Martha Farnsworth diary

Section 5, Pages 121 - 150

Martha Farnsworth, a Topeka, Kansas resident, kept a personal diary from 1882 through 1922 with only a few gaps. This particular volume covers the years 1915 and 1916. Martha's diary entries not only reveal her values and the activities in her life, but also provide a picture of Topeka at that time. Some of the notable aspects of Martha's life include her participation in social reform movements, membership in social clubs and activities, and her deep religious convictions.

Creator: Farnsworth, Martha, 1867-1924

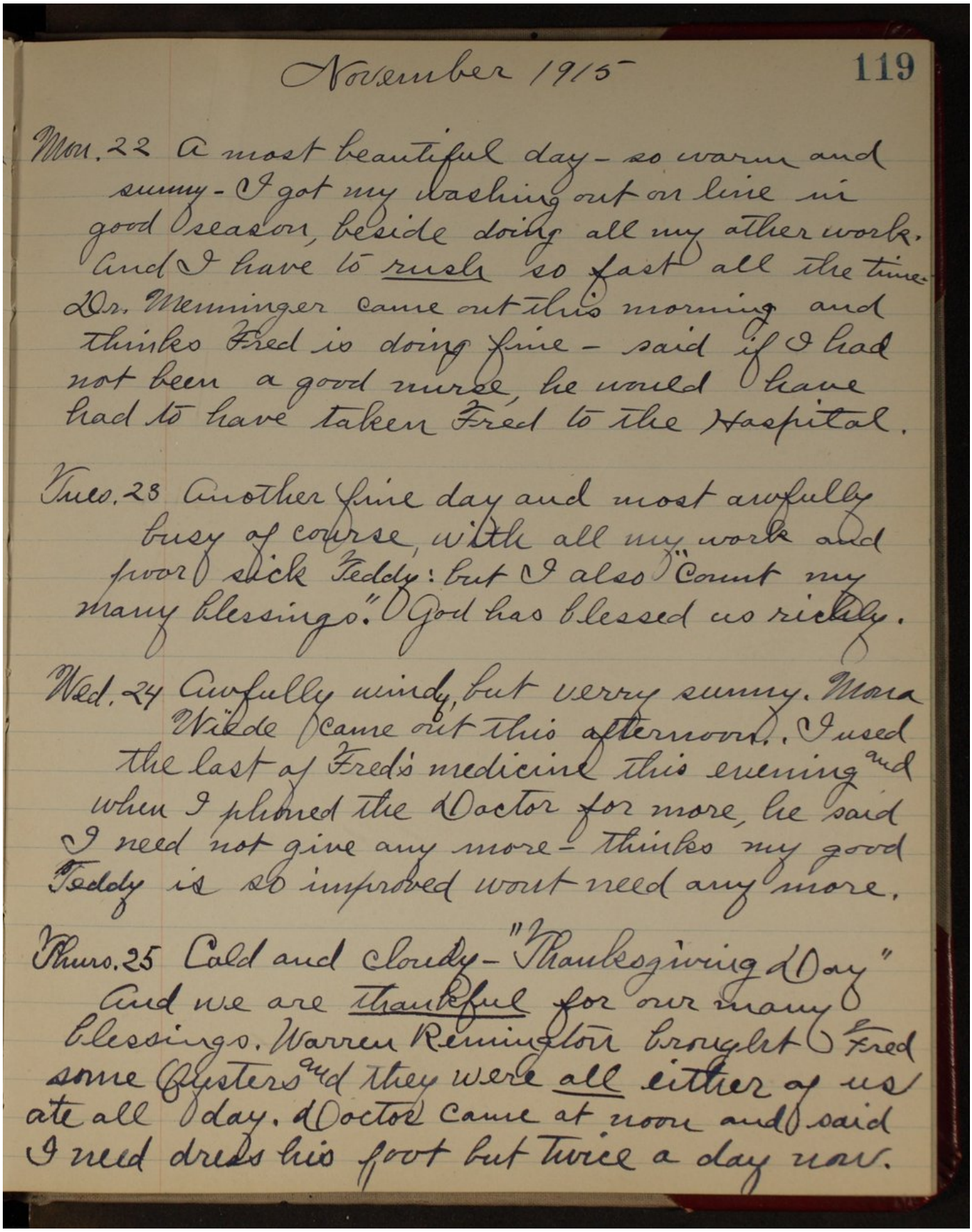
Date: January 01, 1915-December 31, 1916

