

In buying presents I always have an eye to the useful also. Marie I gave Godeville's work, a cross-stitch chair and "fina Raika". The last is in a measure indefinite to her, altho' she will know that it means to the Pacific Coast - British Columbia, but if my plans succeed there is something further in store for her. - Music was rampant. Oskar has a flageolet, later a piccolo, also a fife + Waldemar a cornet of some kind. Max + Lulu play together on two guitars to the surprise of the visitors. The evening was spent pleasantly chatting, whereby the uncut man was not allowed to suffer either for liquid or solid. We broke up at 1 a.m.

Sunday 25 Christmas Day. - We fortunately were all in good time for the Xmas dinner, and our turkey left nothing to be desired. Happy + profitable Xmas Day we arose from the period table. In the afternoon George + Henry + Ed, + Prof. Patterson + Fred. Clark called and were much interested in my record collections from my travels. For tea we were invited at mother's, and quite a table-full it made. After tea another "Wickiack's beskermy" took place, and as one was forgotten, the boys amused themselves with their new games - paddles, billiards + parcheesi - , and we chatted and played "anagrams" for some time.

Monday 26 Municipal Nominations Day. - I attended. - There seems to be a strong feeling among a certain class - German rabble to defeat M.A. Abbey, the most efficient Councillor of the past season, the man to whom is due especially the erection of the town hall, but his shortcomings in their eyes are that he has a mind of his own and expresses it, and on the other hand does not loaf about taverns and make common with them. There is very little encouragement for a man of education + principle to attempt to participate in ^{the management of} municipal affairs, his love for the welfare of the community must be great

December in excess of annoyance + aversion caused by the opposition to him for the very qualities that really make him a desirable public man - even benefactor. There is one quality, altho' of little importance to the welfare of the public but to the individual seeking office, or who should have an office, and that is discretion. M. a. abby lacks that. - The bougie is a formidable weapon, but when not properly bidden cuts in all directions and mows down friends as well as the enemies.

In evening Maude Carl + Auguste are up + we all play Dominio Euchel.

Tuesday 27
mild, misty
snow at night
Carl leaves for home also Carl. - Dorothea, Dora + Otto were down. The boys serenaded at mother's benefit on guitars flageolet, piccolo + mouth organ to the surprise of all, and receive quite an applause. Oscar looks at it from a material point of view + takes up a collection.

Wednesday 28
snowy
Stormy
I settle down to work again.

Thursday 29
cold
Stormy
Lida + Maria leave with the 11 o'clock train, we accompanying her to the station. Busy computing.

Friday 30
cold
Stormy
Busy computing. In evening attend it. Election matters are running & very high, M. a. abby being the central figure, being most fiercely opposed by a certain section - especially the firemen, - bell hangers - and on the other hand well supported by the more respectable class.

Saturday 31
snowy
stormy
night rain
Busy computing. After tea we all gathered at mother's, Carl having arrived too. - The time was passed chatting and playing games until the last life drop of 1887 oozed away into eternity and

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