Samuel Reader's diary, volume 5

Section 6, Pages 151 - 180

This volume of Samuel James Reader's diary covers most of 1860-1864. The volume begins with his family history and a description of his land claim and includes many color illustrations. Reader refers to this volume as his "private journal and a kind of autobiography." Reader lived in Indianola, Kansas in Shawnee County (formerly Jackson County). The preceding volume four was destroyed by fire. A searchable, full-text (PDF) transcription is available under "External Links" below.

Creator: Reader, Samuel James, 1836-1914

Date: January 25, 1860-May 1, 1864

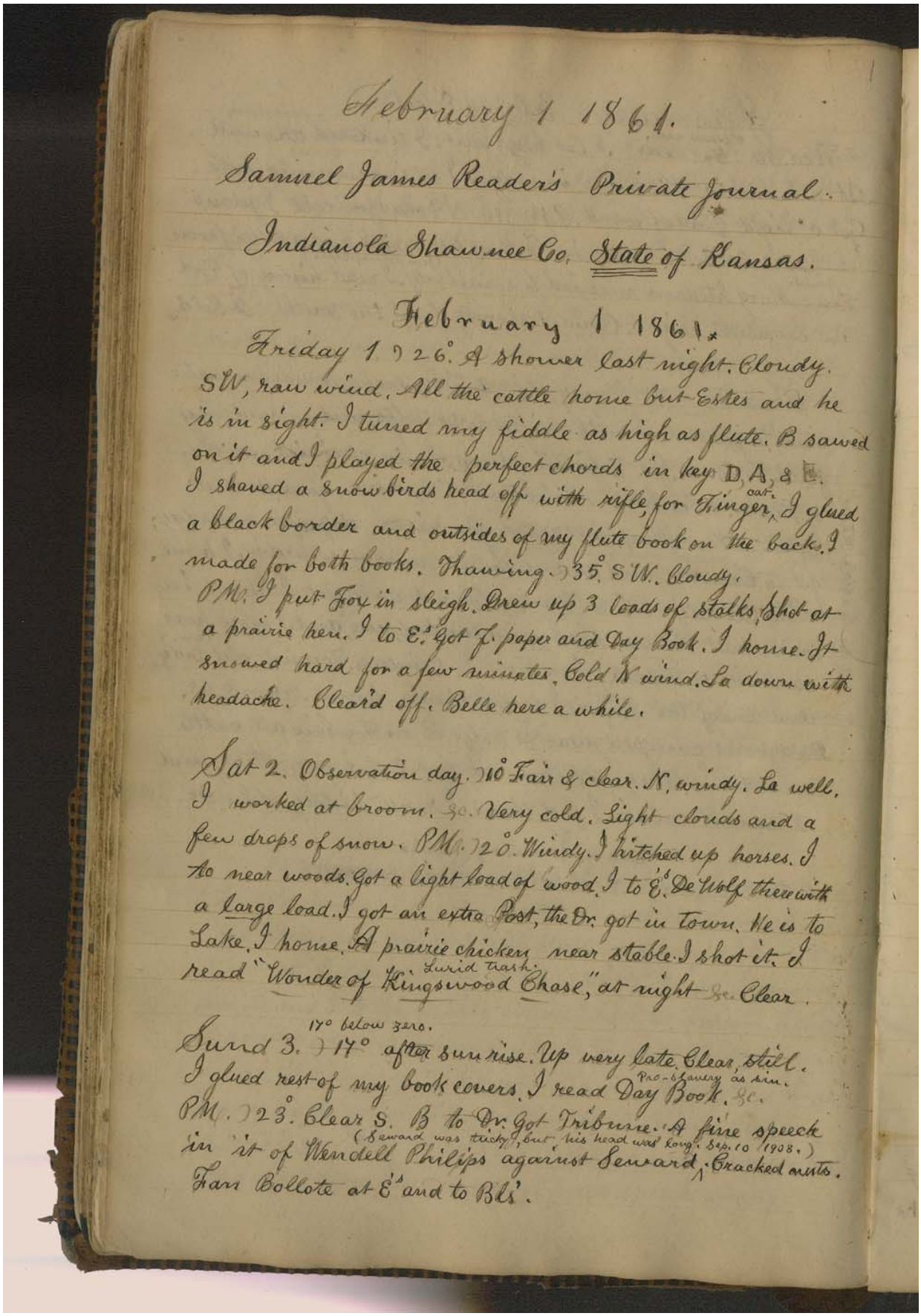
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Samuel Reader's diary, volume 5



February 1 1861.

Samuel James Reader's Private Journal.

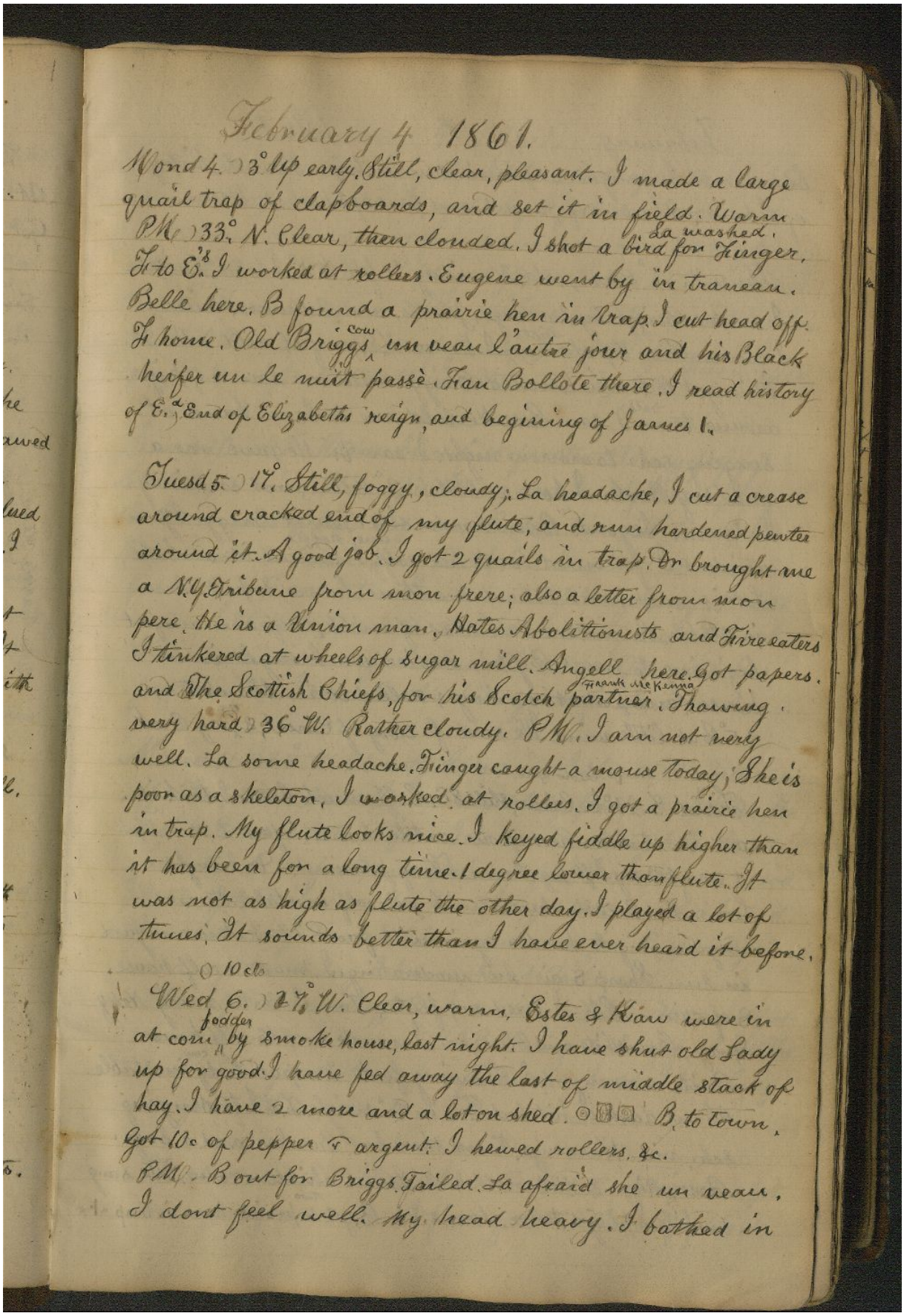
Indianola Shawnee Co. State of Kansas.

February 1 1861.

Friday 1) 26°. A shower last night. Cloudy. SW, raw wind. All the cattle home but Estes and he is in sight. I turned my fiddle as high as flute. B sawed on it and I played the perfect chords in key D, A, & E. I shaved a snow birds head off with rifle for Finger, I glued a black border and outsides of my flute book on the back. I made for both books. Thawing.) 35° S W. Cloudy.
PM. I put Fox in sleigh. Drew up 3 loads of stalks, Shot at a prairie hen. I to E's. Got J. paper and Day Book. I home. It snowed hard for a few minutes. Cold N wind. La down with headache. Clear'd off. Belle here a while.

Sat 2. Observation day.) 10° Fair & clear. N. windy. La well. I worked at broom. &c. Very cold. Light clouds and a few drops of snow. PM.) 20°. Windy. I hitched up horses. I to near woods. Got a light load of wood. I to E's. De Wolf there with a large load. I got an extra Post, the Dr. got in town. He is to Lake. I home. A prairie chicken near stable. I shot it. I read "Wonder of Kingswood Chase," at night &c. Clear.

Sund 3.) 17° below zero. 17° after sunrise. Up very late. Clear, still. I glued rest of my book covers. I read Day Book. &c.
PM.) 23°. Clear S. B to Dr. Got Tribune. A fine speech in it of Wendell Philips against Seward, (Seward was tricky, but his head was long. Sep. 10 1908.) Cracked nuts. Pro-slavery as sin.
Fan Bollote at E's and to Bl's.



February 4 1861.

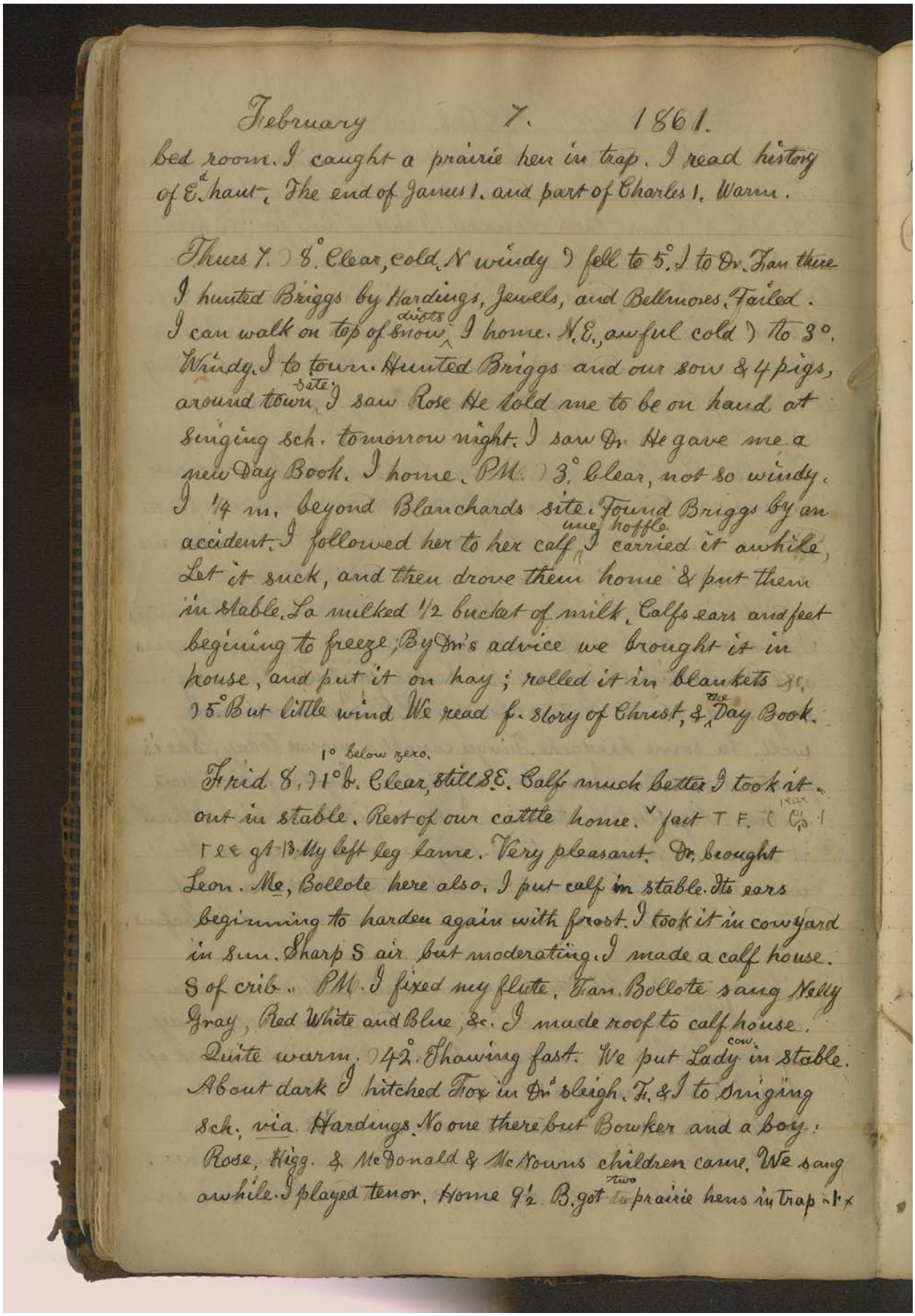
Mond 4. 3° up early. Still, clear, pleasant. I made a large quail trap of clapboards, and set it in field. Warm PM 33° N. Clear, then clouded. I shot a bird for Finger. La washed. F to E's I worked at rollers. Eugene went by in traneau. Belle here. B found a prairie hen in trap. I cut head off. F home. Old Briggs' cow un veau l'autre jour and his Black heifer un le nuit passè. Jan Bollote there. I read history of E. 2 End of Elizabeth's reign, and begining of James 1.

Tuesd 5. 17°. Still, foggy, cloudy; La headache, I cut a crease around cracked end of my flute, and run hardened pewter around it. A good job. I got 2 quails in trap. Dr brought me a N.Y. Tribune from mon frere; also a letter from mon pere. He is a Union man, hates Abolitionists and Fire eaters I tinkered at wheels of sugar mill. Angell here. Got papers. Frank McKenna and The Scottish Chiefs, for his Scotch partner. Thawing very hard 36° W. Rather cloudy. PM. I am not very well. La some headache. Finger caught a mouse today; She is poor as a skeleton. I worked at rollers. I got a prairie hen in trap. My flute looks nice. I keyed fiddle up higher than it has been for a long time. 1 degree lower than flute. It was not as high as flute the other day. I played a lot of tunes. It sounds better than I have ever heard it before.

10 cts

Wed 6. 27° W. Clear, warm. Estes & Kaw were in at corn fodder by smoke house, last night. I have shut old Lady up for good. I have fed away the last of middle stack of hay. I have 2 more and a lot on shed. B. to town. Got 10c of pepper & argent. I hewed rollers, &c.

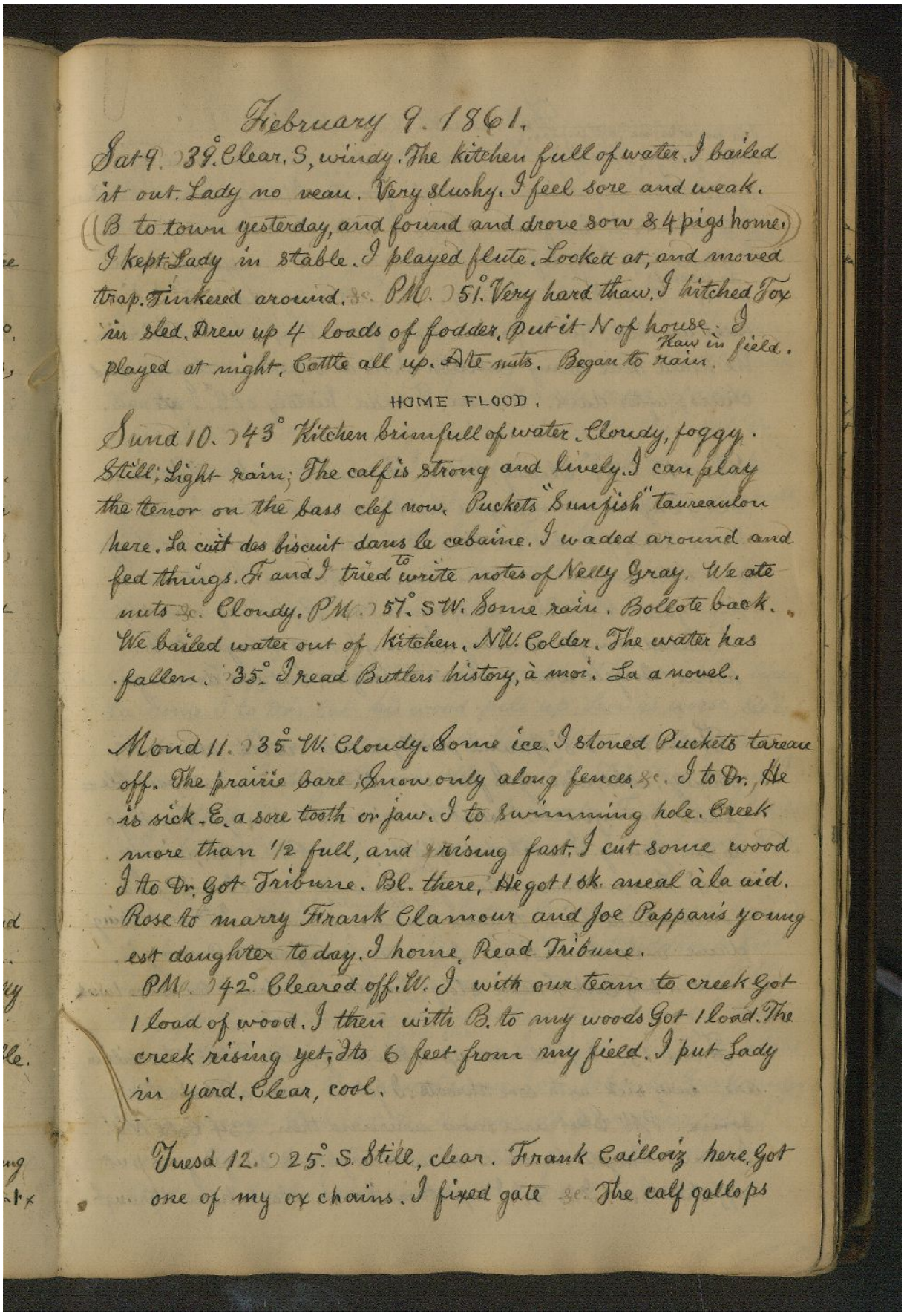
PM. B out for Briggs. Failed. La afraid she un veau. I dont feel well. My head heavy. I bathed in



February 7. 1861.
bed room. I caught a prairie hen in trap. I read history of E. haut. The end of James 1. and part of Charles 1. Warm.

