

light, 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.

Thursday 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 crocodile 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 plays, books, skates, toboggan, sleighs &c.