

December as Ma had done a year ago. — Oh yes, what a delightful home you have, and how your parents strive to do all for your welfare and happiness. — After they returned from school in the evening Maie made chocolate for them.

Busy computing.

Mr. & Mrs. G. Patterson were with us in the evening.

Friday 16 Busy computing.

cloudy

cold

Saturday 17 Augusta & I were in Berlin. — In evening computing.

cloudy

cool

little snow night

Sunday 18 Busy computing. In evening sang and played games with the boys.

Monday 19

cloudy

By all appearances we will have a green Christmas, that is without snow and sleighing. The weather has continued exceptionally mild; this morning for a short time the sun was out and the birds chirped as if it were a spring morning. — In evening I was at the Mechanics' Institute. Busy computing.

Tuesday 20

mild

foggy

snow at night

Busy computing. In the afternoon I was present when Dr. Duck dressed and bandaged the burnt arm of Mrs. Barber. The lower part from the elbow down was still enveloped in the burnt skin which was like the upper or stiff part of a gauntlet — the color was that of a smoked ham or mummy; the upper part was a mass of raw flesh, a great deal of matter exuded from under the crust. Although the sight was fearful & the stench very bad yet it affected me not in the slightest. Augusta is sacrificing herself & assists every time in dressing the wound, as no other woman of the acquaintances can bear the

sight, soon not even the smell in the house,

Tuesday 21
snowy

Maria & Lisa were in Berlin. Busy computing. I went along with Maria to drive her over the bridge and also met her coming home, as the men are still at work laying on the planks over the new iron bridge.

Wednesday 22
Cold
cloudy

Busy computing. Sleighting begins but is not good, as it has no icy bottom. - In morning I drove Maria to Mrs. Patterson where she assists in preparing cakes for the evening party. In the evening Maria did attend the dancing party at Mrs. Patterson which was quite a pleasant affair. Quite a number of out-siders were present.

Friday 23
pleasant
cloudy

I lay aside my work and attend to making Christmas errands. We have had as yet no crisp cold winter weather.

Saturday 24
cloudy
pleasant

Cases large & small that have rested quietly for a year are taken from their corners and brought to the library where they visit their customers to the Christmas tree, the cheering emblem of this festive season. The children assist in the decorating. In the evening I go to the Station to meet Aunt Lelia & Aubie; Carl, wife & children also arrive, the former stay with us. At 8 P.M. the boys proceed to mother's & bring up that household heading the procession with Chinese lanterns; shortly thereafter I have all the lights & Christmas tree lit, ring the bell and all enter the library, I being the first to receive presents which the boys carried, Maria gives me a beautiful case with crocheted knot, also a leather writing pad & the boys bought a clock for my library. Each one soon finds his place as a card with the name lies there. - The amount (value) in presents this year was not as large as has been in some former years, and for two reasons, one was the foremost one probably was that I did not wish to spend much money, & the other was that the boys have everything, all imaginable toys, books, skates, toboggan, sleighs &c.