Thurs 7.) 8°. Clear, cold N windy) fell to 5°. I to Dr. Jan there I hunted Briggs by Hardings, Jewels, and Bellmores. Failed. I can walk on top of snow (crust) I home. N.E., awful cold) to 3°. Windy. I to town. Hunted Briggs and our sow & 4 pigs, around town (date) I saw Rose He told me to be on hand at singing sch. tomorrow night. I saw Dr. He gave me a new Day Book. I home. PM.) 3°. Clear, not so windy. I 1/4 m. beyond Blanchards site. Found Briggs by an accident. I followed her to her calf (me hoffle) I carried it awhile, Let it suck, and then drove them home & put them in stable. Jo milked 1/2 bucket of milk. Calfs ears and feet begining to freeze, By Dr's advice we brought it in house, and put it on hay; rolled it in blankets &c.) 5°. But little wind We read f. story of Christ, & (the) Day Book.

(1° below zero.)
Frid 8.) 1°b. Clear, still S.E. Calf much better I took it out in stable. Rest of our cattle home. (put T F. (1825) I left of 13. My left leg lame. Very pleasant. Dr. brought Leon. Mc, Bollote here also. I put calf in stable. Its ears beginning to harden again with frost. I took it in cowyard in sun. Sharp S air but moderating. I made a calf house. S of crib. PM. I fixed my flute. Jan. Bollote sang Nelly Gray, Red White and Blue, &c. I made roof to calf house. Quite warm.) 42°. Thawing fast. We put Lady (cow.) in stable. About dark I hitched Fox in Dr's sleigh. J. & I to singing sch. via Hardings. No one there but Bowker and a boy. Rose, Higg. & McDonald & McNowns children came. We sang awhile. I played tenor. Home 9 1/2. B. got (two) prairie hens in trap.



February 9. 1861.

Sat 9. 39°. Clear. S, windy. The kitchen full of water. I bailed it out. Lady no yeau. Very slushy. I feel sore and weak. (B to town yesterday, and found and drove sow & 4 pigs home.) I kept Lady in stable. I played flute. Looked at, and moved trap. Tinkered around. PM. 51°. Very hard thaw. I hitched Fox in sled. Drew up 4 loads of fodder. Put it N of house. I Kaw in field. played at night. Cattle all up. Ate nuts. Began to rain.

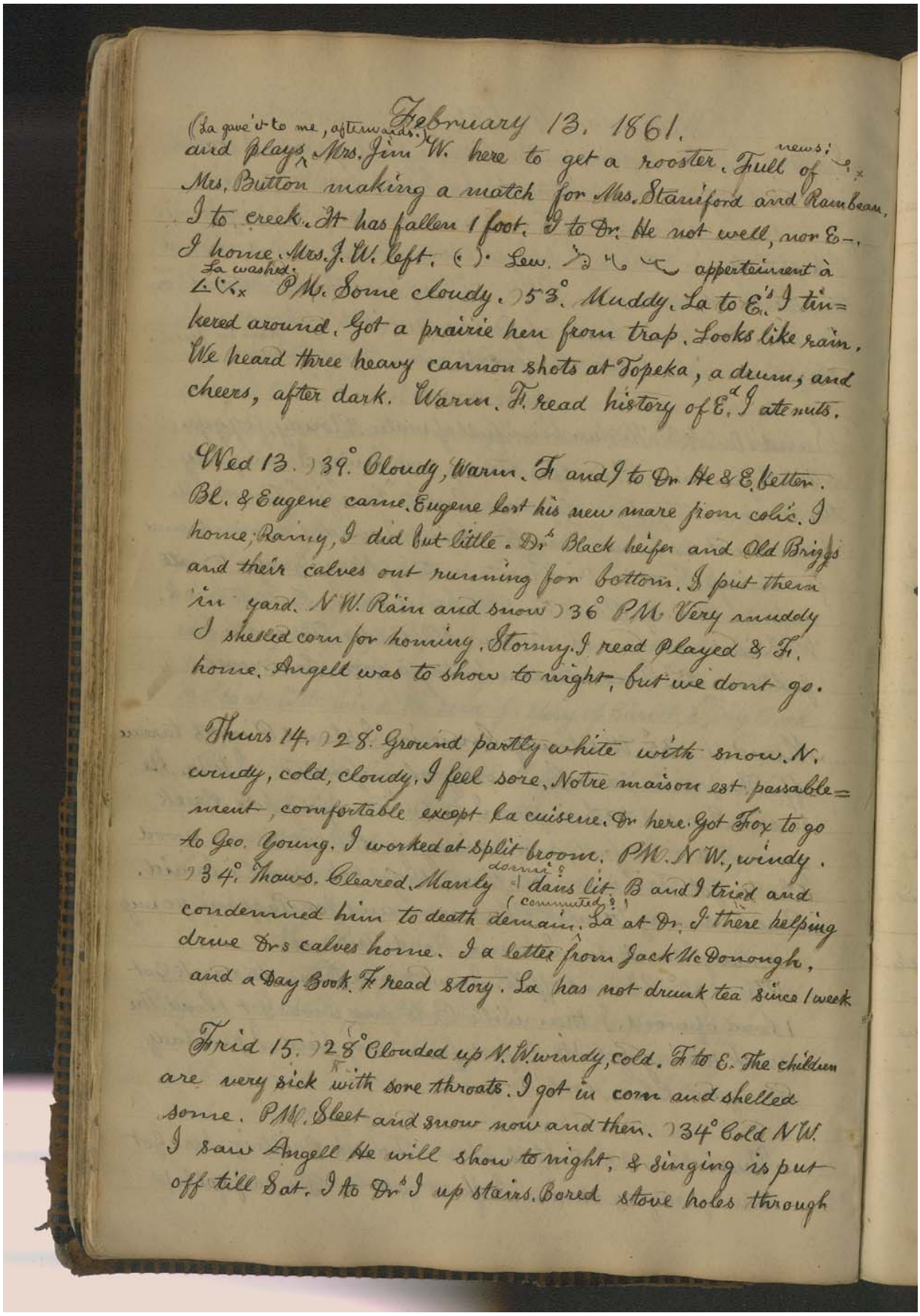
HOME FLOOD.

Sund 10. 43° Kitchen brimfull of water. Cloudy, foggy. Still; Light rain; The calf is strong and lively. I can play the tenor on the bass clef now. Puckets "Sunfish" taureaulou here. La cuit des biscuit dans la cabaine. I waded around and fed things. F and I tried to write notes of Nelly Gray. We ate nuts &c. Cloudy. PM. 57°. S W. Some rain. Bollote back. We bailed water out of kitchen. NW. Colder. The water has fallen. 35°. I read Butlers history, à moi. La a novel.

Mond 11. 35° W. Cloudy. Some ice. I stoned Puckets taureau off. The prairie bare, Snow only along fences &c. I to Dr. He is sick. E. a sore tooth or jaw. I to swimming hole. Creek more than 1/2 full, and rising fast. I cut some wood I to Dr. Got Tribune. Bl. there, He got 1 ok. meal à la aid. Rose to marry Frank Clamour and Joe Pappan's youngest daughter to day. I home. Read Tribune.

PM. 42°. Cleared off. W. I with our team to creek. Got 1 load of wood. I then with B. to my woods. Got 1 load. The creek rising yet. Its 6 feet from my field. I put Lady in yard. Clear, cool.

Tuesd 12. 25°. S. Still, clear. Frank Cailloiz here. Got one of my ox chains. I fixed gate &c. The calf gallops



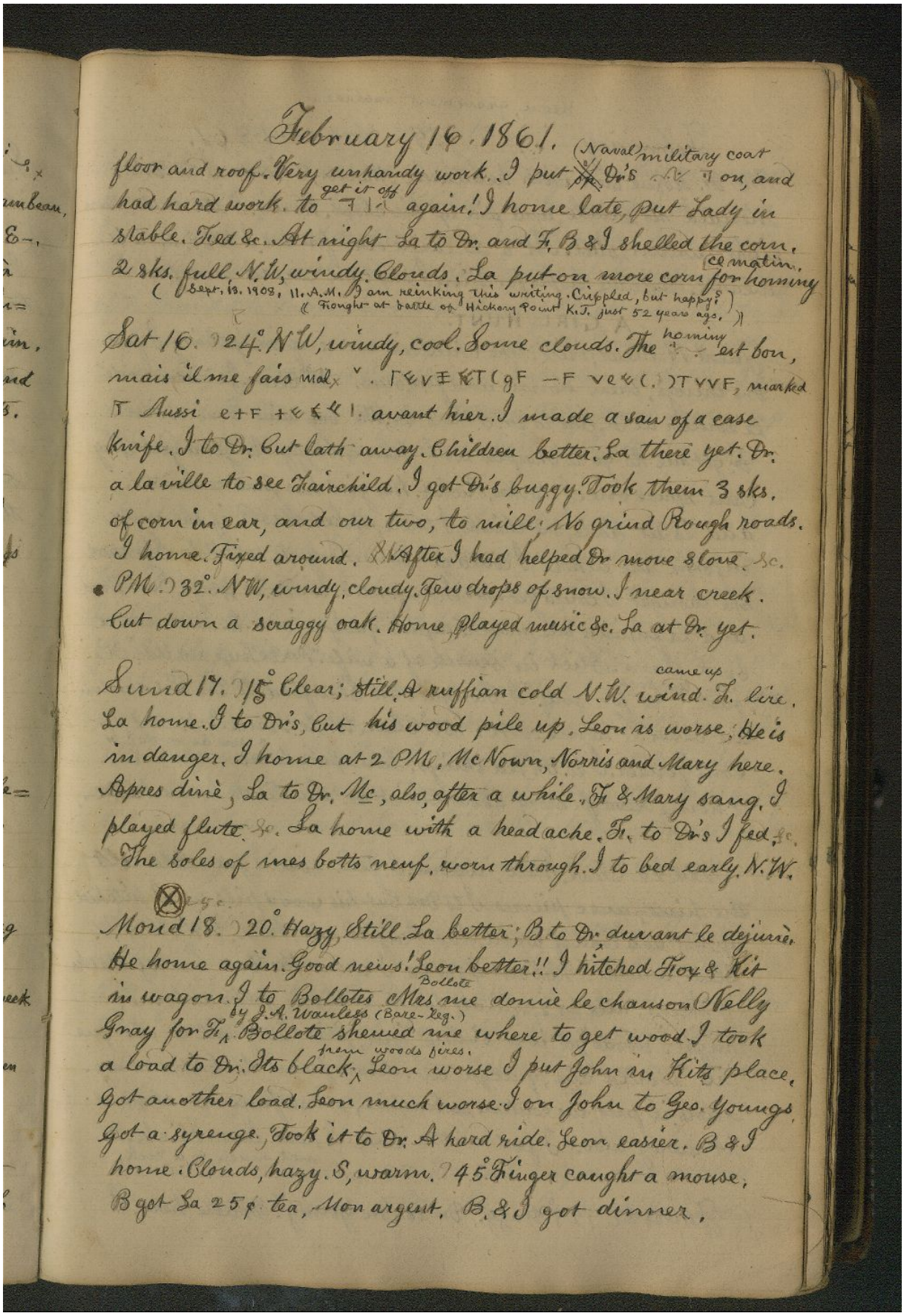
February 13. 1861.

(La gave it to me, afterwards.)
and plays. Mrs. Jim W. here to get a rooster. Full of news;
Mrs. Button making a match for Mrs. Staniford and Rambeau.
I to creek. It has fallen 1 foot. I to Dr. He not well, nor E—.
I home. Mrs. J. W. left. ( ). Lew. [illegible] appertenment à
La washed.
L. [illegible] P.M. Some cloudy. 53°. Muddy. La to E's. I tin=
kered around. Got a prairie hen from trap. Looks like rain.
We heard three heavy cannon shots at Topeka, a drum, and
cheers, after dark. Warm. F. read history of E.d I ate nuts.

Wed 13. 39° Cloudy, Warm. F and I to Dr. He & E. better.
Bl. & Eugene came. Eugene lost his new mare from colic. I
home, Rainy, I did but little. Dr's Black heifer and Old Briggs
and their calves out running for bottom. I put them
in yard. N.W. Rain and snow 36° P.M. Very muddy
I shelled corn for horning. Stormy. I read Played & F.
home. Angell was to show to night, but we dont go.

Thurs 14. 28° Ground partly white with snow. N.
windy, cold, cloudy. I feel sore. Notre maison est passable=
ment, comfortable except la cuisene. Dr here. Got Fox to go
to Geo. Young. I worked at Split broom. P.M. N.W., windy.
34°. Thaws. Cleared. Manly dorm.? dans lit. B and I tried and
condemned him to death demain. (commuted?!) La at Dr. I there helping
drive Dr's calves home. I a letter from Jack McDonough,
and a Day Book. F read story. La has not drunk tea since 1 week

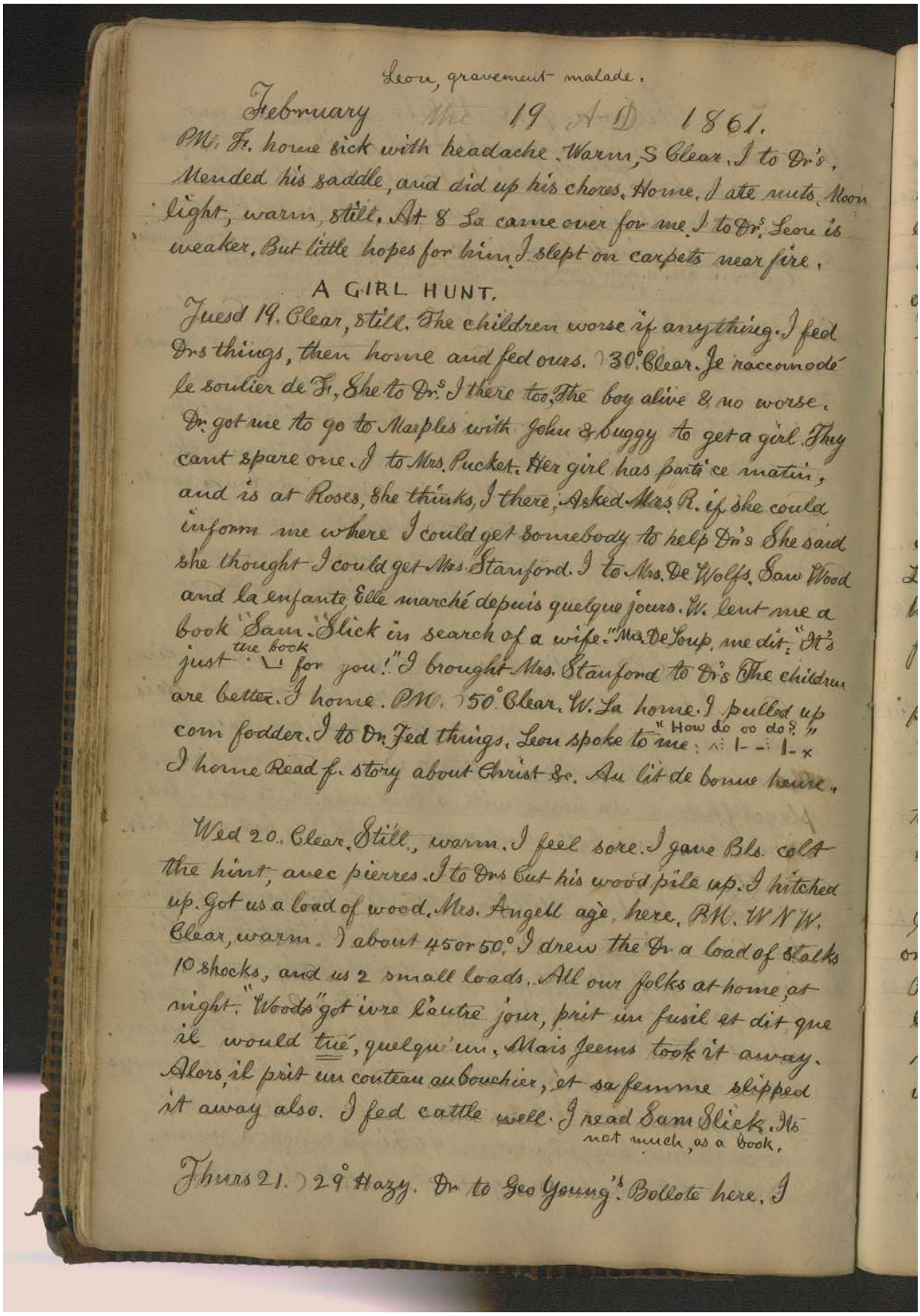
Frid 15. 28° Clouded up N.W. windy, cold. F to E. The children
are very sick with sore throats. I got in corn and shelled
some. P.M. Sleet and snow now and then. 34° Cold N.W.
I saw Angell He will show to night, & singing is put
off till Sat. I to Dr's I up stairs. Bored stove holes through



February 16. 1861.
floor and roof. Very unhandy work. I put (Naval) military coat
~~off~~ Dr's on, and had hard work. to get it off again! I home late, put Lady in
stable. Fed &c. At night La to Dr. and F, B & I shelled the corn.
2 sks. full. N.W, windy. Clouds. La put on more corn for hominy
(Sept. 13. 1908, 11. A.M. I am reinking this writing. Crippled, but happy?
(Fought at battle of Hickory Point K.T. just 52 years ago.)
Sat 16. 24° NW, windy, cool. Some clouds. The hominy est bon,
mais il me fais mal. [illegible] avant hier. I made a saw of a case
knife. I to Dr. Cut lath away. Children better. La there yet. Dr.
a la ville to see Fairchild. I got Dr's buggy. Took them 3 sks.
of corn in ear, and our two, to mill. No grind Rough roads.
I home. Fixed around. After I had helped Dr move &c.
PM. 32° NW, windy, cloudy. Few drops of snow. I near creek.
Cut down a scraggy oak. Home, played music &c. La at Dr. yet.

Sund 17. 15° Clear; still. A ruffian cold N.W. wind came up. F. like.
La home. I to Dr's, Cut his wood pile up. Leon is worse; He is
in danger. I home at 2 PM. McNown, Norris and Mary here.
Apres dinè, La to Dr. Mc, also, after a while. F & Mary sang. I
played flute &c. La home with a headache. F. to Dr's I fed &c.
The soles of mes botts neuf, worn through. I to bed early. N.W.