Callnumber: Martha Farnsworth Coll. #28 Box 3

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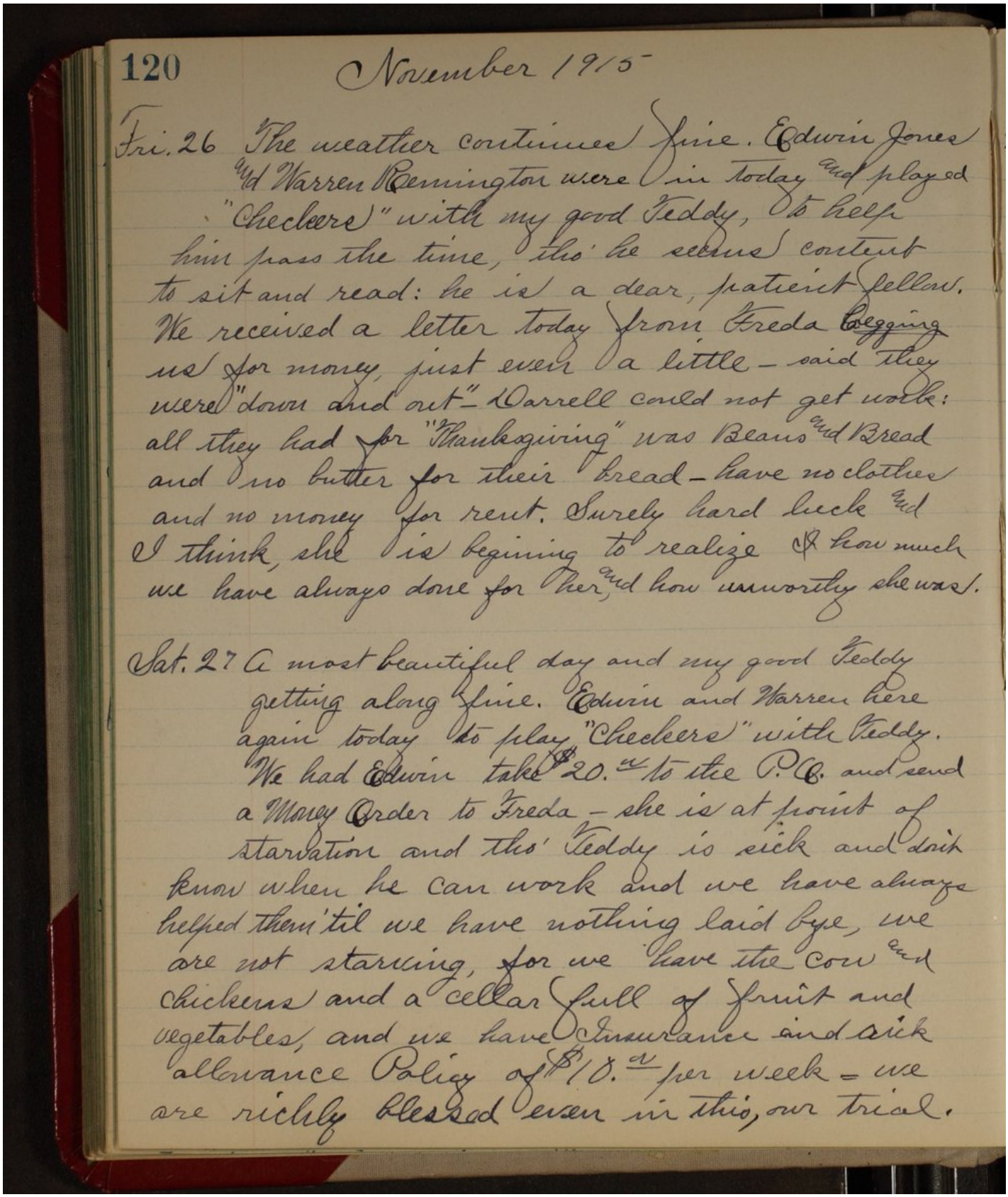
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Mon. 22 A most beautiful day - so warm and sunny - I got my washing out on line in good season, beside doing all my other work. And I have to rush so fast all the time. Dr. Menninger came out this morning and thinks Fred is doing fine - said if I had not been a good nurse, he would have had to have taken Fred to the Hospital.

Tues. 23 Another fine day and most awfully busy of course, with all my work and poor sick Teddy: but I also "Count my many blessings." God has blessed us richly.

Wed. 24 Awfully windy, but verry sunny. Mona Vikde came out this afternoon. I used the last of Fred's medicine this evening and when I phoned the Doctor for more, he said I need not give any more - thinks my good Teddy is so improved wont need any more.

