feels very very very very very very.

We had beans today and consequently it was quite windy.

Verbi at "Mac"

Ben Miller

Topeka Wednesday, Oct, 21, 1891.

Was a very pleasant day. While we were reciting Caesar this morning, a man started to burn a pile of brush south of the library and he let it get out in the grass and then couldn't put it out. He called so pitifully for help that Prof. Whittenmore let us go out and help him.

About 30 of us helped put it out in time to save two haystacks. Took about 20 minutes. We got our

lessons by 3.30 and so Palmer, Stevenson, Toyness Mac and I went down town and went up in the top of the State House. Went up 12 ladders. Palmer was afraid to go clear up. We had a splendid view up there. We came home about six. Read in the library awhile. Haynes went over to Donnell's this evening. Stevenson came up and we studied the construction of the lesson in Caesar for tomorrow for about 2½ hours.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thursday, Oct. 22, 1891.

Was a nice day. A little cool though. We drilled this morning. I got home a little after 12 today as one class in Physics didn't recite. Most of the class had recited.

I had to study very hard this afternoon. I didn't go out of the house scarcely. Chamberlain brought me a letter this evening. Was from home. I studied so much this afternoon that I can scarcely study any more. Will go to bed soon. Is only 9.25 now.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Friday, Oct. 23, 1891.

Was another nice day. This afternoon I wrote a letter home and then went downtown and bought an overcoat and a pair of gloves. Paid \$10 for the overcoat and \$1 for the gloves. Bought them at Greenwald's. He threw in a pair of cuffholders and gave me a set of dominoes.

Went to the N. C. L. S. to night. Heynes debated. Scarcely studied a bit this afternoon.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Sat. Oct. 24, 1891.

Was a nice day. Studied this forenoon. About 10 o'clock, I started out, to answer an advertisement of a young man wanted to work for his board and go to school, at 2016 Clay St. but was too late. This afternoon Heynes, Palmer, Stevenson and I went down town. I had a book renewed at the library. We then went down the street and I might say loafed the rest of the afternoon. Was at an auction sale opposite the P. O.

I am ashamed of the way I spent the afternoon. To-night Stevenson came up and played dominoes with me until about 10 o'clock. I then washed, got to bed about 11 o'clock.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Sunday, Oct. 25, 1891.

Was a nice day. Was warm. I attended S. S. and church at the Westminster Presbyterian church. I read and took a nap this afternoon. I didn't attend Vesper services or Y. M. C. A. to-day. To-night Honnell, Heynes, and I went to the First Presbyterian and heard the pastor E. C. Ray preach his farewell sermon. Was good and was a very large crowd.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Monday, Oct. 26, 1891.

Was a nice day. Drilled this morning.

I studied in the afternoon and got my lessons and in the evening Mac and I played dominoes.

B. L. Miller

Topeka, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 1891.

Was very windy and disagreeable today.

I was in the laboratory today making experiments.

I got my suit today. It is rather small, both the coat and the pants, and have Arkansas buttons instead of Kansas buttons. Cap ~~was~~ all right. ^{cost \$17.68 with express which} I wrote a letter home for money today. Heynes, Mac and I went down town this afternoon. I was in the State Historical rooms and read the home papers.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Wed. Oct. 28, 1891.

Was a very peculiar day, was hazy around the horizon all day. About 3 o'clock this afternoon Heynes, Mac and I went up to the library and I read two articles in the North American Review, "Bunkiness is curable" and "Can we make it rain" by Gen. Dyerforth. My head got to aching so I couldn't study. I ate a little supper. Stevenson is here to-night.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thurs. Oct. 29, 1891.

We drilled this morning. I didn't have my Physical Geog. to-day because of last night's headache and so got excused in that.

I studied this afternoon. Physics didn't recite to-day because of rhetorical. I came home and wrote two letters. This afternoon we had to go to the college and help to form an audience for the 3rd "Preps" to speak before. Only 1st, 2nd and 3rd Preps were required to be there.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Friday, Oct. 30, 1891.

We (the new men only) had an extra drill this morning by Britto. ~~I got a letter~~. I went down town with Hayes and Stevenson this afternoon for exercise. Got my German when I came back. Went to Literary this evening. Did not get home until about 11.

Ben Miller,

Topeka, Sat, Oct, 31, 1891.