Mond 18. 20° Hazy, Still. La better; B to Dr. durant le dejunè.
He home again. Good news! Leon better!! I hitched Foy & Kit
in wagon. I to Bollotes Mrs Bollote me donnè le chanson Nelly
Gray for F, by J.A. Wanless (Bare-leg.) Bollote shewed me where to get wood. I took
a load to Dr. Its black, from woods pines. Leon worse I put John in Kits place.
Got another load. Leon much worse. I on John to Geo. Youngs.
Got a syrenge. Took it to Dr. A hard ride. Leon easier. B & I
home. Clouds, hazy. S, warm. 45° Finger caught a mouse.
B got La 25¢ tea, Mon argent. B. & I got dinner.



Leon, gravement malade.

February the 19 A D 1861.

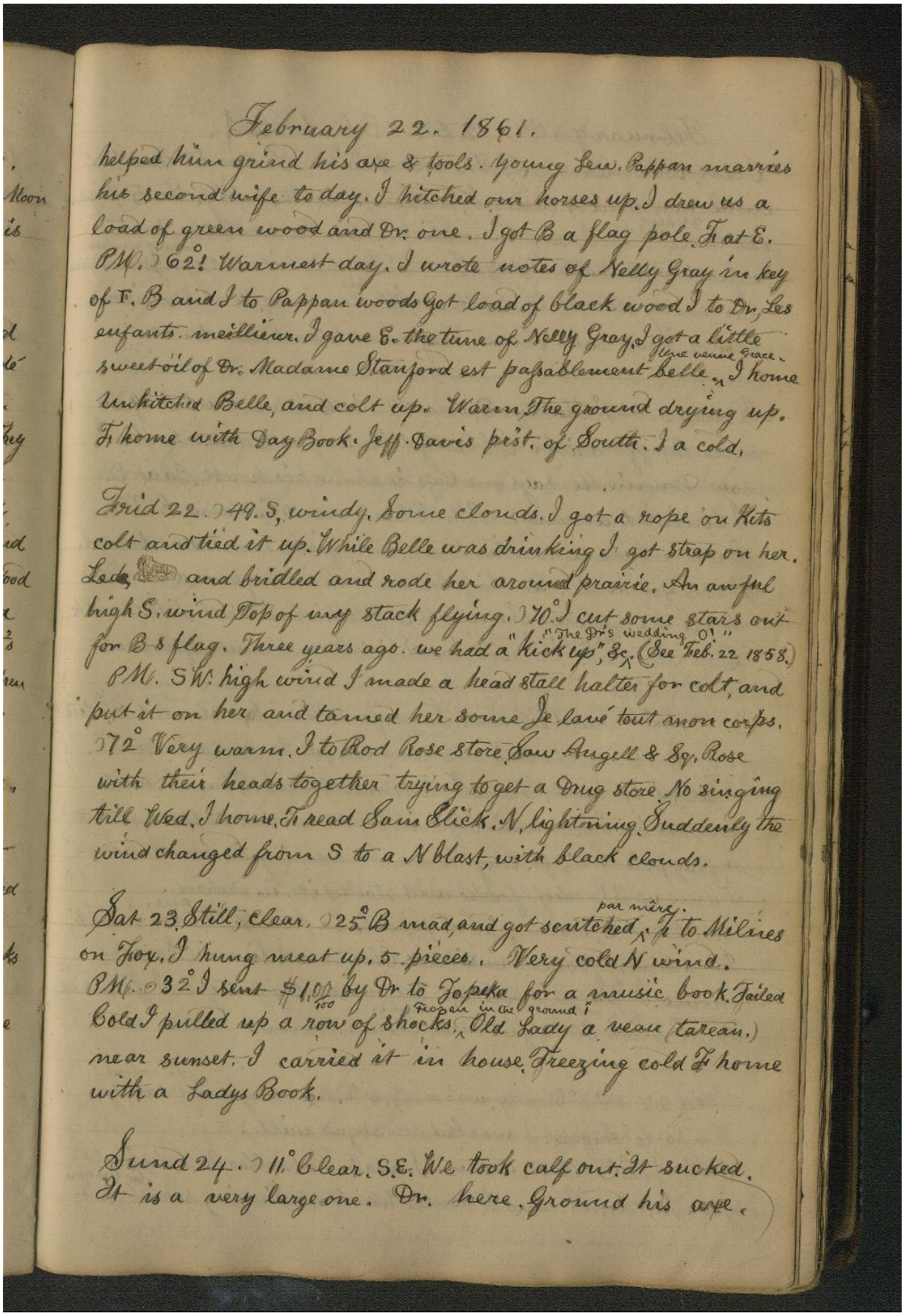
PM. Fr. home sick with headache. Warm, S Clear. I to Dr's. Mended his saddle, and did up his chores. Home. I ate nuts. Moon light, warm, still. At 8 Le came over for me. I to Drs. Leon is weaker. But little hopes for him. I slept on carpets near fire.

A GIRL HUNT.

Tuesd 14. Clear, still. The children worse if anything. I fed Drs things, then home and fed ours. 30° Clear. Je raccommodé le soulier de Fr. She to Drs. I there too. The boy alive & no worse. Dr. got me to go to Marples with John & buggy to get a girl. They cant spare one. I to Mrs. Pucket. Her girl has partie matin, and is at Roses, she thinks, I there. Asked Mrs R. if she could inform me where I could get somebody to help Dr's. She said she thought I could get Mrs. Stanford. I to Mrs. De Wolfs. Saw Wood and la enfante. Elle marché depuis quelque jours. W. lent me a book "Sam. Slick in search of a wife." Mrs. De Loup, me dit: "It's just the book for you!" I brought Mrs. Stanford to Dr's. The children are better. I home. PM. 50° Clear. W. La home. I pulled up corn fodder. I to Dr. Fed things. Leon spoke to me; "How do oo do?" I home. Read f. story about Christ &c. Au lit de bonne heure.

Wed 20. Clear. Still, warm. I feel sore. I gave Bls. colt the hint, avec pierres. I to Drs. Cut his wood pile up. I hitched up. Got us a load of wood. Mrs. Angell agè here. PM. W N W. Clear, warm. I about 45 or 50°. I drew the Dr a load of stalks 10 shocks, and us 2 small loads. All our folks at home at night. "Woods" got ivre l'autre jour, prit un fusil et dit que il would tuè, quelqu'un, Mais Jeems took it away. Alors, il prit un couteau au bouchier, et sa femme slipped it away also. I fed cattle well. I read Sam Slick. Its not much, as a book.

Thurs 21. 29° Hazy. Dr to Geo Young's. Bollote here. I



February 22. 1861.

helped him grind his axe & tools. young Lew. Pappan marries his second wife to day. I hitched our horses up. I drew us a load of green wood and Dr. one. I got B a flag pole. F at E. PM. 62°! Warmest day. I wrote notes of Nelly Gray in key of F. B and I to Pappan woods Got load of black wood I to Dr. Les enfants. meilleur. I gave E. the tune of Nelly Gray. I got a little sweet oil of Dr. Madame Stanford est passablement belle. (Une venue Grace.) I home Unhitched Belle, and colt up. Warm. The ground drying up. F. home with Day Book. Jeff. Davis prst. of South. I a cold.

Frid 22. 49. S, windy. Some clouds. I got a rope on Kits colt and tied it up. While Belle was drinking I got strap on her. Lede, and bridled and rode her around prairie. An awful high S. wind Top of my stack flying. 70° I cut some stars out for B's flag. Three years ago. we had a "kick up", &c. ("The Dr's wedding O!" (See Feb. 22 1858.)

PM. SW. high wind I made a head stall halter for colt, and put it on her and tamed her some. Je lave tout mon corps. 72° Very warm. I to Rod Rose store. Saw Angell & Sq. Rose with their heads together trying to get a Drug store. No singing till Wed. I home. F read Sam Slick. N. lightning. Suddenly the wind changed from S to a N blast, with black clouds.

Sat 23. Still, clear. 25° B mad, and got scratched, par mère. F to Milnes on Fox. I hung meat up. 5 pieces. Very cold N wind. PM. 32° I sent $1.00/100 by Dr to Topeka for a music book. Failed Cold I pulled up a row of shocks, (Frozen in the ground.) Old Lady a veau (taream.) near sunset. I carried it in house. Freezing cold F. home with a Ladys Book.

Sund 24. 11° Clear. S.E. We took calf out. It sucked. It is a very large one. Dr. here. Ground his axe.

February the 25. A.D. 1861.

Clear, warmer. ☽ 36°. The colt tamer. La has 12 head of cattle now, and 4 horses. I, 2 steers, 2 colts, 1 pig. La 5 pigs. 1 cochon, 35 hogs. PM. I read Sam Slick. Clear. La headache. Dr. to a feast at Bolectes today. I at E. Mrs. Staniford says John H. Wankeis Jambs has nearly starved to death with his lazines. He at Davisons. Been 2 jours sans vivres. They want to send him to Mo.

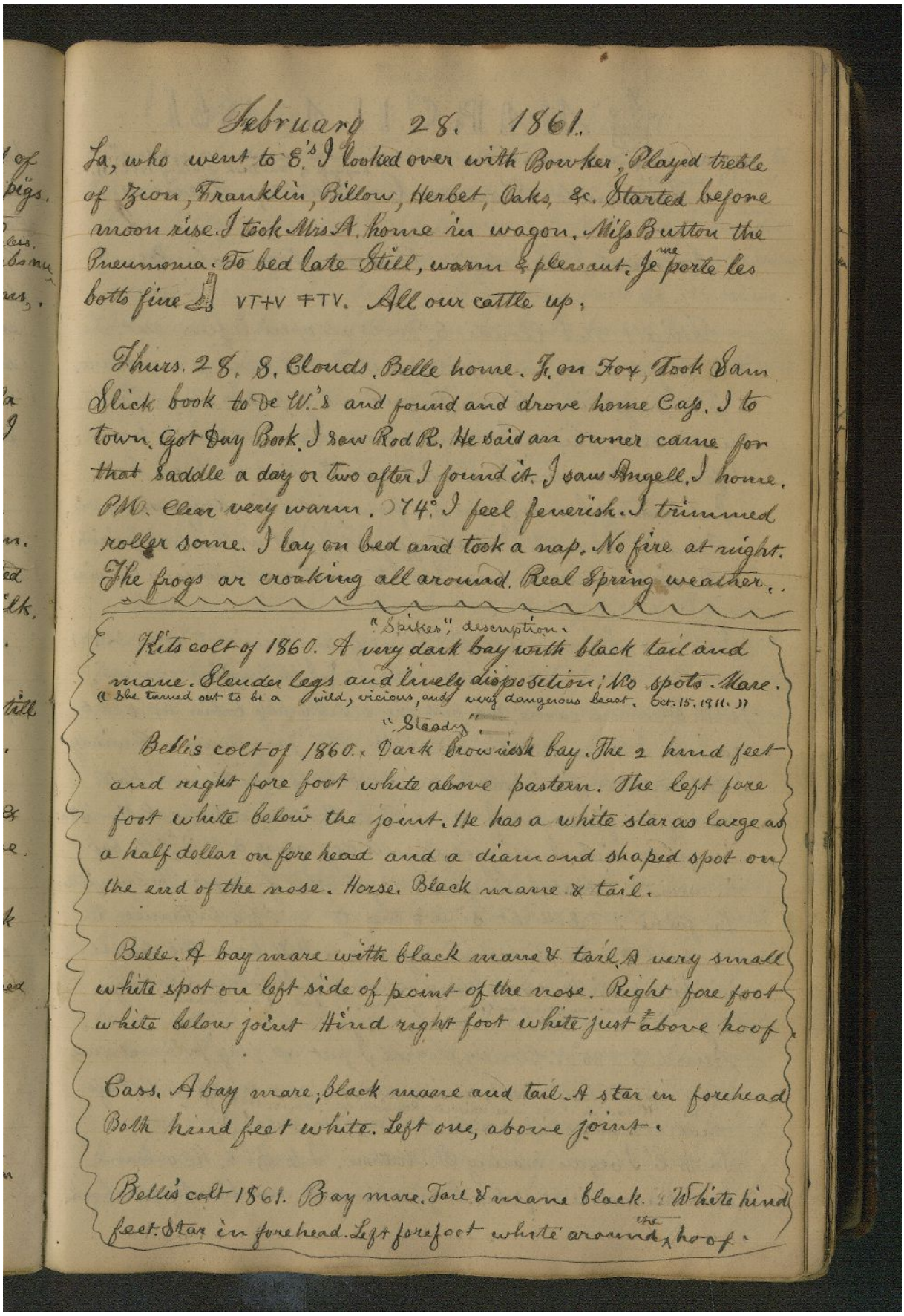
Mond 25. ☽ 39°. Cloudy. S. windy. Both calves suck Lady. La saves Brigg's milk. Bl. here. Got the wagon to draw rock. I saw Downie. He says our Cays. is above his house. La at E. I tinkered around. PM. Clear ☽ over 50°. Warm S. Val. Brown here ce matin to rent my field. I worked at broom. I to E. Got kettle. Lion là. Je lié un pan au le queue, and started him off. La says she wants to fill his waist out with milk.



I read Sam Slick. Its not much of a book.

Tues d 26. ☽ 29°. Some frost. Clear, but clouded S, still ☿ 14. ☽ ☾ ☿ ☽ ☾ ☿ ☽ ☾ ☿ ☽ ☾ ☿ ☽ ☾ ☿ Au fait. La head ache some. I hitched up horses, B and I to H. mill. Took Thumb, and dropped her. I got meal. I got in some wood at Pappans also & a flag pole 22½ ft. long. Home. La washing in smoke house. I drew up 3 loads of fodder and stacked it in orchard. PM Clear, S, warm. 50° A paper to La from F. Reader père. I took Dr. a load of fodder. I unhitched. Old Steward lives in Bardeau house. I put B's pole up. We raised flag to try it. I finished in search of a wife. Sam Slick. Its a flat end. Washy. Clouds. Warm.

Wed 27. ☽ 48° Cloudy, warm. B. & F. leçon tough Le calcul? and savage. F & La to Angells. I worked at sugar mill. PM. ☽ 72° S Clear, warm. I worked at roller. Its a dessicult job. La, Mrs. A, and I, home. We all to Singing school, in wagon but



February 28. 1861.

La, who went to E.'s I looked over with Bowker; Played treble of Zion, Franklin, Billow, Herbet, Oaks, &c. Started before moon rise. I took Mrs A. home in wagon. Miss Button the Pneumonia. To bed late Still, warm & pleasant. Je me porte les bottes fine VT+V ≠TV. All our cattle up.

Thurs. 28. S. Clouds. Belle home. J. on Fox, Took Sam Slick book to De W.'s and found and drove home Cas. I to town. Got Day Book. I saw Rod R. He said an owner came for that saddle a day or two after I found it. I saw Angell. I home. PM. Clear very warm. 74°. I feel feverish. I trimmed roller some. I lay on bed and took a nap. No fire at night. The frogs ar croaking all around. Real Spring weather.

"Spikes" desemption.

Kits colt of 1860. A very dark bay with black tail and mane. Slender legs and lively disposition; No spots. Mare. (She turned out to be a wild, vicious, and very dangerous beast. Oct. 15. 1911.)

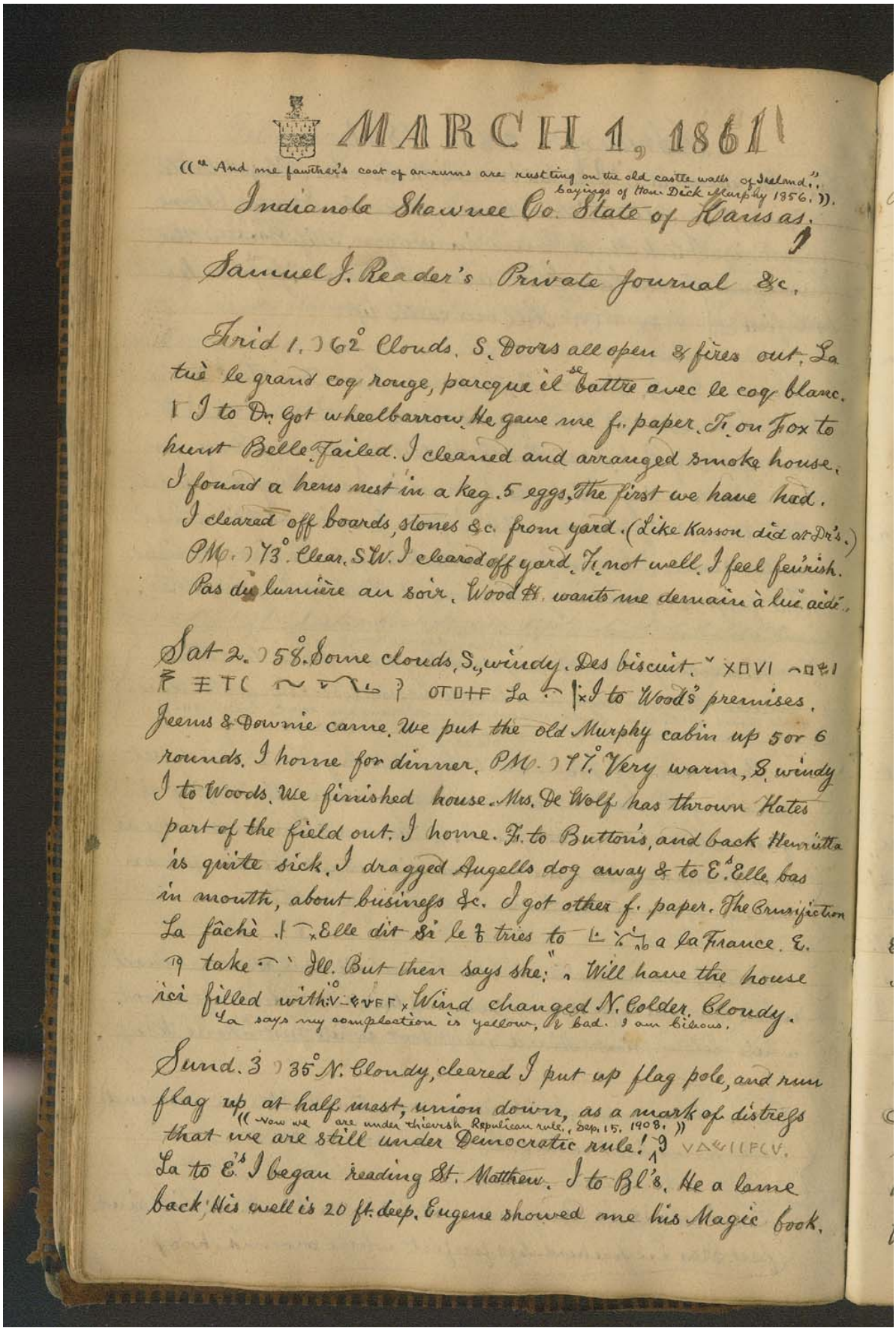
"Steady".

