



Transcription of the diary of Harriet Foster Hawes (1854-1941), March 5- April 24, 1865.

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Please note: The numbering appearing in brackets, (i.e., [1]) has been added to indicate page numbers.

[Cover]
Scrap Book

[Inside front cover]
Hattie.

[new page]
Sunday March 5

The sun shines pleasantly today and it is not very cold. It snowed all day yesterday. I wonder if I shall get a chance to learn to skate [?]. Pa and ma are out to Uncle Mack's. How lonely it must be out there in the evening when they are all alone. Uncle Mack's hand is almost well.

Monday March 6

It is pleasant today and not very cold. When ma got home last night, she said

[new page]

Aunt Mary was not very well. I hope she will get well soon. Mother read in the paper yesterday that Charlie Putman was dead, he was a cousin of mine, he was seven or eight years old.

Tuesday March 7

I went to dancing school last and and I am going this evening. I think I am getting to be rather to [too] fast for such a little girl as I am. It is Benny Balls birthday today. He invited Johnnie and me, but Johnnie could not go, but I went and had a nice time.

[new page]

Mr. Ball carried me up because Pa was away. When Pa came up after me he brought [brought] mother's cloud with him and rapped [wrapped] my face all up so that I should not be cold. The wind blew very bad. Mrs. Ball's face was all swelled up on one side.

Wednesday March 8

I went to dancing school last evening as I expected to. I have been expecting Rufus every night this week, but he has not come yet. Pa and Ma are invited down to Mr. Nelsons, so Maria and I are all alone here except Johnnie and Mary and they are asleep. I went

[new page]

over to Mr. Ovit's today and got some things for Johnnie and Mary as tomorrow is Johnnies birthday.

Thursday March 9

Johnnie is well pleased with his man but has concluded to swap his cars for a pistol and some blocks and I got a paper doll. Ma has gone to the soldiers meeting.

Friday March 10

We had a little skuall [squall] today but it is all over now. I have got my paper doll and her dresses all cut out. Mr. N- is here he has felt John's head and he says he will

[new page]

make a frank and strait forward [straightforward] man. We packed a box for the soldiers today.

Saturday March 11

Mr. N- went to Comton this morning. There was quite a crust today. Rosa did not practice here today. Uncle Mack and Aunt Mary were here today. Cousin Willie and Maria are here now, and they are playing [?]. Captain B- said he saw Rufus on the cars going back to the army. He had wrote to us that he was coming here so I don't he done quite right.

Sunday March 12

Today is pleasant but windy. Mother, Maria, and myself went to an advent

[new page]

sabbath school tonight. The [?] spoke pieces and sang. I began a letter to Emma today and so did Maria.

Monday March 13

I went to dancing school this afternoon and evening. Johnnie [polka?] with the teacher and he done it as well as anyone could. Ma says she thinks it rather silly work to go to dancing school.

Tuesday March 14

Ma invited company here today Mrs. Colby and the children, and they all came. Ma invited Mrs. Cobb and she came. She is working a bracket.

[new page]

Much. Jessie and Mary are great friends. They are a little touble [trouble] today. After a while Jessie asked Mary to forgive her, they are all good friends now.

Wednesday March 15

Aunt Cintha [Cynthia] and Dilla were here yesterday and they staid [stayed] all night. Uncle James and Emily came down [after] them today and Uncle James drilled Johnnie and me on the extension motion. It thawed all day today. Mr. Jondroe got a dispatch from Mr. Wooley night before last that Mrs. Wooley was just

[new page]

alive and Mrs. Jonndroe went down and they got a letter the next day that she was unconcions [unconscious] - Uncle Mack and Aunt Mary were here today.

Thursday March 16

Thawed today as usuall [usual]. Mr. Jondroe has not heard yet whether Mrs. Wooley was any better or not yet. Ma went down to Doctor Richmond's to the soldiers meeting. Today and Sarah came over and we had a nice visit.

Friday March 17

Today it snowed and thawed. It is very bad. I expect to go to dancing school tomorrow.

[new page]

Saturday March 18

It is very bad doing indeed. I have been to dancing school this afternoon and expect to go this evening. Uncle Mack was out today with Mr. Smith and they stopped till after dinner. Uncle Frank came when they were here, he walked down. The roads were so bad. He said Aunt Ruth was well.