Was a very pleasant day. Studied and worked on my essay on Hawthorne all forenoon. After dinner I went down and played croquet with Palmer and Stevenson until about 3:30 when Hayes and I went down town. I got a letter from home and a money order for \$20 and so got it cashed.

To-night we went to the Grand and heard Kenman lecture on Russian Political Exiles. It was splendid. Had seats in the balcony 4th row middle. Tickets 50 cts. We walked down but rode back. This is Halloween and a post that is in the middle of the sidewalk will be cut down by Palmer as he fell over it the other night.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Sunday, Nov. 1, 1891.

Was a disagreeable day, cold and cloudy. Heynes, Bonnell and I attended church at the 1st M.E. Got very tired as it lasted over 45 hours and I don't like Lippincott very well for a minister.

Attended Temperance services and Y.M.C.A. this afternoon. I didn't go to church to night as my throat was a little sore, but went down and spent the evening with Stevenson as he was alone and wanted company. When Heynes, Bonnell and Palmer came home from church they came down and we sang songs for a good while. Came home about 11.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Monday, Nov. 2, 1891.

Was cold and cloudy today. This evening about dark it began to sleet and rain, and still continues by spells. 10 P.M. We drilled this morning. Was quite cold on our hands. Had rhetorical today. As I had to miss Phys. Geog., on that account I went up and recited this afternoon, also got 3 of Hawthornes books out of the library. Had to study quite late to night.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Tuesday Nov. 3, 1891.

Was cloudy all day. I slept until 7.20 this morning. Had breakfast at 8. Heynes and I were up at the library a while this afternoon. Mac and I have been fooling all evening. I got a letter from Lillie and Nell this evening.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Wednesday Nov. 4, 1891.

Nothing of any importance happened to-day.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thursday, Nov. 5, 1891.

Was foggy to-day. We drilled this morning. Tonight while we were out jumping the fire bell sounded and soon we saw a smoke north east of here. We ran to it and found it to be a dwelling house. Was ablaze all over the roof when we got there. The fire company soon came and put it out, saved the walls and part of the down stairs. Was the first fire I have seen since I have been here. Was about 4 blocks from here. Wrote home this evening.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Friday, Nov. 6, 1891.

We had a drill this morning for the new crew. Of course I went. Didn't study much this afternoon. There was a reception at the Cottage to-night and I went. Had quite a good time. Got acquainted with a few girls, but the most of my talk was to the matron. It was from 8 to 10. Got a letter from home this evening.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Sat, Nov. 7, 1891.

Was a nice day. I studied and read this forenoon and this afternoon Hayes and I went down town. Got a tablet and a pair rubbers, and read a good while in the library. Got a letter from George J. I went to the N. E. L. S. to-night which was put off last night on account of the reception.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Sunday, Nov. 8, 1891,

Was a very cool day, a cold north-west wind. I went to the Episcopal church today as Mr. Heynes wanted to go there. Their services seemed to me a good deal like the Catholic. I didn't like them very well. I read this afternoon. Bonnell and I went down town to the Baptist Church to-night and heard the Pres of Ottawa University speak. He preached a good sermon. We came home on the car.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Monday, Nov. 9, 1891,

Was a nice day. We drilled this morning. Had rhetorical today. I had to speak. As I had to miss Phys. & Geog. for rhetorical I went up and recited this afternoon.

Studied hard this afternoon.

Ben Miller.

Topeka, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 1891.

Was a nice day. Turned cold this evening and lectured a little.

Studied and read until about 11 o'clock.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Wed. Nov. 11, 1891.

Was very cold to-day. A very strong cold wind blew from the northwest all day. I studied very hard this afternoon and then went to the Y. M. C. A. meeting to-night, and testified for the first time. When I came home I wrote an abstract on The Scarlet Letter which I finished reading to-day. Is about 10 now and I will go to bed.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Thursday, Nov. 12, 1891.

Was a cold disagreeable day. About dark it began to snow and continued till bedtime. I wrote a letter home to-night. We drilled this morning. It was so cold that Gharshbarger had us take a run. We ran until we were just about given out. I especially. We got warmed up though.

Ben Miller

Topeka, Friday, Nov. 13, 1891.