Belle's colt of 1860. × Dark brownish bay. The 2 hind feet and right fore foot white above pastern. The left fore foot white below the joint. He has a white star as large as a half dollar on fore head and a diamond shaped spot on the end of the nose. Horse. Black mane & tail.

Belle. A bay mare with black mane & tail. A very small white spot on left side of point of the nose. Right fore foot white below joint. Hind right foot white just ± above hoof.

Cass. A bay mare; black mane and tail. A star in forehead. Both hind feet white. Left one, above joint.

Belle's colt 1861. Bay mare. Tail & mane black. White hind feet. Star in forehead. Left forefoot white around the hoof.



MARCH 1, 1861

(("And me fawther's coat of arrums are rustling on the old castle walls of Ireland."
Sayings of Hon. Dick Murphy 1856.)).

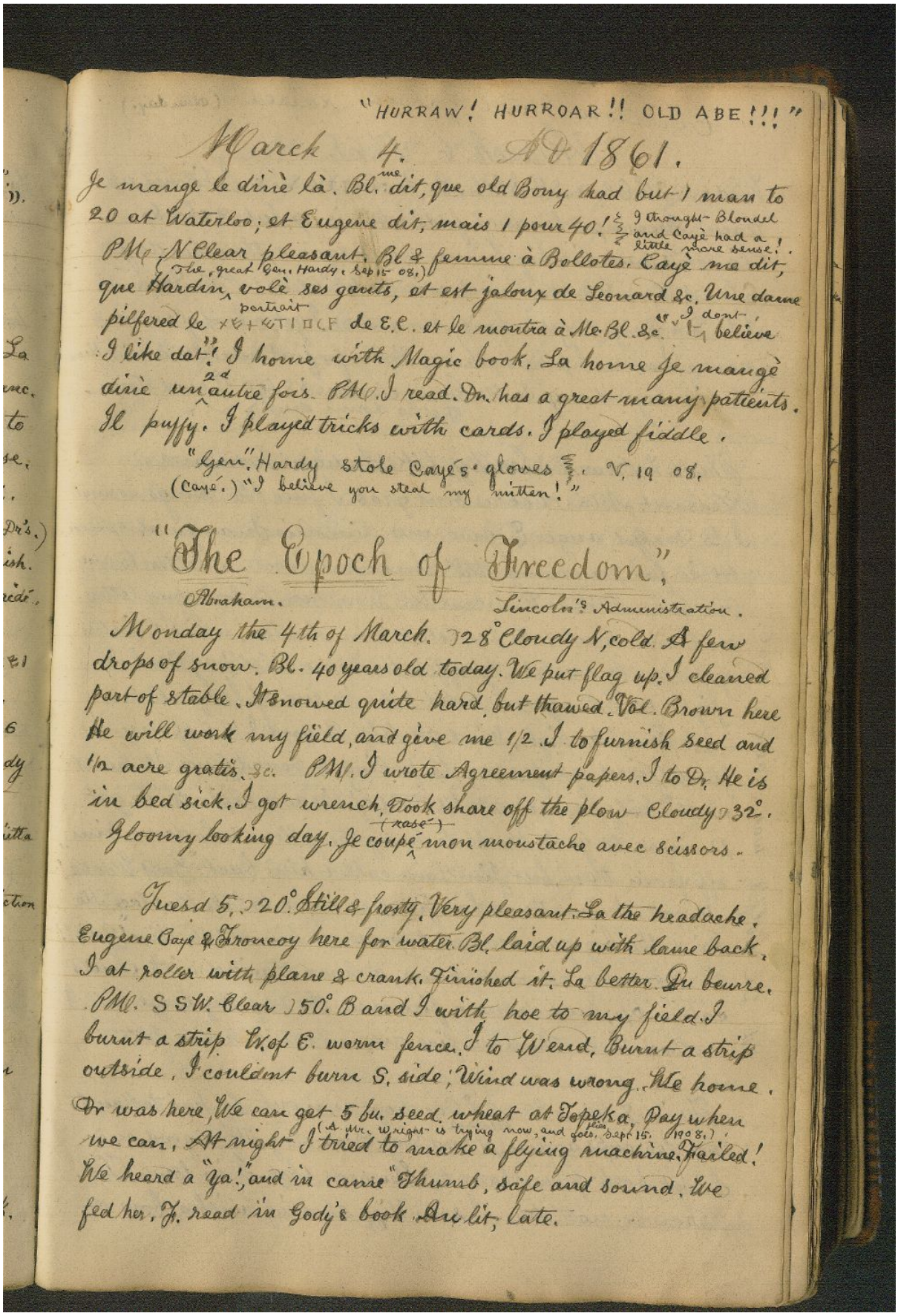
Indianola Shawnee Co. State of Kansas.

Samuel J. Reader's Private Journal &c.

Frid 1.) 62° Clouds. S. Doors all open & fires out. La tuè le grand coq rouge, parcque il se battre avec le coq blanc. I to Dr. Got wheelbarrow. He gave me f. paper. T. on Fox to hunt Belle. Failed. I cleaned and arranged smoke house. I found a hens nest in a keg. 5 eggs. The first we have had. I cleared off boards, stones &c. from yard. (Like Kasson did at Dr's.) PM.) 73°. Clear. SW. I cleared off yard. T. not well. I feel feirish. Pas de lumière au soir. Wood H. wants me demain à lui aider.

Sat 2.) 58°. Some clouds, S., windy. Des biscuit. ˇ XOVI ⌐□H1 ⊼ ⊼T(~ ⊢ ⌙ ? OT□HF La ⊢ |× I to Wood's premises. Jeems & Downie came. We put the old Murphy cabin up 5 or 6 rounds. I home for dinner. PM.) 77°. Very warm, S. windy. I to Woods. We finished house. Mrs. De Wolf has thrown Hates part of the field out. I home. T. to Button's, and back. Henritta is quite sick. I dragged Augells dog away & to E's. Elle has in mouth, about business &c. I got other f. paper. The Crucifiction La fâché. I ⌐ × Elle dit si le ⅁ tries to ⊢ ⊢ ⌐ a la France. E. ⅁ take ⊢ ˇ Ill. But then says she: " Will have the house ici filled with: V-⊲VEΓ × Wind changed N. Colder. Cloudy.
La says my complexion is yellow, it bad. I am bilious.

Sund. 3) 35° N. Cloudy, cleared. I put up flag pole, and run flag up at half mast, union down, as a mark of distress ((Now we are under thievish Republican rule!, Sep. 15. 1908.)) that we are still under Democratic rule! ⅁ VΔ⊲IIFCV.
La to E's. I began reading St. Matthew. I to Bl's. He a home back. His well is 20 ft. deep. Eugene showed me his Magic book.



"HURRAW! HURROAR!! OLD ABE!!!"

March 4. AD 1861.

Je mange le diné là. Bl. me dit, que old Bony had but 1 man to 20 at Waterloo; et Eugene dit, mais 1 pour 40! I thought Blondel and Cayé had a little more sense! PM. N Clear pleasant. Bl & femme à Bollotes. Cayé me dit, (The great Gen. Hardy, Sept 15 08.) que Hardin volé ses gants, et est jalous de Leonard &c. Une dame pilfered le portrait de E.C. et le montra à Me. Bl. &c. I dont believe I like dat"! I home with Magic book. La home je mangé diné un 2d autre fois. PM. I read. Dr. has a great many patients. Il puffy. I played tricks with cards. I played fiddle.

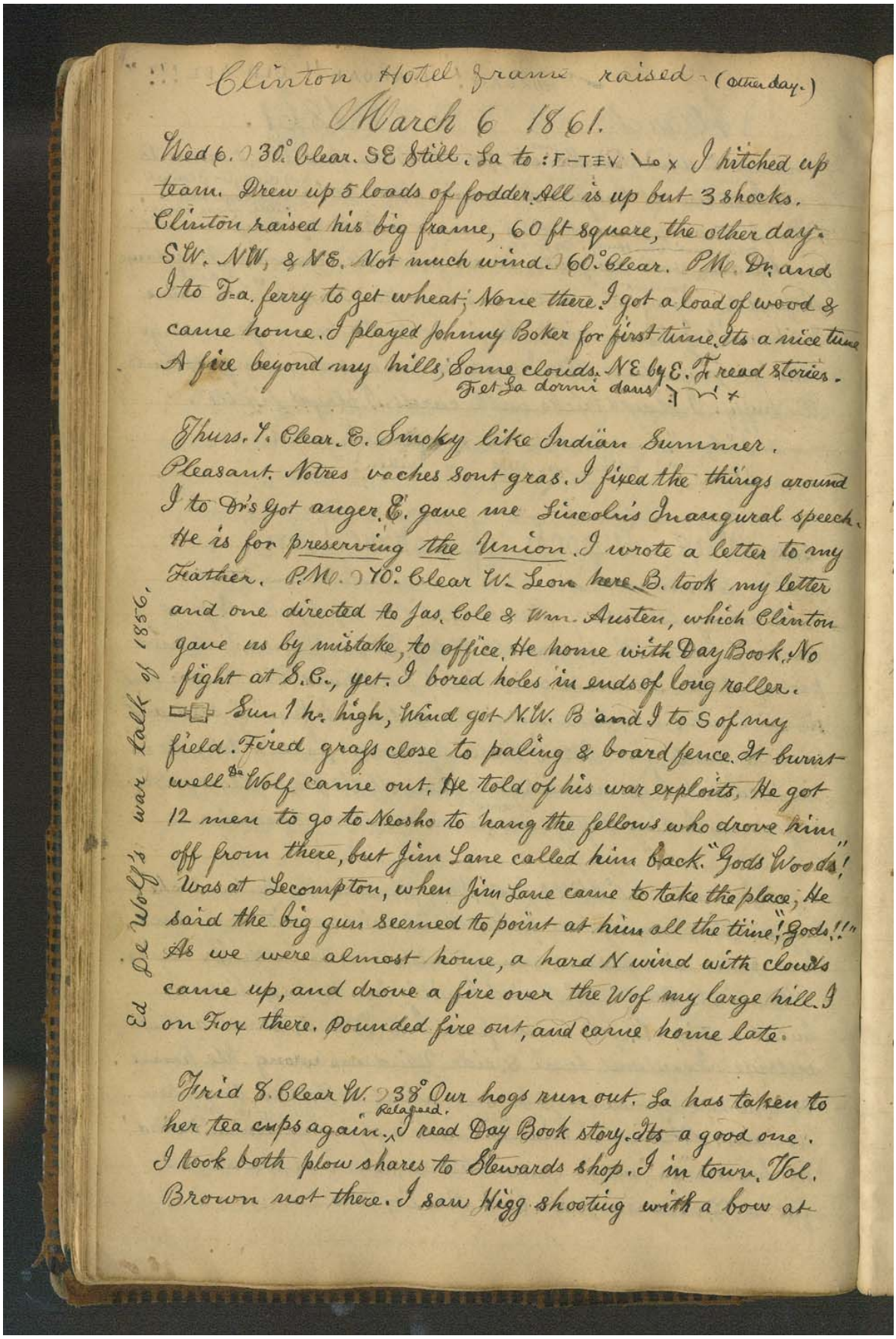
"Gen". Hardy stole Cayé's gloves ?. V. 19 08.
(Cayé.) "I believe you steal my mitten!"

"The Epoch of Freedom".

Abraham. Lincoln's Administration.

Monday the 4th of March. 28° Cloudy N, cold. A few drops of snow. Bl. 40 years old today. We put flag up. I cleaned part of stable. It snowed quite hard, but thawed. Vol. Brown here He will work my field, and give me 1/2. I to furnish seed and 1/2 acre gratis. &c. PM. I wrote Agreement papers. I to Dr. He is in bed sick. I got wrench, took share off the plow Cloudy 32°. Gloomy looking day. Je coupé (rasé) mon moustache avec scissors.

Tuesd 5, 20°. Still & frosty. Very pleasant. La the headache. Eugene Cayé & Troncoy here for water. Bl. laid up with lame back. I at roller with plane & crank. Finished it. La better. Du beurre. PM. S S W. Clear 50°. B and I with hoe to my field. I burnt a strip W of E. worm fence. I to West, burnt a strip outside. I couldnt burn S. side, Wind was wrong. Me home. Dr was here, We can get 5 bu. seed wheat at Topeka. Pay when we can. At night I tried to make a flying machine. Failed! (A Mr. Wright is trying now, and does. Sept 15. 1908.) We heard a "Ya!" and in came "Thumb, safe and sound. We fed her. I. read in Gody's book. Du lit, late.



Clinton Hotel frame raised (other day.)

March 6 1861.

Wed 6. 30° Clear. SE Still. La to [illegible] I hitched up team. Drew up 5 loads of fodder. All is up but 3 shocks. Clinton raised his big frame, 60 ft square, the other day. SW. NW, & NE. Not much wind. 60° Clear. PM. Dr. and I to J.a. ferry to get wheat; None there. I got a load of wood & came home. I played Johnny Boker for first time. Its a nice tune. A fire beyond my hills. Some clouds. NE by E. I read stories. Tet La dormi dans

Thurs. 7. Clear. E. Smoky like Indian Summer. Pleasant. Notres vaches sont gras. I fixed the things around I to Dr's Got anger. E. gave me Lincoln's Inaugural speech. He is for preserving the Union. I wrote a letter to my Father. PM. 70° Clear W. Leon here. B. took my letter and one directed to Jas. Cole & Wm. Austen, which Clinton gave us by mistake, to office. He home with Day Book. No fight at S.C., yet. I bored holes in ends of long roller. Sun 1 hr. high, Wind got N.W. B and I to S of my field. Fired grass close to paling & board fence. It burnt well. Dr. Wolf came out. He told of his war exploits. He got 12 men to go to Neosho to hang the fellows who drove him off from there, but Jim Lane called him back. "Gods Woods!" Was at Lecompton, when Jim Lane came to take the place, He said the big gun seemed to point at him all the time "Gods!!" As we were almost home, a hard N wind with clouds came up, and drove a fire over the W of my large hill. I on Fox there. Pounded fire out, and came home late.

Ed Dr Wolf's war talk of 1856.

Frid 8. Clear W. 38° Our hogs run out. La has taken to her tea cups again. Relapsed. I read Day Book story. Its a good one. I took both plow shares to Stewards shop. I in town. Vol. Brown not there. I saw Higg shooting with a bow at

March 9. 1861.

a mark, with Jack Thiero. Henrietta out of danger. She will be 17. ans demain. Eli Miles is building on Mclnes Damerwood claim. I home. I am learning Liverpool Hornpipe. PM. 60° N.W., windy. I got big roller swung on iron pivots. I hewed it. A dash of large sleet, Colder. De Wolf got Lincoln's speech, here. To read stories by fire light.

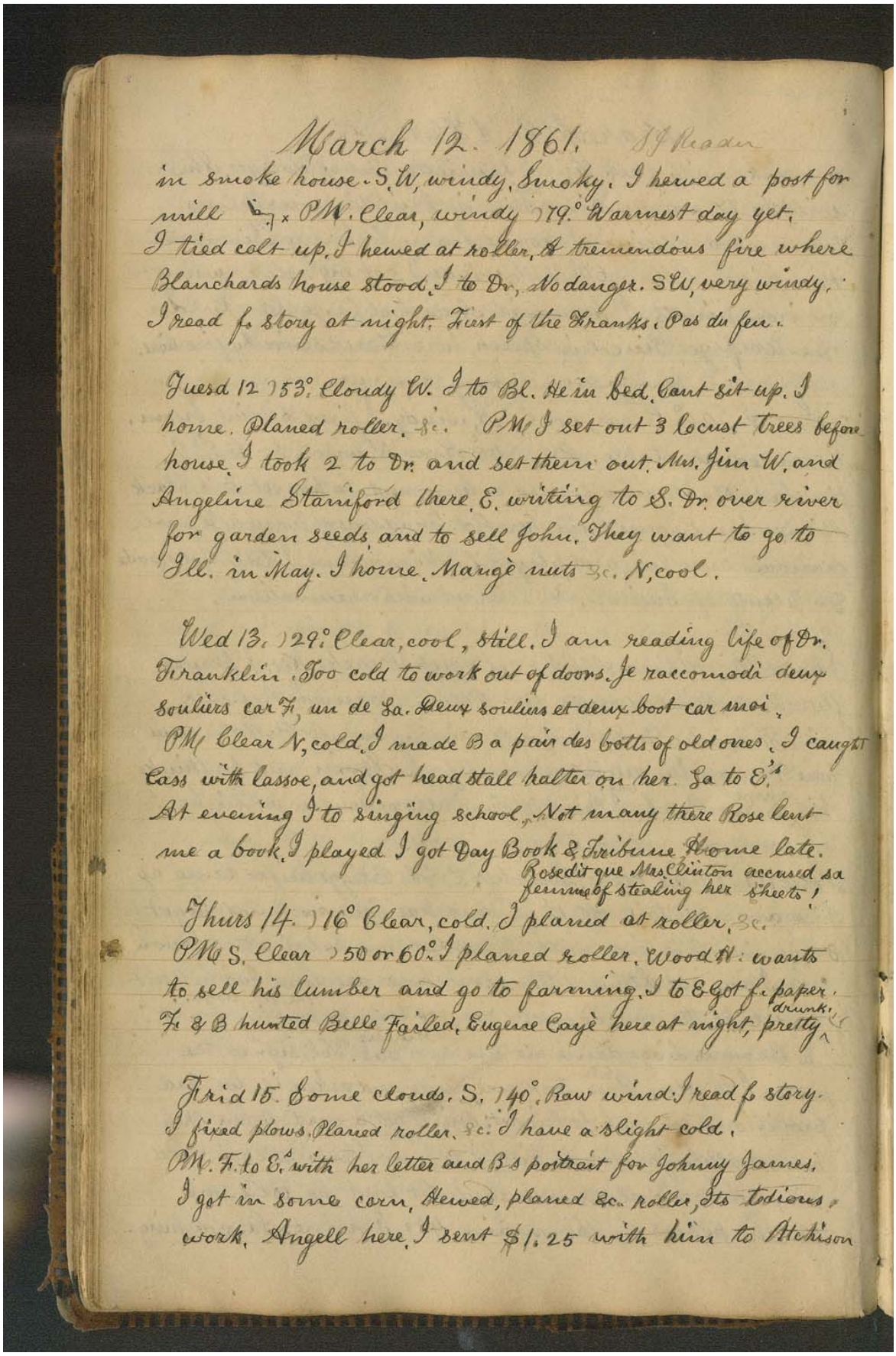
Henriette Buttons birth day. 17 years old.

Sat 9. 26°. Clear, cool. N, windy. I fixed 8 splint broom. I cleaned at stable. PM. 45° Raw N. wind. La to E's. I finished stable and found a hen's nest. La has set B's black Milne hen. Eugene Caye here. Got Thaddeus of Warsaw. Je parle francais avec lui, and played La Marseillaise. I to E's. Got spade Dr plenty of business. Bl. laid up with rheumatism.