Sunday March 19

It is very pleasant today. Johnnie and I were going out to walk if there was a crust and Pa went out to see about it, but he thought there was not good enough crust. Mr. Jondroe came here this morning and told Ma that

[new page]

Mrs. Wooley died Friday and the funeral was today. I went to meeting this forenoon to elder Blake. Father has just been hearing Marias and my lesson.

Monday March 20

It is very pleasant to [today] and there was a crust this morning. Johnnie Mary and myself went out on it. Uncle Mack came out this afternoon and is going to start for Tennessee tomorrow morning. I went to dancing school this afternoon and evening.

Tuesday March 21

Today it is not very pleasant. Uncle Mack started for Tennessee this

[new page]

morning. It rained about two hours this morning before he started. He said he should bring his sister up here with him. Aunt Mary came here this morning. She is a going to visit all round while Uncle Mack is gone. Aunt Mary and Ma were invited to Mr. Morrill's today and up to Uncle Frank's tomorrow shugaring [sugaring] off. Father tapped the trees yesterday and the sap ran very well.

Wednesday March 22

Louis Pope came here yesterday to invite us up to Uncle Frank's today shugar-ing [sugaring] off and they went up today and brought home some shugar [sugar] and we melted it on snow. Cousin Willie and Maria

[new page]

are here. They left Aunt Mary up to Uncle Frank's. I got dinner all alone today. We had bread and milk. Maria went up home yesterday.

Thursday March 23

Dennison came over here this morning to have mother poultice his boil. His neck is pretty stiff. I hope it will be well soon. He came over this evening to have it poulticed and he danced then- with me and tried to learn it to Pa. Sarah Sheafe is sick with scarlet fever [?] Ma went down to see how she was this evening and she said that Sarah was up and dressed.

[new page]

Friday March 24

I went to dancing school this afternoon and evening. I went over to see how Uncle Woood [Wood] was. And to carry Aunt Dianna letter. Uncle Wood had a bad night.

Saturday March 25

Ma went over to see Mrs. Ovvit [Ovit] today. She says the baby is a pretty one. Ma says that Margaret is stopping there. Willie and Maria are here now. Mr. Brown was here today and he said that

[new page]

Polly Smith was a little better today.

Sunday March 26

Pa went over to see how Uncle Wood was today. He said he was not any better that he had the worst night that he had. Maria has come home.

Monday March 27

Today was the last dancing that they are going to have, but I could not go because I have a sore throat. I wanted to go very much. Father, mother, and Johnnie have gone. Ma says she don't think that Sarah is

[new page]

geting [getting] along well. Doctor Bugby lets her drink all the water she wants. Mr. Holten's baby is dead. Poor little creature. It is released from his pain and suffering at last.

Tuesday March 28

Frankie Holten's funeral was today. Pa and Ma went to it. Aunt Ruth and Aunt Mary came down here today. Aunt Mary is going to stay and Aunt Ruth is going to stay here all night. They have concluded to have another dancing school. It is going to be Friday.

Wednesday March 29

Johnnie is quite sick. We are going to have an iron-bedstead when father

[new page]

goes to Bosten [Boston]. I made a cap for Jessie today and finished her cape. Captain Holten a young man in the army who has lost one arm is here visiting Eliza. Rose has been having the momps, but Maria said she saw her out today. Pa saw Mr. Sheafe today and he said that Sarah was a little better.

Thursday March 30

Mr. Byron came here this afternoon. He is a minister. He is going to preach here next Sunday. Aunt Mary went up to Mr. Henry Peirce's today. Little Mary went up with her. It is a beautiful [beautiful] day.

[new page]

I went out in the yard today for a little while. Eliza's beuex is gone. My throat is not sore at all today and Johnnie is better. We boiled down some sap today and when it was done it was just as white as could be.

Friday March 31

It is pleasant today and I went over to cousin Willie's today on an errand. Her bird is about the same. John is dressed today, and I have got of my bandage. I expected to go to dancing school today, but I could not.

[new page]

Saturday April 1

Today is April Fool Day. We did not know it till towards night. Maria sent for me to come over because Benny was there. He told me that I was not as pretty as I used to be. It is very muddy.