It snowed just enough to cover the ground last night. We drilled this morning. This afternoon I was down at Stevenson's a little while, & then came home and almost wrote my essay on literary works of Hawthorne. I then went up to the library to get a book but couldn't get what I wanted. I read a while and then went out and watched the boys practice foot-ball. Stayed until about dark. When I came home there was a man here with a load of hay. Mrs. Bragunier wanted me to help him unload it. I did. Will get \$25. This evening I went to Y. M. C. A. and then to W. C. L. S. where I had a select reading. Got home about 11:30. Went to bed after 11. Ben Miller,

Topeka, Saturday, Nov. 14, 1891.

Rained last night, and misted and raised almost constantly to-day. K. S. U. were going to play foot-ball here to-day against Washburn but postponed it until Tues. on account of the rain. We cadets are going to guard the grounds and so I got my club ready this morning. Studied until about 10 o'clock, when Feynes and I went down town. Was misting but we had umbrellas so didn't get wet. We got some dark blue ribbon, the college colors and other small things. Got home about 2. Studied and read this afternoon and evening. I have a bad cold and sore throat this evening.

Ben Miller

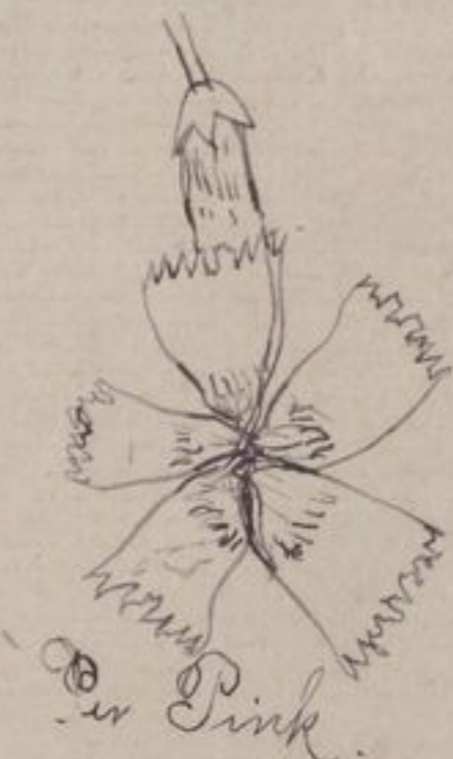
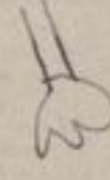
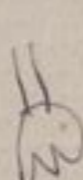
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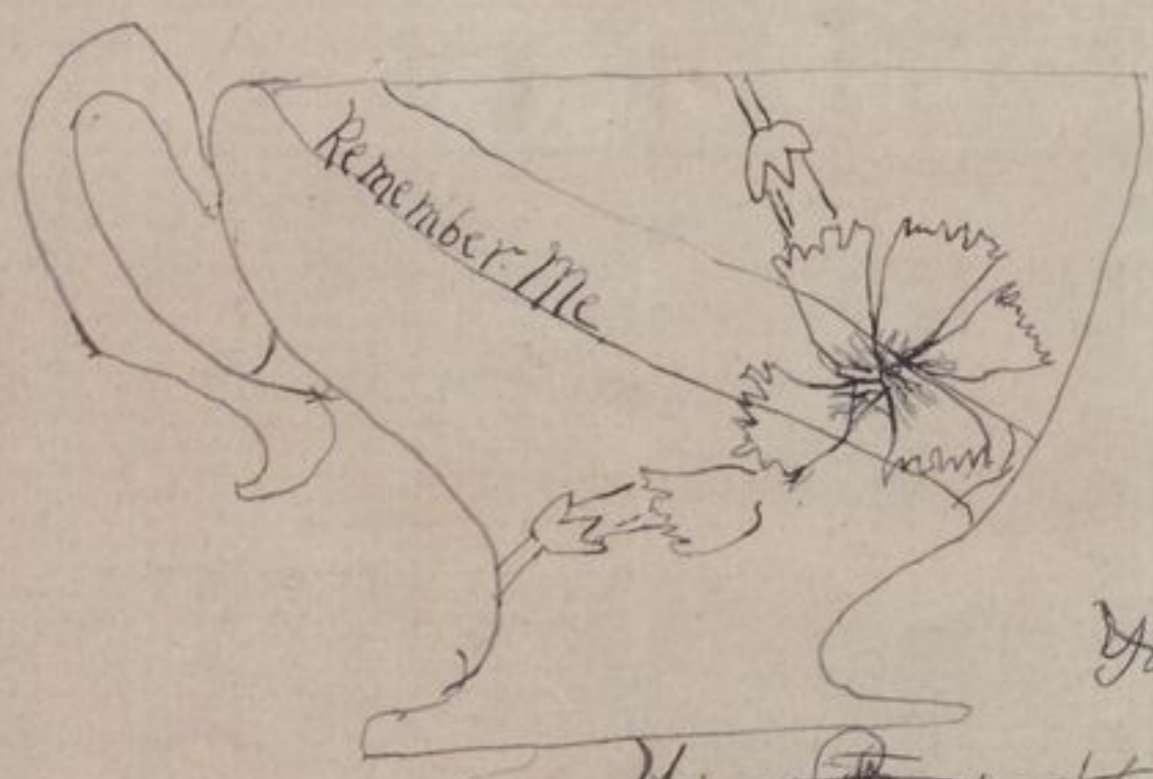
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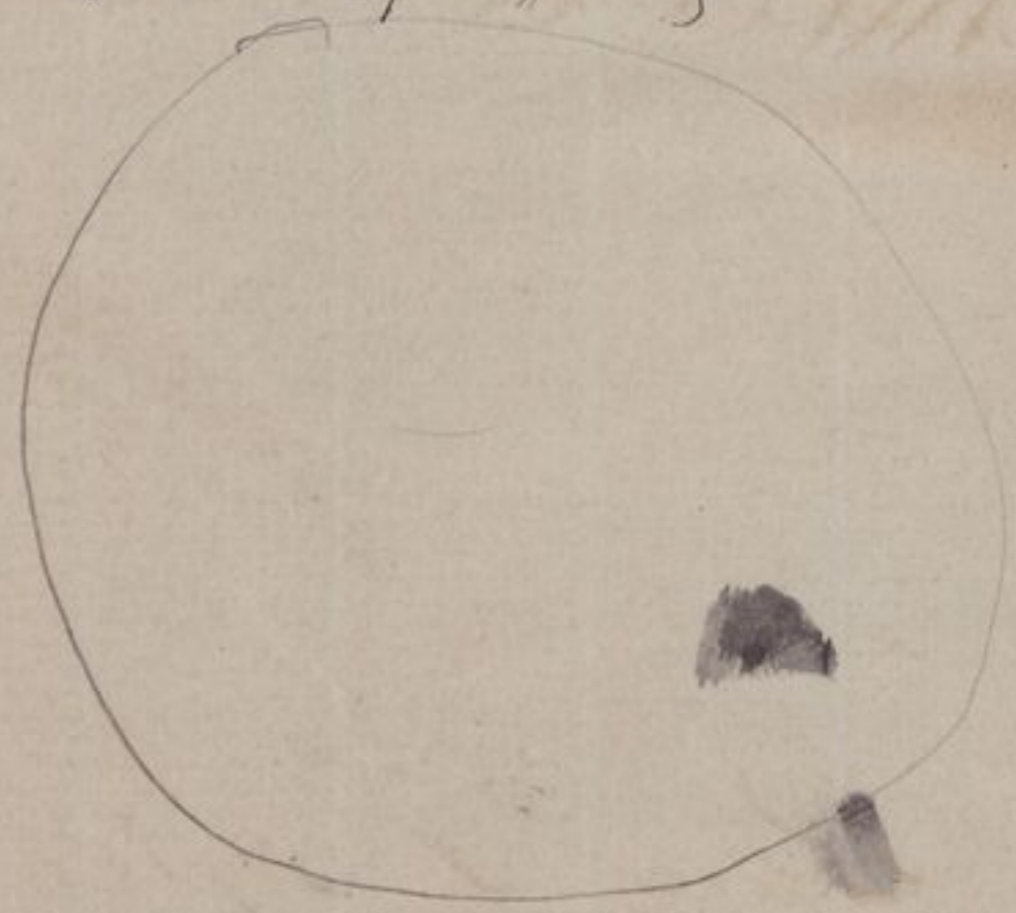
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Yours respectfully,

Ben. L. Butler

~~Yours respectfully,~~



Benj. L. Miller



Benj. L. Miller

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

Benj. L. Miller.

~~What the matter with you?~~
nothing.

Benj. L. Miller.



Benj. L. Miller
Rock Creek
Kan.