Sund 10. 19°. Clear. N. I let colt out. It sucks Kit. I played flute Read, Cracked nuts &c. PM. E. Warner. A paper from T. Reader. Dr, E, et enfants riding out. At Bollotes and here. Dr says his ancestors came from Spain, and he thinks his name is an Arab, once. I tried to sing alto of Mendon at night.

X 50° X 40 c.

Mond 11. 28°. Clear. Smoky. E. Dr's Briggs heifer came up hier avec sa taile off 1½ ft. and has been in mud. La got 8 eggs hier. B to town with 3 doz. Got une balai 25 c. Savon 25¢. I saw old Steward. The plow shares are done, but he dont want to let the corn he owes (75¢) go towards paying for it. The old scamp.! I to Browns. L'age dame ne me commande pas. Vol. signed the papers. I to Store. Rose E.D. took me aside and asked if we had provisions enough. Je lui dit: "Oui." I got a card when they have Hallelujahs at L. City. I to Jem. Stewards shop. Told him what the old man said. At last he told me to take plows on the mâise. 40¢. I home. La washing.



March 12. 1861. S J Reader

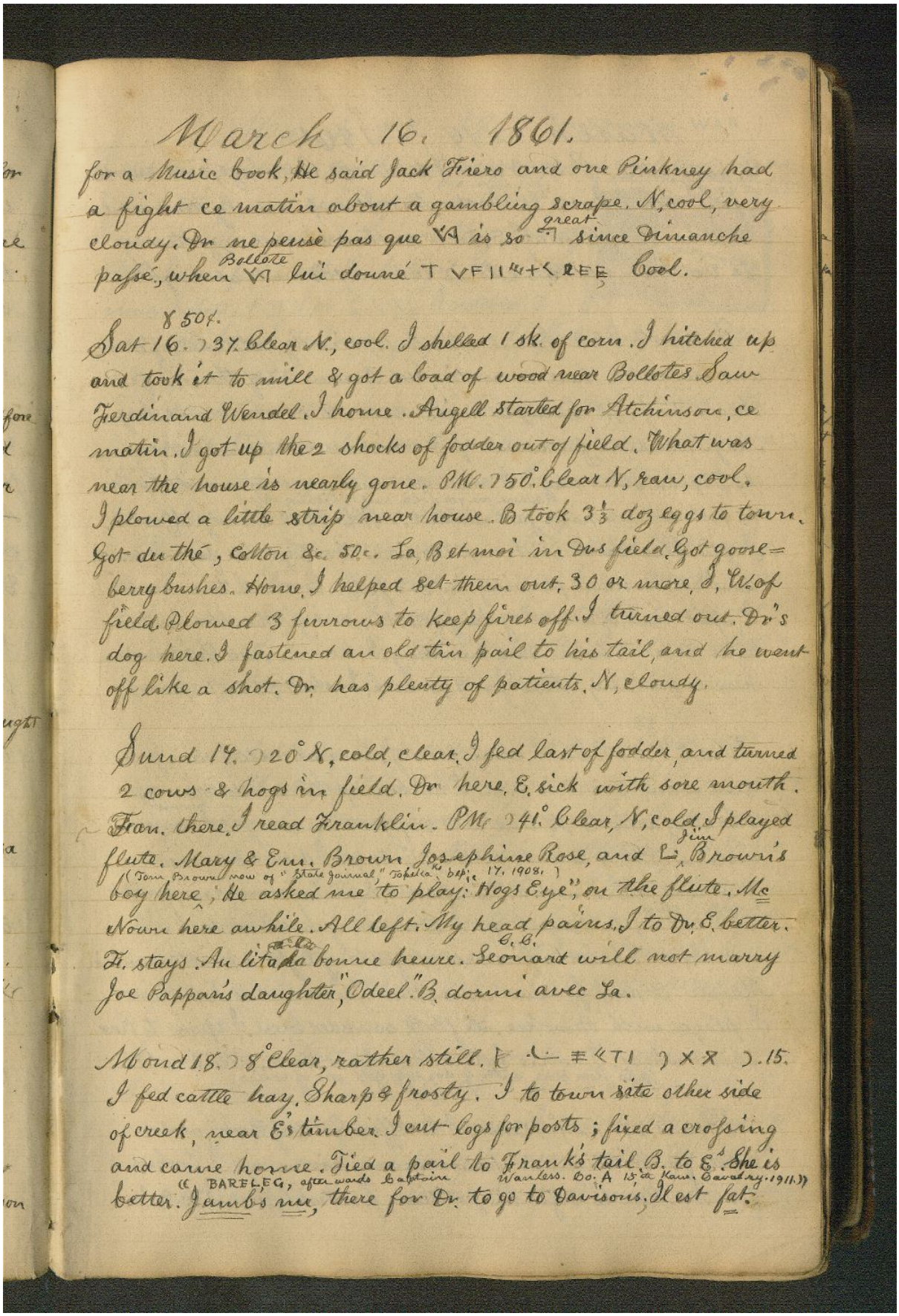
in smoke house. S.W, windy, Smoky. I hewed a post for mill 6 ½ x PM. Clear, windy 79° Warmest day yet. I tied colt up. I hewed at roller, A tremendous fire where Blanchards house stood. I to Dr, No danger. SW, very windy. I read fs story at night. Fust of the Franks. Pas du feu.

Juesd 12 53° Cloudy W. I to Bl. He in bed. Cant sit up. I home. Planed roller. &c. PM I set out 3 locust trees before house. I took 2 to Dr and set them out. Mrs. Jim W. and Angeline Staniford there. E. writing to S. Dr over river for garden seeds, and to sell John. They want to go to Ill. in May. I home. Mangè nuts &c. N, cool.

Wed 13. 29° Clear, cool, still. I am reading life of Dr. Franklin. Too cold to work out of doors. Je raccomodi deux souliers car F, un de Sa. Deux souliers et deux boot car moi.
PM Clear N, cold. I made B a pair des bottes of old ones. I caught Cass with lassoe, and got head stall halter on her. Sa to E's. At evening I to singing school, Not many there Rose lent me a book. I played I got Day Book & Tribune Home late. Rose dit que Mrs Clinton accused sa femme of stealing her sheets!

Thurs 14. 16° Clear, cold. I planed at roller, &c.
PM S. Clear 50 or 60°. I planed roller. Wood H. wants to sell his lumber and go to farming. I to E. Got fs paper. F & B hunted Belle Failed. Eugene Cayè here at night, pretty drunk.

Frid 15. Some clouds. S. 40°. Raw wind. I read fs story. I fixed plows. Planed roller. &c. I have a slight cold.
PM. F. to E's with her letter and B's portrait for Johnny James. I got in some corn. Hewed, planed &c. roller, Its tedious work. Angell here. I sent $1.25 with him to Atchison



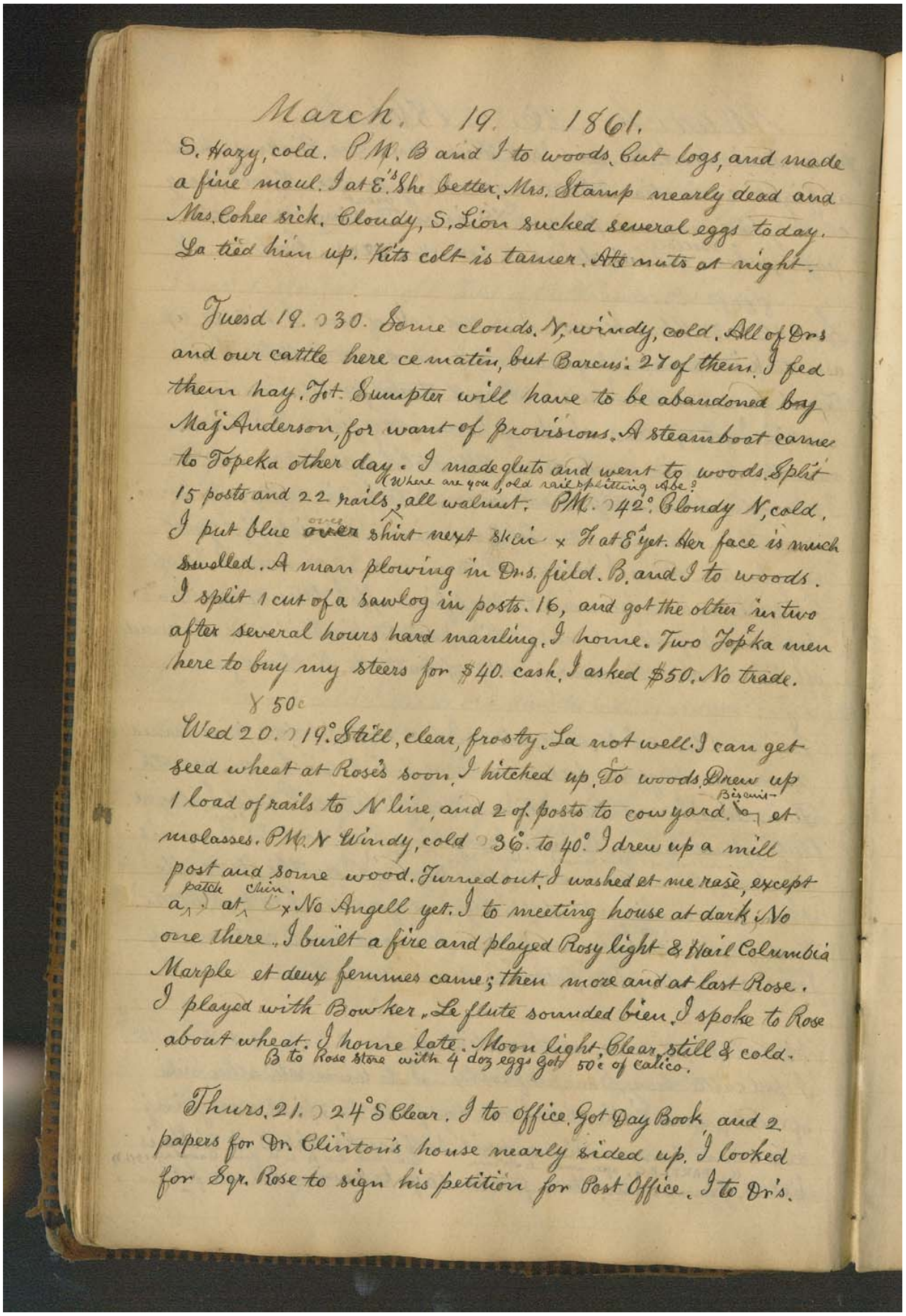
March 16. 1861.

for a Music book, He said Jack Fiero and one Pinkney had a fight ce matin about a gambling scrape. N, cool, very cloudy. Dr ne pense pas que VA is so great since Dimanche passé, when Bollote VA lui donné T VF II W + < R E E Cool.

8 50¢.
Sat 16.) 37. Clear N, cool. I shelled 1 sk. of corn. I hitched up and took it to mill & got a load of wood near Bollotes. Saw Ferdinand Wendel. I home. Angell started for Atchinson, ce matin. I got up the 2 shocks of fodder out of field. What was near the house is nearly gone. PM.) 50°. Clear N, raw, cool. I plowed a little strip near house. B took 3⅓ doz eggs to town. Got du thé, cotton &c. 50c. La, Bet moi in Dus field. Got goose-berry bushes. Home. I helped set them out. 30 or more. S. W. of field. Plowed 3 furrows to keep fires off. I turned out Dr's dog here. I fastened an old tin pail to his tail, and he went off like a shot. Dr has plenty of patients. N, cloudy.

Sund 17.) 20° N, cold, clear. I fed last of fodder, and turned 2 cows & hogs in field. Dr here. E. sick with sore mouth. Fran. there. I read Franklin. PM) 41°. Clear, N, cold. I played flute. Mary & Ann. Brown, Josephine Rose, and Jim Brown's boy here; He asked me to play: Hogs Eye", on the flute. Mc Nown here awhile. All left. My head pains. I to Dr. E. better. (Tom Brownell now of "State Journal" Topeka. Ks. b. Sept. 17. 1908.)
T. stays. Au lit de la bonne heure. E.B. Leonard will not marry Joe Pappan's daughter, Odeel". B. dormi avec La.

Mond 18.) 8° Clear, rather still.) ⊥ = « T I) X X) .15.
I fed cattle hay. Sharp & frosty. I to town site other side of creek, near E's timber. I cut logs for posts; fixed a crossing and came home. Tied a pail to Frank's tail. B. to E's. She is better. (BARELEG, afterwards Captain Wanless. Co. A 15th Kans. Cavalry. 1911.)
James me, there for Dr. to go to Davisons. Il est fat.



March. 19. 1861.

S. Hazy, cold. P.M. B and I to woods. Cut logs, and made a fine maul. I at E's. She better. Mrs. Stamp nearly dead and Mrs. Cohee sick. Cloudy, S. Lion sucked several eggs today. La tied him up. Kits colt is tamer. Ate nuts at night.

Tuesd 19. 30. Some clouds. N, windy, cold. All of Drs and our cattle here cematin, but Barcus's. 27 of them. I fed them hay. Ft. Sumpter will have to be abandoned by Maj Anderson, for want of provisions. A steamboat came to Topeka other day. I made gluts and went to woods. Split 15 posts and 22 rails, all walnut. (Where are you, old rail splitting Abe?) P.M. 42°. Cloudy N, cold. I put blue over shirt next skin x I at E's yet. Her face is much swelled. A man plowing in Dr.s. field. B. and I to woods. I split 1 cut of a sawlog in posts. 16, and got the other in two after several hours hard marling. I home. Two Topeka men here to buy my steers for $40. cash. I asked $50. No trade. 8 50c

Wed 20. 19°. Still, clear, frosty. La not well. I can get seed wheat at Rose's soon. I hitched up. To woods. Drew up 1 load of rails to N line, and 2 of posts to cow yard. Bisquits et molasses. P.M. N Windy, cold 36°. to 40°. I drew up a mill post and some wood. Turned out. I washed et me raze, except a patch, at chin. x No Angell yet. I to meeting house at dark. No one there. I built a fire and played Rosy light & Hail Columbia Marple et deux femmes came; then more and at last Rose. I played with Bowker. Le flute sounded bien. I spoke to Rose about wheat. I home late. Moon light. Clear, still & cold. B to Rose store with 4 doz eggs. Got 50c of calico.

Thurs. 21. 24° S Clear. I to office. Got Day Book and 2 papers for Dr. Clinton's house nearly sided up. I looked for Sqr. Rose to sign his petition for Post Office. I to Dr's.

March 22 1861. (Mutterings of WAR.)

Bollote tied his horses together a few days ago, and cant find them. I read story, and some of the pro-slavery ranting. I mended horse collars. La washing. S, windy. PM. I dont feel well. La to E. Got du ℣ page vieux habits: 1 ⊓ 1 pr. ♁ ☾ I notched 3 posts. La got Tribune. Je joue a la flute. S, windy 60.° ℣ 55c.



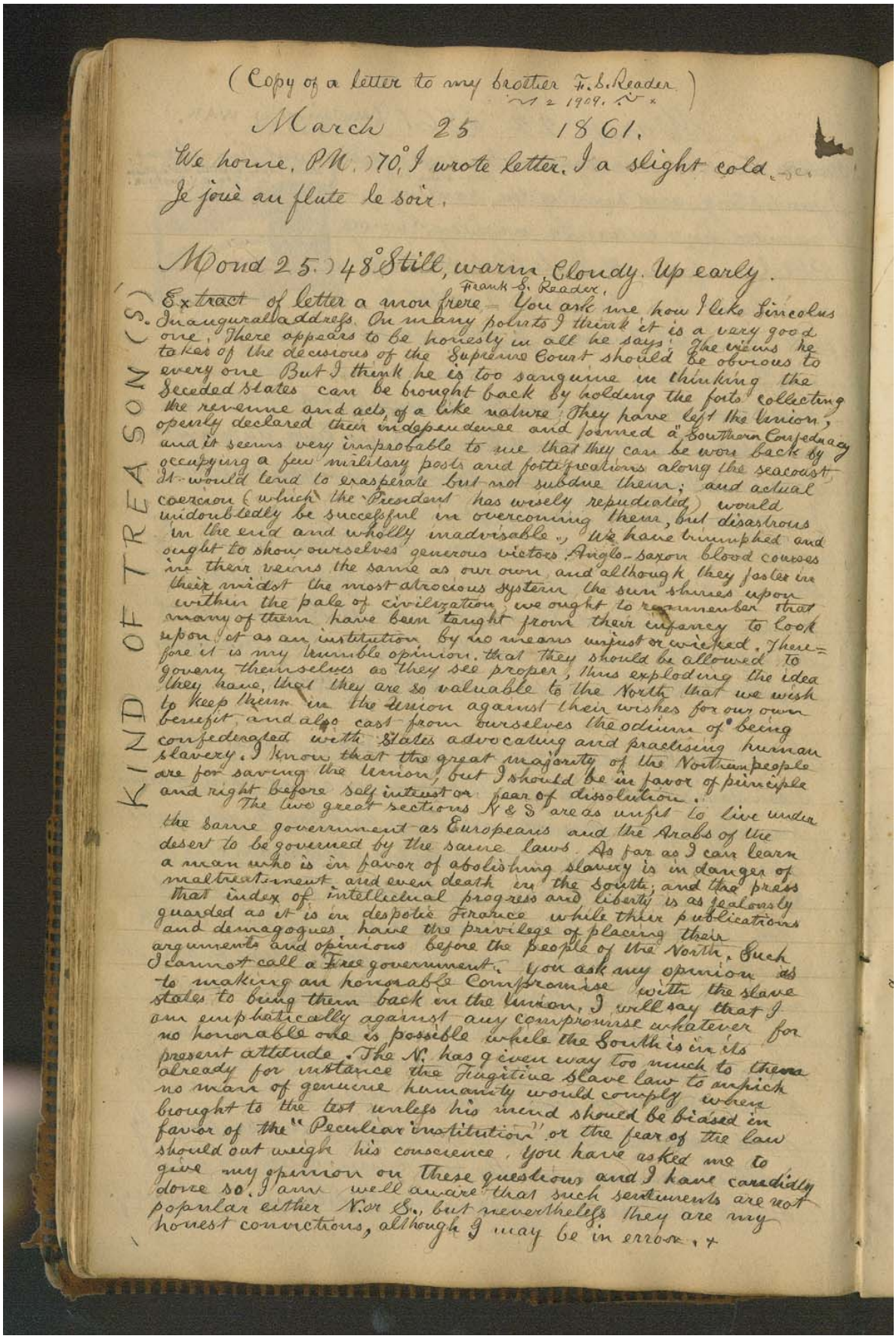
Frid 22. Clouds; then clear. 54° An awful hard S wind. No Angell yet. J'ai peur il ne me trouve pas une livre du musique. I on Fox to Hardings Got meal. Home. Abominable windy. I dont feel very well. I read paper. 3c

PM. S, windy, clear, very warm 80°. I hitched to plough & struck out a land 10 yds wide from near house, next E fence to lower end of field. I nearly finished it. Kits foot dont do very well. Wind changed N W. Colder. B to town with 5½ doz eggs. Got calico 5½ yds. F. at Stewards awhile.