Sunday April 2

It is pleasant today. Mr. Byron preached here today. Mr. Goodenough came to meeting this afternoon. He has got a sore foot. Ma got a letter from Mrs. Spencer and she sent a picture of Mr. Spencer and herself. Father

[new page]

has just been hearing Maria's and mynes [mine's] sabbath school lessen [lesson].

Monday April 3

It is a beutifull [beautiful] day. Maria, Johnnie, and Mary went over to Cousin Maria's and she gave them two or three things. I pieced up a whole square today and a half. Aunt Mary cut a lot of pieces for me. I have 10 blocks. We have glorious news. Richmond is taken. They are firing of [off] cannons ringing the bell beating a drum.

[new page]

Mr. Byron left this morning. We were invited up to Uncle Frank's tomorrow sugaring off he says. The roads are pretty good. Aunt Mary is about sick.

Tuesday April 4

It is pleasant today. Aunt Mary is not quite so well. She got a letter from Uncle Mack. He was in Nashville when he wrote. He is well and met with no accident. Mother has gone over to see how Uncle Wood is. He rode out today.

[new page]

Thursday Aril [April] 6

I did not write yesterday because I was so sleepy in the evening. Today is Aunt Carrie's birthday. She has just been over here. Dilla and myself went over to Uncle Stephen's

today to carry over a hair reciever [receiver] for Aunt Carrie from me for a birthday preasant [present]. Miss Davis is there. Aunt Cintha [Cynthia] and Dilla came down here today. Uncle James came down with them. He went out to Grandpa's. He is afraid he is going to have [felon?]

[new page]

[Friday April 7]

It rained most all day till about two o'clock and then the sun shone out brightly and pleasantly. Aunt Cyntha [Cynthia] and Dilla went up to Mr. Pierces tooday [today].

Saturday April 8

I expected to go out to Grandpa's today with Aunt Mary, but I could not because there was not room in between grand-pa and Aunt Mary. This morning when I got up it was very pleasant but before long it began to snow and

[new page]

blow pretty smart. This after-noon the sun shone out. Mr. Sheafe came here today to ask Ma if she would go down to Mr. Sivwright's sugar-ing. Mrs. Sheaf [Sheafe] and Ma went down on the spring board. Mr. Sheafe said Sarah was getting along nicely. Cousin Willie and Maria are going to star for Sherbrooke tomorrow morning. Maria asked me if I would take care of her birds while she is gone. Ma is over to Cousin Willie's now.

[new page]

Sunday April 9

It is a beutilul [beautiful] day. Father, Mother, and myself came out to Grandpa's today and they left me out here. Aunt Mary told me today that Mary Weston was going to school at Richmond. I did not know it before.

Monday April 10

Uncle James and Dillie came here today. She is going to stay here for quite a while. Uncle James is going to stay out in the sugar place all night. It rained most all of the afternoon.

[new page]

Wednesday April 12

Pa came out here today with two letters from uncle Mack. He got both last night. He is coming home tonight. Aunt Mary and I are going home with him. I have had a real nice time. Uncle James staid [stayed] out in the sugar place all night.

Thursday April 13

It is pleasant but windy. When Pa came out yesterday after us he said Johnnie was out to Uncle Frank's, so today, Pa and I went up to Uncle Frank's. After him, we

[new page]

went out to the sugar place but they had got all done sugaring off before we got down there. Uncle Mack came home last night. He and Aunt Mary are going to stop here all day. General Lee and his Army have surrendered.

Saturday April 15

We have terrible news. We got a telegraph this morning that President Lincoln was shot through the head last night at the theatre and died this morning a few minutes past seven.

[new page]

O it is terrible, and a man went into Mr. Seward's room and stabbed him three [times] and killed his son wounding servants. Besides it was in the paper that President Lincoln and Gen. Grant was called away so he was not there. If he had been they would have killed him. Mr. Lincoln was un-ushaly [unusually] happy. Chatting with Mrs. Lincoln and another lady who was with him when he came up behind him and shot him through the head. He was unconcious [unconscious] till he died. He was

[new page]

57 the 12 of last February. We do not [know] whether it was the same man that shot Mr. Lincoln was the one that stabbed Seward or not. Father had [?] taken up today to be killed- poor fellow. He was very sick, it seemed though it hurt him to breathe. He would lift up his paw every time he breathed; he could not walk far enough to get into the house. I took him up in my arms and brought him into the house. I brought the mat out from the porch, and he laid down on it. We have had him two years this spring.

[new page]

He was born in the spring. Johnnie dose [does] not know that he is dead. He is two years this spring.

Tuesday April 18

Secretary Seward or his son were not dead the last we heard. We got news that young Seward was dead but is not so. Gerte Spalding came up here today to see me. Pa and Ma went over to Major Kimball's at Eliza's wedding. She is to be married tonight to Captain Holten at eight o'clock. Booth is the name of the man who killed Pres. Lincoln.

Wednesday April 19

President Lincoln's funeral was today at twelve o'clock.

[new page]

Mr. Goodenough preached a funeral sermon here today. It was an excelent [excellent] one. Uncle Mack and Aunt Mary came out to it. They dressed the house in mourning. The pulpit and the gallery. The house was full. The flag was dressed in mourning and raised at half-mast. Seward and his son are better. Thank God.

Thursday April 20

Seward and his son are gaining. Cousin Willie and Maria came home last night and she brought me a book (by Oliver Optic). Elisa [Eliza] and

[new page]

her husband went as far as Newport yesterday. Mary and myself went down to Mr. Sheafe's for a little while. Sarah has not got all off the flannel of [off] from her neck yet.

Friday April 21

Mrs. Sheafe and Mrs. Tompson called here today. Mrs. Sheafe said that Sarah was not very well. Secatary [Secretary] Seward and Frederick Seward are still improving they have got the man that attempted [attempted] to murder Seward. I have seen a picture of J.W. Booth. He is fine looking.

Saturday April 22

[new page]

Uncle Frank and Aunt Ruth was down here for a little while today. Uncle Mack was out too. Mrs. Chase gave me a stuffed bird. [It] is a real pretty one. Seward and his son are still improving. We got a letter saying that Dennison was quite sick with the diphtheria.

Sunday April 23

Father is going to start for Bosten [Boston] tomorrow. Mr. Eaton preached here today.

Monday April 24

Pa and Mr. Eaton started for Boston this morning. Uncle Wood is sick. Ma has been over to Uncle Wood she says his [?]

[new page]

The Heroic Boy.

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Whence all but he had fled,
The flames that lit the battle's wreck,
Shone round him o'er the dead

Yet beautiful and bright he stood,
As born to rule the storm,
A creature of heroic blood,
A brave though childlike form.

The flames rolled on- he would not go,
Without his Father's word,
That Father faint in death below,

[new page]
His voice not longer heard.

He called aloud- "Say, Father say,
If yet my task is done."
He knew not that the chieftain lay,
Unconscious of his son.

Speak, Father!" Once again he cried,
If I may yet be gone;
And but the booming shot replied,
And fast the flames rolled on.

Upon his brow he felt their breath,
And in his waving hair,

[new page]
And looked from that lone pose of death,
In still, yet brave despair.

And shouted but once more aloud,
"My Father, must I stay?"
While o'er him fast, through sail and shroud,
The wreathing fires made way.

They wrapped the ship in splendor wild,
They caught the flag on high,
And streamed above the gallant child,
Like banners in the sky.

[new page]

There came a burst of thunder sound,
The boy- O, where was he?
Ask of the winds, that far around
With fragments strewed the sea.

With mast, and helm, and pennon fair,
That well had borne their part,
But the noblest thing that perished there,
Was that young faithful heart.

[new page]

Very Little Things.
Very little things are we,
Oh how mild we all should be;
Never quarrel, never fight,
That would be a shocking sight.
Just like pretty little lambs,
Softly skipping by the dams;
We'll be gentle all the day,
Love to learn as well as play.

[new page]

[page with hand colored engraving cut out and glued to the page. Engraving shows a girl opening a cage with two birds inside]

[new page]

The Captive Bluebird.
Sweet little mistress, let me go,
And I'll smooth the feathers on my brow,
And sing you a song so sweet and clear,
That you will be glad to stop and hear.

Indeed, you know not what to do,
I will tell you all and tell you true,
I've left some young ones on the tree,
In a soft nest; there are one, two, three.