Sat 23. Up late (Pres le leve du soliel) WNW. Cold, clear. 18° I saw Cayé. Bl. est meilleur; Il promenade a pied a son maison neuf. I got John. Plowed with him and Fox. Angell came along returned my $1.25 No books in Atchinson or St. Joe. & gave me a letter from my brother. NW, windy, cold. PM. 48° Clear. I finished another land at 3 or 4. I took John home. La at E. I [illegible] un peu. Ute home. I read ∫. story at night. 3c NW Cold. I began to play "Duchess of Kents gallopade."

FIRE AT E's

Sund 24 25° Still, clear. Je me lave &c. A hard wind from S. Fan & Bollote son mari chez Bl. I began a long letter to mon frere. At 11. E. here on a run; A fire in their fence by well. I ran over and the rest came after. We got it out at last. The stable was in danger. Abominable windy.



(Copy of a letter to my brother F. S. Reader)
~1 = 1904. ~x

March 25 1861.

We house, PM.) 70°. I wrote letter. I a slight cold.
Je joue au flute le soir.

Mond 25.) 48° Still, warm. Cloudy. Up early.
Extract of letter a mon frere Frank S. Reader.
You ask me how I like Lincolns Inaugural address. On many points I think it is a very good one. There appears to be honesty in all he says. The views he takes of the decisions of the Supreme Court should be obvious to every one But I think he is too sanguine in thinking the Seceded States can be brought back by holding the forts collecting the revenue and acts of a like nature. They have left the Union, openly declared their independence and formed a Southern Confederacy and it seems very improbable to me that they can be won back by occupying a few military posts and fortifications along the seacoast It would tend to exasperate but not subdue them; and actual coercion (which the President has wisely repudiated) would undoubtedly be successful in overcoming them, but disastrous in the end and wholly inadvisable. We have triumphed and ought to show ourselves generous victors. Anglo-saxon blood courses in their veins the same as our own and although they foster in their midst the most atrocious system the sun shines upon within the pale of civilization, we ought to remember that many of them have been taught from their infancy to look upon it as an institution by no means unjust or wicked. Therefore it is my humble opinion that they should be allowed to govern themselves as they see proper, thus exploding the idea (they have, that they are so valuable to the North that we wish to keep them in the Union against their wishes for our own benefit, and also cast from ourselves the odium of being confederated with States advocating and practising human slavery. I know that the great majority of the Northern people are for saving the Union, but I should be in favor of principle and right before self interest or fear of dissolution.
The two great sections N & S are as unfit to live under the same government as Europeans and the Arabs of the desert to be governed by the same laws. As far as I can learn a man who is in favor of abolishing slavery is in danger of maltreatment and even death in the South; and the press that index of intellectual progress and liberty is as jealously guarded as it is in despotic France while their publications and demagogues have the privilege of placing their arguments and opinions before the people of the North. Such I cannot call a Free government. You ask my opinion as to making an honorable Compromise with the slave states to bring them back in the Union. I will say that I am emphatically against any compromise whatever for no honorable one is possible while the South is in its present attitude. The N. has given way too much to them already for instance the Fugitive slave law to which no man of genuine humanity would comply when brought to the test unless his mind should be biased in favor of the "Peculiar institution" or the fear of the law should out weigh his conscience. You have asked me to give my opinion on these questions and I have carefully done so. I am well aware that such sentiments are not popular either N. or S., but nevertheless they are my honest convictions, although I may be in error. +

KIND OF TREASON (S)

March 26 1861.

110c

I took my letter to E. Thurs to S not ready I put mine in office and got a paper from my brother I to Stone saw Rose he has 1 sk. of 2½ bu. seed wheat for me. Button there he wants his 2 sacks now I sent $1.25 and card by him to Leavenworth for a book; He starts tomorrow. A cold N wind I home got Jos went to town got my seed wheat. Fierocity's bottle nose in town. Sa found a very small pig in hen house I got a bottle of ink of Mrs Pucket 10c. (It seems good yet. sept 19 1902) PM 50 N cold. I put wheat in brine and skimmed bad wheat, oats, &c. off. Sa to Dr. One of our pigs niping. I mended hen house roof and measured the plowed land; Over 1½ A. I read a Story. I N x

((A first-rate sketch of Jack Fiero, above. Oct. 15. 1911. 12. p.m.))

Tues 26. 29. Cloudy N W Cold. Sleet last night. Thumb dies last night. Bl. is better. He can walk. I sowed the wheat 1½ bu to the A. I put Jos to double shovel plow; got most of it plowed in quite a hard N W snow, the ground white. 30° P M. cleared. I finishes ground. Set hens out &c. I took f. paper and Seons drop I made to E. she gave me her letter to S. put in office. Dr is at Topka to be appointed Dr. of Pott. nation. I home; Dont feel well, Played new tunes at night. &c

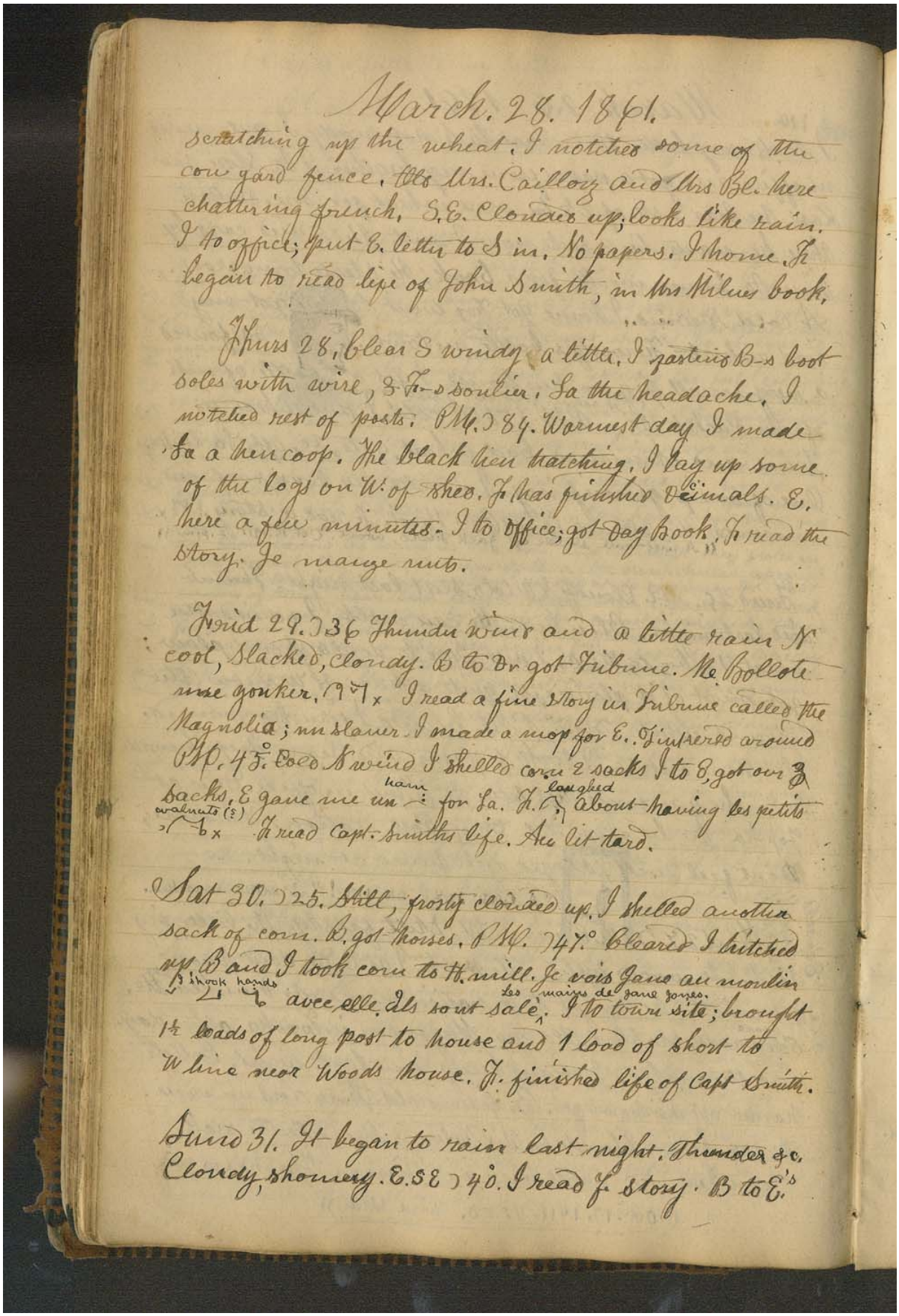


"A GOOD JOKE ON IKE!" his brother remarked.

Edwards hung!! Good!!

Wed 27. 28. Clear. S W. Still frosty. The little pig died. I to woods split 8 r. posts. I at E. Dr. dont know yet whether he can get to be nation Dr. or not. Drunken Ike. Ike Edwards Isaac Edwards. stabbed Old Geo. Mayos son in Topeka other day. and the mob or Indians hung him last night. Bollote has not got his horses yet. B. found old Haw and us seen today below Blondels. Mrs. Milne & Mrs Cy. Kistler sick. Seon here. Dr came and got him. The hens are

((Oct. 17. 1911. 7:50. Third hitch.))



March. 28. 1861.

scratching up the wheat. I notches some of the cow yard fence. Mrs. Mrs. Cailloiz and Mrs Bl. here chattering french. S.E. Clouded up; looks like rain. I to office; put E. letter to S in. No papers. I home. I began to read life of John Smith, in Mrs Miles book.

Thurs 28, Clear & windy a little. I pasted B-s boot soles with wire, & S-s soulier. Sa the headache. I notched rest of posts. PM. 384. Warmest day I made Sa a hen coop. The black hen hatching. I lay up some of the logs on W. of shed. I has finished Decimals. E. here a few minutes. I to office; got Day Book. I read the story. Je mange nuts.

Frid 29. 336 Thunder wind and a little rain N cool, slacked, cloudy. B to Dr got Tribune. Mr. Bollots rose yonker. 97 x I read a fine story in Tribune called the Magnolia; nu slaver. I made a mop for E. Tinkered around PM. 45°. Cool N wind I shelled corn 2 sacks I to 8, got our 3 sacks, & gave me un ham for La. H. C. laughed about having les petits walnuts (s) 6 x I read Capt. Smiths life. Au lit tard.

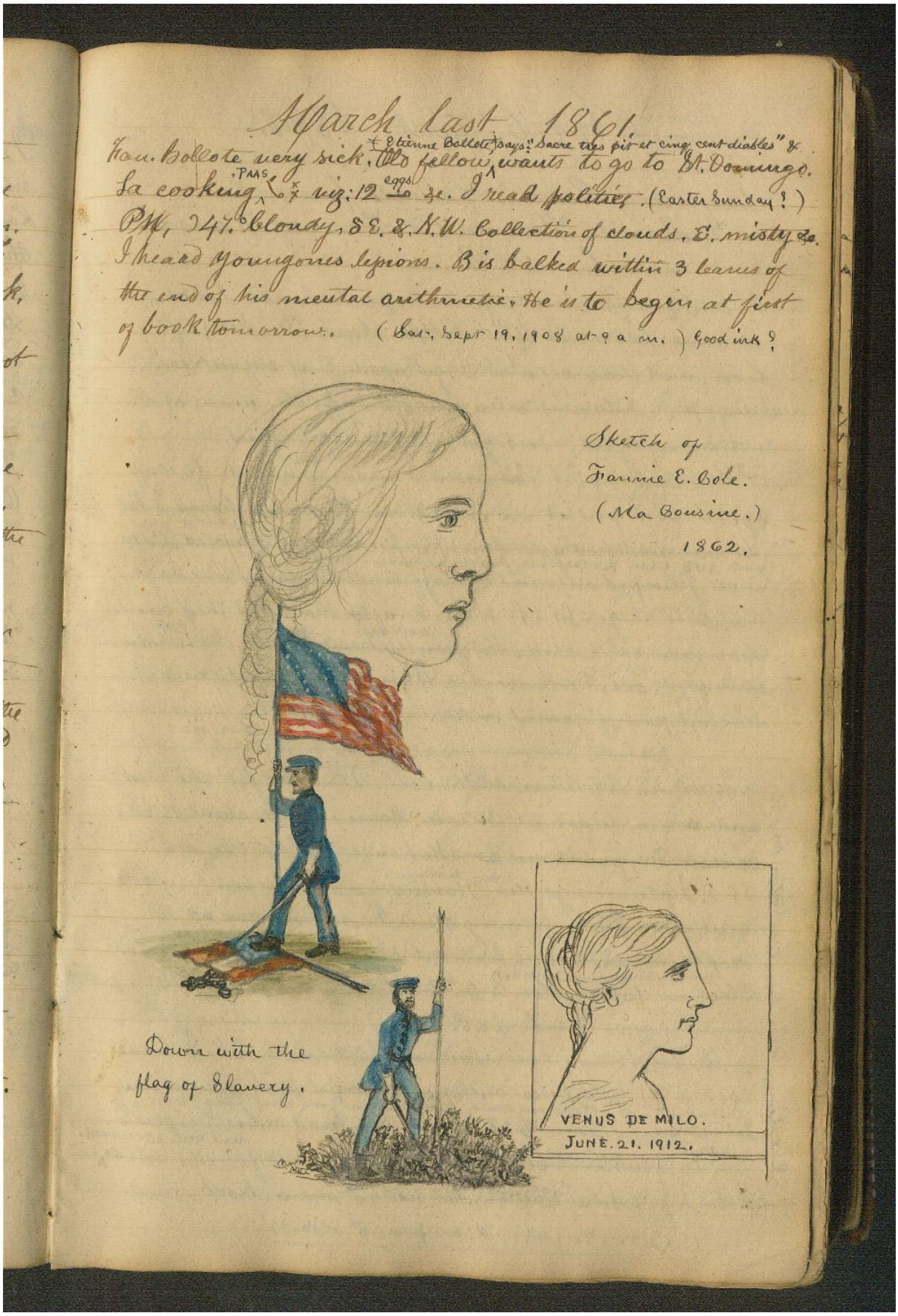
Sat 30. 325. Still, frosty clouded up. I shelled another sack of corn. B. got horses. 8 AM. 347° Cleared I hitched up B and I took corn to H. mill. Je vois Jane au moulin shook hands & avec elle. Ils sont sale. les maïs de Jane jones. I to town site; brought 1½ loads of long post to house and 1 load of short to W line near Woods house. I. finished life of Capt Smith.

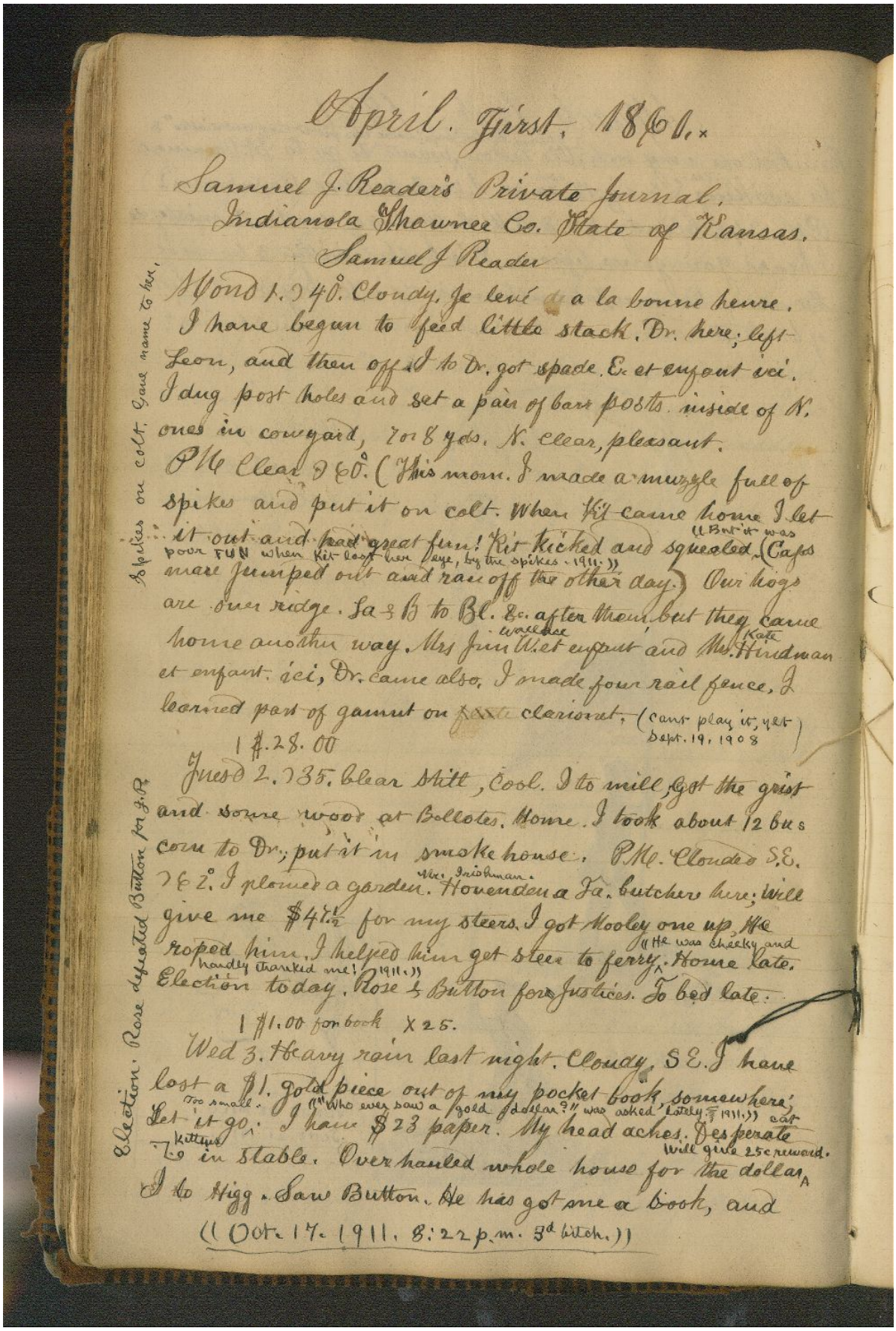
Sund 31. It began to rain last night. Thunder &c. Cloudy, showery. E.SE 340. I read I story. B to E's

Samuel Reader's diary, volume 5

March last 1861

Fran. Bollete very sick. Old fellow wants to go to St. Domingo. Ste Etienne Bollet says: "Sacre tabs pir-et cinq cent diables" &
La cooking, PAAS ~~x~~ viz: 12 eggs to se. I read politics. (Easter Sunday?)
PM, 34°. Cloudy, S.E. & N.W. Collection of clouds. E. misty &c.
I heard youngones lepions. B is balked within 3 leaves of
the end of his mental arithmetic. He is to begin at first
of book tomorrow. (Sat. Sept 19, 1908 at 9 a m.) Good ink!