Tis two hours now since Billy was fed,
And little Dick he hangs his head,

[new page]

Sweet Katy wonders where I'm gone,
And the poor things are all alone.

Perhaps some cat, in prowling round,
Will see and seize them at abound,
The cruel pussy I might scare,
With my shrill note if I were there.

Ah me, no more at early morn,
Shall I rest my foot on the stooping thorn,
And pour the song from my soft breast,
While my dear young ones are at rest.

[new page]

No more shall I with great eager bill,
Snatch up the worm from off the hill,
And no more hear the trembling cry,
That welcomes me when I draw nigh.

But my sad notes have touched your heart,
Your open hand bids me depart;
Blessings on thee, my mistress dear,
My darlings have no more to fear.

[new page]

We Are Seven.

I met a little cottage girl,
She was eight years old, she said;
Her hair was thick with many a curl
That clustered round her head.

"Sisters and brothers, little maid,
How many may you be?"
"How many? Seven in all," she said,
And wondering looked at me.

[new page]

"And where are they, I pray you tell."

She answered, "Seven are we;
And two of us at Conway dwell,
And two are gone two [to] sea.

Two of us in the churchyard lie,
My sister and my bother;
And in the churchyard cottage, I
Dwell near them with my mother."

"You say that two at Gonway dwell,

[new page]
And two are gone to sea,
Yet you are seven; I pray you tell
Sweet maid, how this may be."

Then did the little maid reply,
"Seven boys and girls are we;
Two of us in the churchyard lie,
Beneath the churchyard tree."

You run about, my little maid,
Your limbs they are alive;

[new page]
If two are in the Churchyard laid
Then you are only five.

"Their graves are green [green], they may be seen,"
The little maid replied,
"Twelve steps or more from Mother's door,
And they are side by side."

"My stockings there I often knit,
My kerchief there I hem;
And there upon the ground I sit

[new page]
I sit and sing to them."

"And often after sunset, Sir,
When it is light and fair,
I take my little porringer,
And eat my supper there."

"The first that died was little Jane,
In bed she moaning lay,
Till God released her from her pain,
And then she went away."

[new page]

"So in the churchyard she was laid,
And when the grass was dry,
Together round her grave we played,
My brother John and I."

"And when the ground was white with snow,
And I could run a slide,
My brother John was forced to go,
and he lies by her side."

"How many are you, then" said I,

[new page]

"If those to [two] are in heaven?"

The little maiden did reply,

"O, master, we are seven."

[new page]

[page with hand colored engraving of two young girls playing with a doll and rocking horse]

Cousin Alice

[new page]

May Dow.

"Come in, little stranger," I said
As she tapped at my half-open door,
While the blanket, pinned over her head,
Just reached to the basket she bore.

A look full of innocence fell

From her modest and pretty blue eye,
As she said, "I have matches to sell,
And hope you are willing to buy."

[new page]

"A penny a bunch is the price,
I think you'll not find it too much,
They're tied up so even and
Ready to light with a touch."

I asked "what's your name little girl?"
"It is Mary," she said, "Mary Dow."
And carelessly tossed of [off] a curl [curl],
That played over her delicate brow.

"My father was lost in the deep,

[new page]

The ship never got to the shoer [shore];
And mother is sad and will weep,
When she hears the wind blow and sea roar."

"She sits there at home without food,
Beside our poor sick Willie's bed,
She paid all her money for wood,
And so I sell matches for bread."

"For every time that she tried,
Some things she'd be paid for, to make,

[new page]

And lays down the baby, it cress [cries],
And that makes my sick brother wake."

"I go to the school, where I'm taught,
Of One who's so wise and so good,
He knows every action and thought,
And gives e'en the raven his food."

"And He, I am sure, who will take

Such fatherly care of a bird,
Will never forget or forsake,
The children who trust in his word."

[new page]

"And now, if I only can sell,
The matches I brought out today,
I think I shall do very well,
And mother'll rejoice at the pay"

"Fly home, little bird," then I thought,
"Fly home full of joy to your nest,"
For I took all the matches she brought,
And Mary may tell you the rest.

[new page]

My Baby Brother.

O Dear Mamma, where are you gone,
Come, see the baby stand alone;
And only think- indeed, it is truth,
I can just feel a little tooth.

Look at his pretty shining hair,
His cheeks so red, his skin so fair,
His curly ringlets, just like flax,
His little bosom, just like wax.

[new page]

O, how I long till he can walk,
And then I'll lone till he can talk,
And then I'll long till he can play,
When we have said out tasks each day.

I think he's growing very wise,
Now, don't think so? Julia cries,
Then to the cradle off she ran,
To kiss the little baby-man.

[new page]

My Little Sister.

I have a little sister,
She's only two years old,
But she's a little darling,
And worth her weight in gold.

She often runs to kiss me,
When I'm at work or play,
Twining her arms about me,
In such a pretty way.

[new page]

And then she'll say so sweetly,
In innocence and joy,
"Tell me story, sister dear,
About the little boy."

Some times when I am knitting,
She will pull my needles out,
And then she'll skip, and dance around,
With such a merry shout.

It makes me laugh to see her,
Though I'm not very glad,

[new page]

To have her take my needles out,
And make my work so bar.

But then if I would have her,
To see what she had done,
I must be very gentle,
While telling her the wrong.

O' God of all mercies.
From whom all blessings flow,
I pray the [thee] wash my sins away,
Until my soul is white as snow.

[new page]

Milly's Taper

It is Sunday evening- A family group are gathered round a cheerful fire. Mrs. Ross reclines in a comfortable rocking chair at one side of the fireplace, and Milicent, a little girl of twelve years of age, seated on a stool at her feet, is leaning thoughtfully with her head upon her mother. Laying her hand upon her daughter's head, inquires, "What is the matter, Milly? Has anything troubled you?" "I

[new page]

was thinking about what Miss Lawson said today, Mamma, in Sunday school; she said that grown people ought to be like lamps, and even children ought to light their little taper at Jesus' feet and carry them everywhere. Now Mamma, I am such a little girl, I am sure I don't see what good I can do.

[new page]

Idle Girl.

Oh, sun, bright sun, come out of the sky,
Put your hard work for a minute by,
Give up for a while your endless round,
And come and play with me on the ground.
But the sun said- No!

Wind, cold wind, with your whistle and roar,
Pray do not toy with the waves anymore,
Come frolic with me, that's a good old breeze,
In the orchard green 'neath the apple tree.
But the breeze said No.

[new page]

Oh, water, clear as you flow along,
Come close to my feet and sing me a song,
Don't go forever that endless way,
But pause for a moment and with me stay.
But the stream said- No!

[new page]

[new page]

[new page]

[new page]

[new page]

[new page]

[in a different cursive handwriting]
Thinking of Mercies
Whene'er I take my walks abroad,
How many poor I see;
What shall I render to my God
For all his gifts to me.

Not more than others I deserve,
Yet God has given me more;
For I have food while others starve,
Or beg from door to door.

[new page]
How many children in the streets,
Halk naked I behold;
While I am clothed from head to feet,
And covered from the cold.

While some poor creatures scarce can tell,
Where thay [they] may lay their head,
I have a home wherein to dwell,
And rest upon my bed.

While others early learn to swear and curse and lie and steal

Maria Webster

[new page]

[new page]

[new page]

[back cover]

[Separate letter]

East Montpelier, MA, 20th '78

Dear Cousins, Hattie and Maria. I was very glad to get your letter. It was the last day of our school. Mother is very busy takeing [taking] care of little Frankie. She has not been well for about a week. But we think she is some better now. Cousin Emma and Charley called to see Frankie and me the other day. Father was to Aunt Mary's last night. Said Hattie was eaining[eating?] fast now. Granma is to Uncle Henry's. Quiling [quilling] for Eddy. He is to be married next Monday morning at East Montpellier curch [church].

Oh! I must tell that Hattie Spencer has been hear [here] and mabde [made?] me a long nice visit. We talked a good deal about her visit and mine at your house- her father and mother staid [stayed] here one night. Please write me if they are going to Derbyline to live. Maria, has your school finnished [finished] You must write me and tell me all about your-self and every thing Monday afternoon. Ma says I must finnish [finish] this letter today. So I will will go about it. We all went to the wedding this morning. The house was full. The bride looked sweet- you must write me soon. Good by [bye] Anna.
PS. Ma send love to all