April. First. 1861.

Samuel J. Reader's Private Journal,
Indianola Shawnee Co. State of Kansas.
Samuel J Reader

Spikes on colt. Gave name to her.

Mond 1. 40°. Cloudy. Je levé a la bonne heure. I have begun to feed little stack. Dr. here; left Leon, and then off I to Dr. got spade. E. et enfant ici. I dug post holes and set a pair of bars posts inside of N. ones in cowyard, 7 or 8 yds. N. clear, pleasant. P.M. Clear & 60°. (This mom. I made a muzzle full of spikes and put it on colt. When Kit came home I let it out and had great fun! Kit kicked and squealed. (Caps mare jumped out and ran off the other day.) Our hogs are over ridge. Sa & B to Bl. &c. after them but they came home another way. Mrs Jim Wallace Wiet enfant and Mrs. Kate Hindman et enfant ici, Dr. came also. I made four rail fence, I learned part of gamut on ~~fiddle~~ clarionet. (Cant play it yet Sept. 19, 1908)

((But it was poor FUN when Kit lost her eye, by the spikes. 1911.))

1 $1.28.00

Election. Rose defeated Button for J.P.

Tues 2. 35. Clear Still, Cool. I to mill, got the grist and some wood at Ballotes. Home. I took about 12 bus corn to Dr.; put it in smoke house. P.M. Clouded S.E. 76°. I plowed a garden. Mrs. Houenden Irishman. a Ja. butcher here; will give me $4.½ for my steers. I got Mooley one up. He roped him. I helped him get steer to ferry. Home late. Election today. Rose & Button for Justices. To bed late.

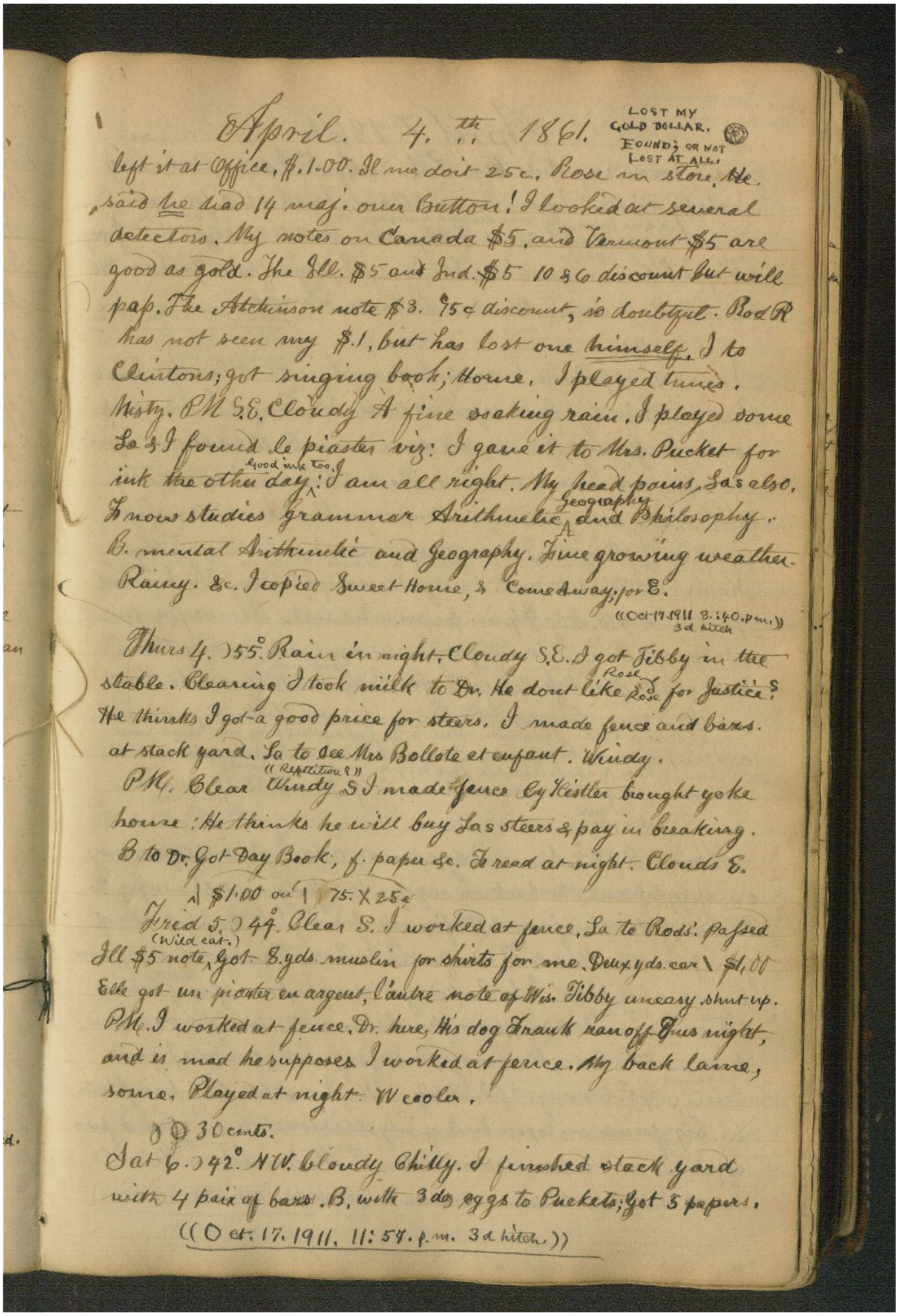
((He was cheeky and handly thanked me! 1911.))

1 $1.00 for book X 25.

Wed 3. Heavy rain last night. Cloudy, S.E. I have lost a $1. gold piece out of my pocket book, somewhere. Too small. Let it go. I have $23 paper. My head aches. Desperate ((Who ever saw a gold dollar?" was asked. Lately 1911.)) cat kittens 7-9 in stable. Over hauled whole house for the dollar. Will give 25c reward. A

I to Higg. Saw Button. He has got me a book, and

((Oct. 17. 1911. 8:22 p.m. 3d bitch.))



April. 4.th " 1861. LOST MY GOLD DOLLAR. FOUND; OR NOT LOST AT ALL!

left it at Office, $.1.00. Il me doit 25c. Rose in store. He said he died 14 maj. over Button! I looked at several detectors. My notes on Canada $5. and Vermont $5 are good as gold. The Ill. $5 and Ind. $5 10 & 6 discount but will pas. The Atchinson note $3. 75¢ discount, is doubtful. Rod R has not seen my $.1, but has lost one himself. I to Clintons; got singing book; Home. I played tunes. Misty. PM S.E. Cloudy A fine soaking rain. I played some So & I found le piaster viz: I gave it to Mrs. Pucket for ink the othes day: (good ink too.) I am all right. My head pains, Las also. I now studies grammar Arithmetic, Geography and Philosophy. B. mental Arithmetic and Geography. Fine growing weather. Rainy. &c. I copied Sweet Home, & Come Away; for E.

((Oct 17 1911 3:40 p.m.)) 3d hitch

Thurs 4.)55°. Rain in night. Cloudy S.E. I got Tibby in the stable. Clearing I took milk to Dr. He dont like Rose (Rose) for Justice? He thinks I got a good price for steers. I made fence and bars. at stack yard. So to see Mrs Bollete et enfant. Windy.

PM. Clear (("Repetition")) Windy & I made fence. Cy Kistler brought yoke home: He thinks he will buy Las steers & pay in breaking. B to Dr. Got Day Book, f. paper &c. I read at night. Clouds E.

1 $1.00 on 1 75. X 25¢

Fried 5.)44°. Clear S. I worked at fence. So to Rods'. Passed Ill $5 note, Got 8. yds. muslin for shirts for me. Deux yds. car \ $1.00 (Wild cat.) Elle got un piaster en argent, l'autre note of Wis. Tibby uneasy shut up.

PM. I worked at fence. Dr. here. His dog Knauk ran off Thus night, and is mad he supposes. I worked at fence. My back lame, some. Played at night. W cooler.

)(30 cents.

Sat 6.)42°. NW. Cloudy Chilly. I finished stack yard with 4 pair of bars. B. with 3 doz eggs to Puckets; Got 5 papers.

((Oct. 17. 1911. 11:57. p.m. 3d hitch.))

April 7. 1861.

Garden seeds, 25¢. Soda 5¢ P.M. 64°. N. I dont feel very well, Cy Kistler here. He will only break 20 A. for oxen ((good for her. Cy overreached himself. 1911.)) Ia not agreed. I turned Tibby out. Bollote told Cy: "My wife a young, 8 lb. day girl!" E. et enfants ici. She sang. I played flute. Dr. here. We hunt Belle demain. We read Tribune ce soir. ((Oct-18, 1911, 11 a.m. 3d hatch))

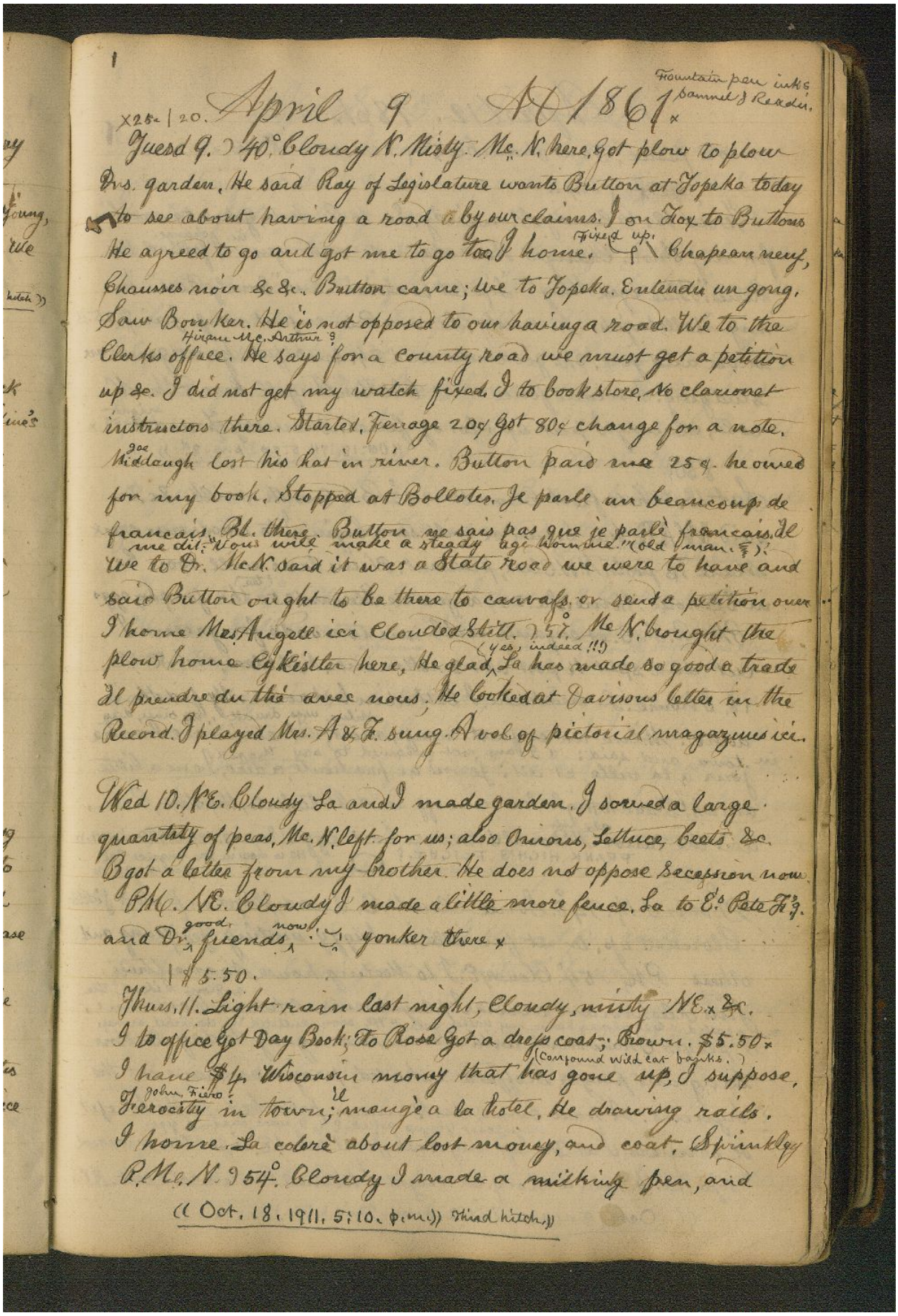
1 $19.50

Sund 7. 44°. Quite a rain last night. NE. Cloudy. P.M. Bat Dr. Their dog back safe and well. Dr. B. and I horseback above Geo. Youngs, found and drove home, Belle & colt and Tifine's colt. Very cold, raw N.W. wind. The butchers here I hunted Tibby Tailed N. out and found him on river. She dismounted and went in to Angells. I mounted her horse and drove Tibby home. He tried to run away. We caught him. The butcher paid me $19.50 $4. in paper, and left. Cloudy, a few drops of rain. I to singing; sans dîné. Not many there. I was late. The Nip Coy girls got Billy Cutchman ("Flat-nose") who lives at Clintons to go with them to get a letter to put in office. I home. My head pains. Phone Clintons maison ((E.D. Rose told Lida Cooks; "Here is the Post master" Billy had to go home with them, & Rose & others laughed long & loud, on our way home.) neuf belongs to a man in S. City. Jai $22.25 specie. Hard cash.

1 $2.50 HAT.

Mond 8. 38° N. windy, cloudy, cold. I glued the veneering on spyglass and the back on my fiddle. Misty and showery. I to Puckets; Got 3 lbs. of nails, to fix my fence 2.50. I to Higg Got 25¢ of gun powder. Had to pay d'argent. I to Rods. Rose gave me, pease beans, and beets. I to Puckets; Got un chapeau fine noir, le prix Price 2.50 1 pd. only $2.50 à moi $2; Paied the Kansas note. Brought 50¢ specie home. Cold, N windy. B. playing with powder I gave him. Look out! 45°. Cloudy, Sprinkley. P.M. I riveted two brass plates on big ferule on open end of my clarionet, and glued a piece of wood on where it was broken. Mc Nowns here. He will break 25 A. for them (The oxen.) ((Oct. 18, 1911. 12:15 p.m.))

Mc. Nowns got oxen.



1

Fountain pen inks
Samuel J Reader.

X25c | 20. April 9 AC 1861 x

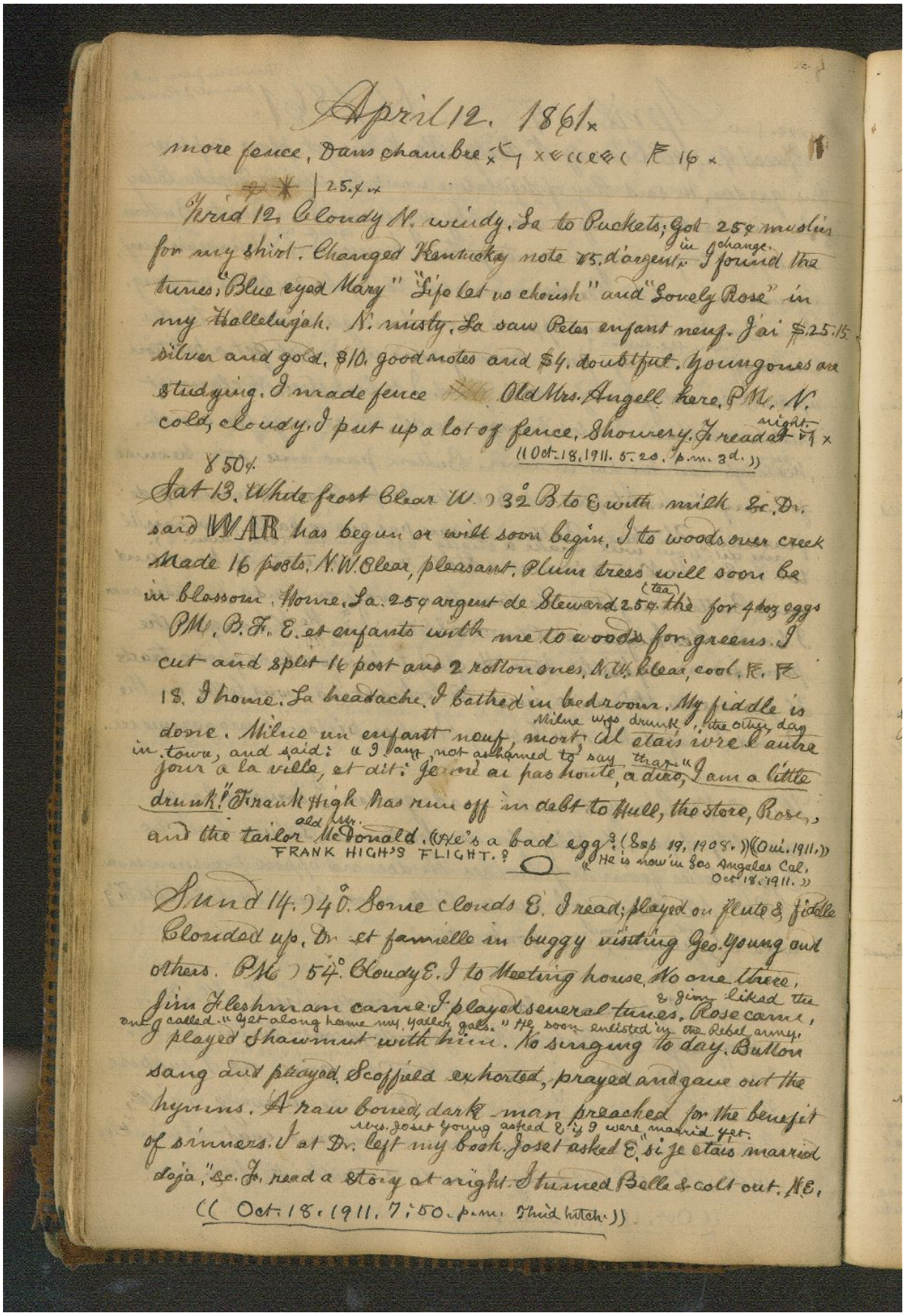
Juesd 9.) 40°. Cloudy N. Misty. Mc. N. here. Got plow to plow Drs. garden. He said Ray of Legislature wants Button at Topeka today to see about having a road by our claims. I on Fox to Buttons He agreed to go and got me to go too. I home. Fixed up. Chapeau neuf, Chausses noir &c &c. Button came; we to Topeka. Enlendu un gong. Saw Bowker. He is not opposed to our having a road. We to the Clerks office. Hiram Mc. Arthur? He says for a county road we must get a petition up &c. I did not get my watch fixed. I to book store. No clarionet instructors there. Started. Ferrage 20¢ Got 80¢ change for a note. Mc Kiddaugh lost his hat in river. Button paid me 25¢. he owed for my book. Stopped at Bollotes. Je parle un beaucoup de francais. Bl. there. Button me sais pas que je parle francais. Il me dit: "Vous will make a steady bgi Wommie." (old man.¶). We to Dr. McK. said it was a State road we were to have and said Button ought to be there to canvass. or send a petition over I home Mrs Angell ici Clouded Still.) 57°. Mc N. brought the plow home. Cy Kistler here. He glad, La has made so good a trade (yes, indeed !!!) Il prendre du thé avec nous. He looked at Davisons letter in the Record. I played Mrs. A & E. sung. A vol. of pictorial magazines ici.

Wed 10. NE. Cloudy La and I made garden. I sowed a large quantity of peas, Mc. N. left for us; also Onions, Lettuce, beets &c. Bgot a letter from my brother. He does not oppose Secession now. PM. NE. Cloudy I made a little more fence. La to E's Pete F's. and Dr's good friends now! yonker there x

1 $ 5.50.

Thurs. 11. Light rain last night, Cloudy, misty NE. x &c.
I to office Got Day Book; To Rose Got a dress coat; Brown. $5.50 x
I have $4. Wisconsin money that has gone up, I suppose, (Compound Wild Cat banks.)
Ferocity in town; Il mange à la Hotel. He drawing rails.
I home. La colere about lost money, and coat. Sprinkly
P. M. N.) 54°. Cloudy I made a milking pen, and

((Oct. 18. 1911. 5:10. p.m.)) Third hitch.))



April 12. 1861.

more fence, Dans chambre ~~x~~ xxxxxx F 16 x

~~x~~ * | 25.¢ x

Wed 12. Cloudy N. windy. Sa to Puckets; Got 25¢ muslin for my shirt. Changed Kentucky note ₰5. d'argent. in change. I found the tunes; "Blue eyed Mary" "Life let us cherish" and "Lovely Rose" in my Hallelujah. N. misty. Sa saw Petes enfant neuf. J'ai $.25.15 silver and gold. $10. good notes and $4. doubtful. Youngones are studying. I made fence Old Mrs. Angell here. PM. N. cold, cloudy. I put up a lot of fence. Showery. I read at night. ~~x~~ x

(10 Oct. 18. 1911. 5:20. p.m. 3d.)

8 50¢

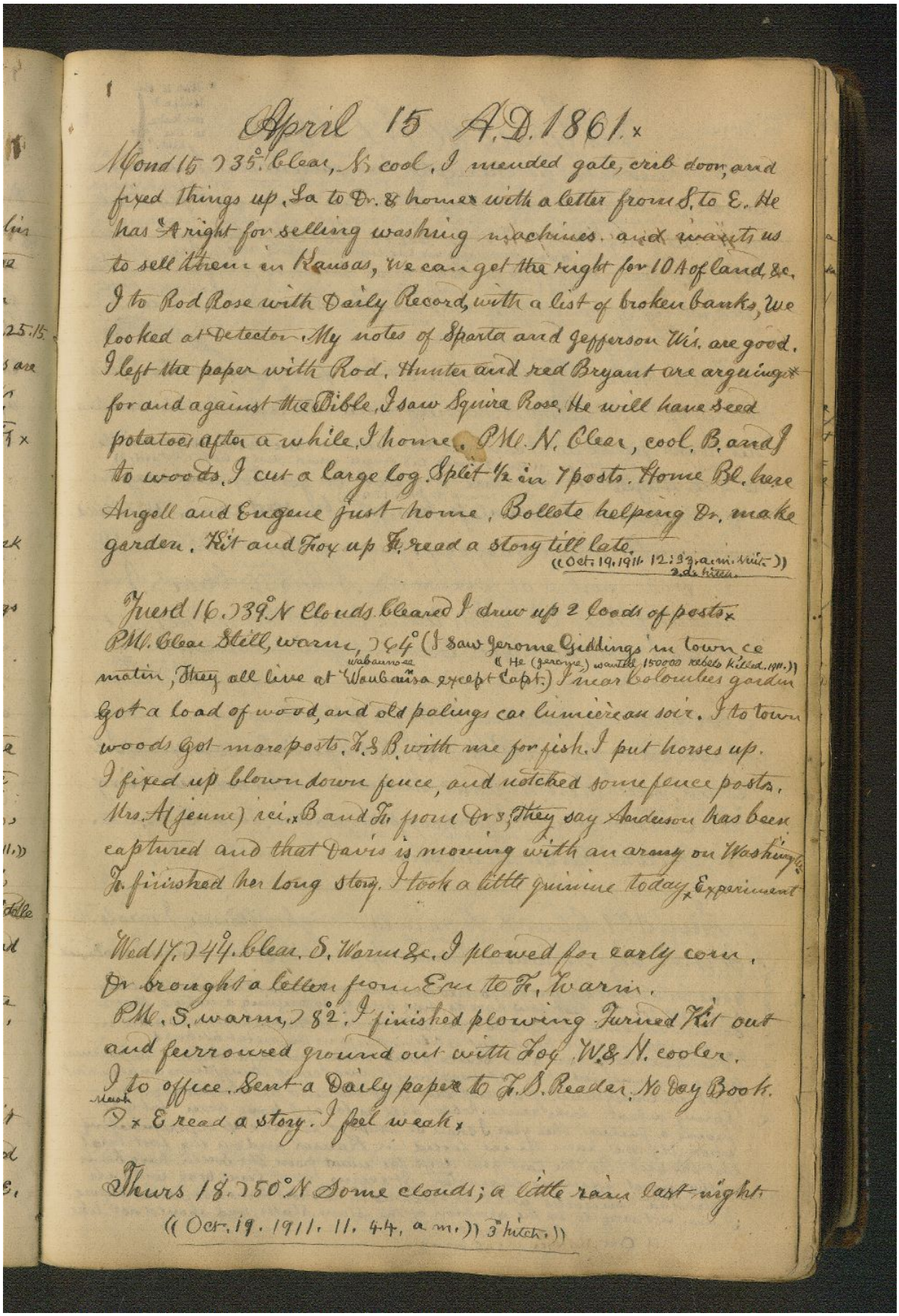
Sat 13. White frost Clear W. 32° B to E with milk &c. Dr. said WAR has begun or will soon begin. I to woods over creek Made 16 posts. N.W. Clear, pleasant. Plum trees will soon be in blossom. Home. Sa. 25¢ argent de Steward 25¢ (tea) the for 4 doz eggs PM. B.F.E. et enfants with me to woods for greens. I cut and split 14 post and 2 rotton ones. N.W. Clear, cool. F. F 18. I home. Sa headache. I bathed in bedroom. My fiddle is done. Milne un enfant neuf mort. Milne was drunk the other day in town, and said: "I am not ashamed to say that I am a little drunk!" Il etais ivre l'autre jour a la ville, et dit: Je ne ai pas honte, a dire, Frank High has run off in debt to Hull, the store, Rose, and the tailor old Mr. McDonald. ("He's a bad egg." (Sept 19, 1908.)) (Oct. 1911.)

FRANK HIGH'S FLIGHT.

("He is now in Los Angeles Cal, Oct 18. 1911.")

Sund 14. 40°. Some clouds E. I read; played on flute & fiddle Clouded up. Dr et famielle in buggy visiting Geo. Young and others. PM 54°. Cloudy E. I to Meeting house. No one there, Jim Fleshman came. I played several tunes. Rose came, & Jim liked the one I called. "Get along home my yallow gals." He soon enlisted in the Rebel army. played Shawnut with him. No singing to day. Button sang and prayed. Scoffield exhorted, prayed and gave out the hymns. A raw boned, dark man preached for the benefit of sinners. I at Dr. left my book. Joset asked E. "si je etais married doja", &c. I. read a story at night. I turned Belle & colt out. NE.

((Oct. 18. 1911. 7:50. p.m. Third hitch.))



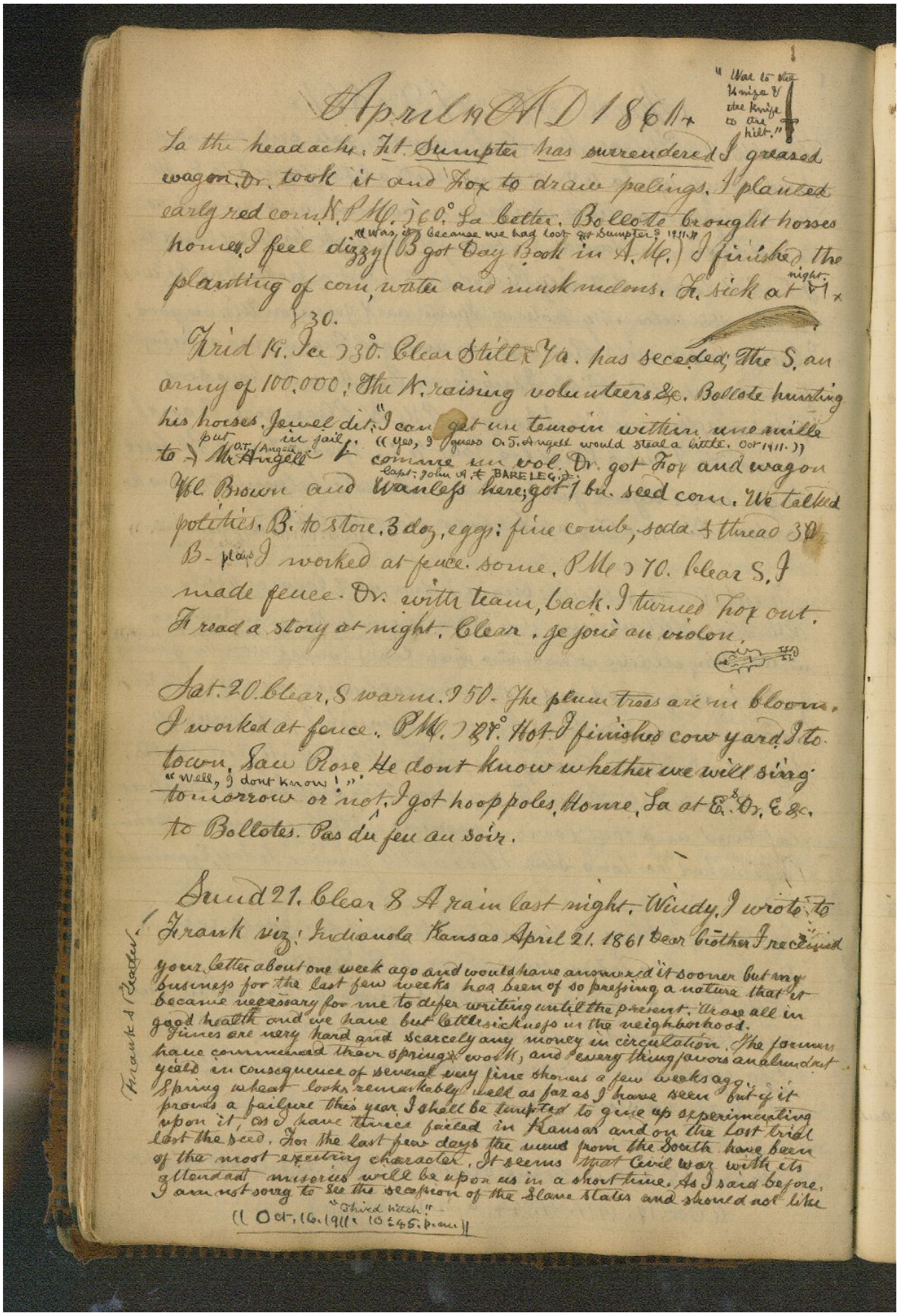
April 15 A.D. 1861.

Mond 15) 35°. Clear, S. cool. I mended gate, crib door, and fixed things up. Ia to Dr. & homes with a letter from S. to E. He has A right for selling washing machines. and wants us to sell them in Kansas, we can get the right for 10 A of land, &c. I to Rod Rose with Daily Record, with a list of broken banks, We looked at Detector. My notes of Sparta and Jefferson Wis. are good. I left the paper with Rod. Hunter and Rod Bryant are arguing for and against the Bible. I saw Squire Rose. He will have seed potatoes after a while. I home. PM. N. Clear, cool. B. and I to woods. I cut a large log. Split ½ in 7 posts. Home Bl. here Angell and Eugene just home. Bollete helping Dr. make garden. Kit and Foy up. F. read a story till late.
((Oct. 19. 1911. 12:39 a.m. Writ. 3 de hitch.))

Tuesd 16.) 39° N Clouds. Cleared I drew up 2 loads of posts.
PM. Clear Still, warm,) 64° (I saw Jerome Giddings in town ce matin, They all live at Waubansee except Capt.) (He (Jerome) wants 150000 rebels killed. MM.)) I near Colonels garden got a load of wood, and old palings car limière au soir. I to town woods Got more posts. F. B. with me for fish. I put horses up. I fixed up blowndown fence, and notched some fence posts. Mrs. A (jeune) ici. B and F. gone Dr's, They say Anderson has been captured and that Davis is moving with an army on Washington. F. finished her long story. I took a little quinine today. Experiment

Wed 17.) 44°. Clear. S. Warm &c. I plowed for early corn. Dr brought a letter from Eve to F. Warm.
PM. S. warm,) 82°. I finished plowing. Turned Kit out and furrowed ground out with Foy. W. & N. cooler. I to office. Sent a Daily paper to F. B. Reader. No Day Book. Much D. & E read a story. I feel weak.

Thurs 18.) 50° N Some clouds; a little rain last night.
((Oct. 19. 1911. 11. 44. a m.)) 3d hitch.))



April A.D. 1861

"War to the knife & knife to the hilt."

Sa the headach. Ft. Sumpter has surrendered I greased wagon Dr. took it and Fox to draw palings. I planted early red corn. P.M. ☽ 60°. Sa better. Bollote brought horses home. I feel dizzy (B got Day Book in A.M.) I finished the planting of corn, water and muskmelons. R. sick at night. ☽ 30.

("Was so because we had lost Ft Sumpter 9 1911.")

Frid 19. Ice ☽ 30. Clear Still Va. has seceded, The S. an army of 100,000; The N. raising volunteers &c. Bollote hunting his horses. Jewel dit: "I can get un teuroin within une mille to put Mr Angell in jail." (("Yes, I guess O. T. Angell would steal a little. Oct 1911.")) comare un vol. Dr. got Fox and wagon Wl Brown and Wanless here; got 1 bu. seed corn. We talked potatoes. B. to store. 3 doz. eggs; fine comb, soda & thread 30 B- plow. I worked at fence. some. P.M. ☽ 70. Clear S. I made fence. Dr. with team, back. I turned Fox out. I read a story at night. Clear. Je joue un violon.

Sat. 20. Clear, S warm. ☽ 50. The plum trees are in bloom. I worked at fence. P.M. ☽ 78°. Hot. I finished cow yard. I to town. Saw Rose. He dont know whether we will sing tomorrow or not. I got hoop poles. Home. Sa at E. Dr. E &c. to Bollotes. Pas du feu au soir.

"Well, I dont know!"

Sund 21. Clear & A rain last night. Windy. I wrote to Frank viz: Indianola Kansas April 21. 1861 Dear Brother I received your letter about one week ago and would have answered it sooner but my business for the last few weeks has been of so pressing a nature that it became necessary for me to defer writing until the present. We are all in good health and we have but little sickness in the neighborhood. Times are very hard and scarcely any money in circulation. The farmers have commenced their spring work, and every thing favors an abundant yield in consequence of several very fine showers a few weeks ago. Spring wheat looks remarkably well as far as I have seen but if it proves a failure this year I shall be tempted to give up experimenting upon it, as I have thrice failed in Kansas and on the last trial lost the seed. For the last few days the news from the South have been of the most exciting character. It seems that Civil war with its attendant miseries will be upon us in a short time. As I said before, I am not sorry to see the secession of the Slave States and should not like

To Frank & Brother.

"Third sheet."

((Oct. 16. 1911. 10 & 45. p.m.))

April the 22. 1861 ((with Slavery, of course)) 1911

to see them brought back either by persuasion or force. At the same time this uprising of a powerful military force at the North may have the salutary effect of keeping the rampant Fire eaters from making a raid upon the Federal Capital, or some similar aggression upon the border Free States. Three companies have been raised at Topeka the other day and although the President has not called upon us for troops, the Gov. has offered 1000 men. Have you or do you intend to volunteer? What is your opinion about the justice or expediency of the Administration? Please answer these queries in your next letter. I believe I have nothing more of importance to write. My love to my Father my sisters and yourself. Your affectionate brother Samuel J. Reader.

(This is my horrible aspect, shorn!)



La shaved my hair close to my head. PM.) 88! S.W. very windy. I to meeting house with book and flute. Rose not there. Bowker organized a Sunday School. Mr. Plummer Superintendant. I saw Mrs. Bowker. Elle n'est pas laide. We had singing given out for next Sund. 4 PM. I with Leonard to office. We to our house. Mc N. there. I oiled my revolver. Ready for war? Warm pleasant.

Y 50¢. | 15¢. Y 25¢.

SPIKES, christened.

Mond 22. Cloudy, S, warm.) 68°. I hooped the vinegar keg, well bucket; put the horse pail up, which was knocked to pieces, hier, and a keg for E. B. to town with 4 doz. eggs. Got 2 qts. of molasses. 50c. Kate Hindman here looking for Mrs. Jim, who came after a while from Dr's where she had a felon lanced. Old Kit came up with one of her eyes (right) almost out. I took muzzle off the colt. ((SPIKES, I called the colt afterwards. 1911.)) A hunted horses. Failed. PM. Clear) 90°. I to town, got La 1 qt. whiskey 25. Son argent. Put my letter to J.S. Reader in office, and bought 15¢. of stamps. Saw Rose, Charley Jumbo, Paine and Jim Fleshman playing euchre. Rose said he would have 1/2 bu. potatoes for me. N.W. Cooler. I home. My petals toes. Little toes have Sore as sin. F to Peters. His young enfant pres de mort. corrd. child, nearly dead.

I fixed up gate and stable door. La. on Fox; got up young cattle. N.W. A cloud and thunder, S.E. Petes enfant dead, F there &c.

Tuesd 23.) 55°. N.W. Cool. A few drops of rain. Cleared. F home. Rod R. le beau de Martha Brown. Higg. a prendre Mr. Pucket quand

((Oct. 17. 1911. 1:45. p. m.))