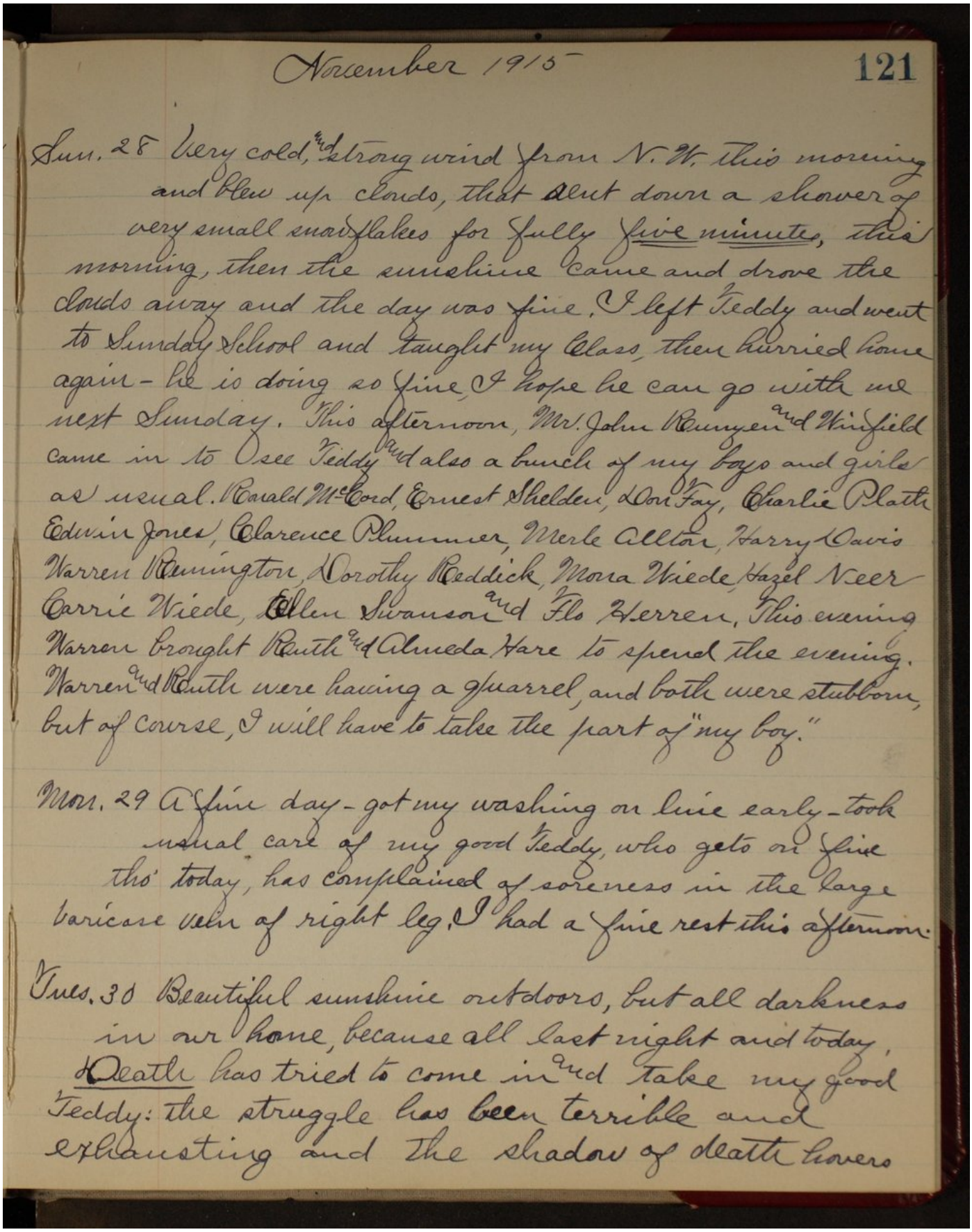
Thurs. 25 Cold and cloudy - "Thanksgiving Day" And we are thankful for our many blessings. Warren Remington brought Fred some Oysters and they were all either of us ate all day. Doctor came at noon and said I need dress his foot but twice a day now.



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Fri. 26 The weather continues fine. Edwin Jones and Warren Remington were in today and played "Checkers" with my good Teddy, to help him pass the time, tho' he seems content to sit and read: he is a dear, patient fellow. We received a letter today from Freda begging us for money, just even a little – said they were "down and out" – Darrell could not get work: all they had for "Thanksgiving" was Beans and Bread and no butter for their bread – have no clothes and no money for rent. Surely hard luck and I think, she is begining to realize how much we have always done for her, and how unworthy she was.

Sat. 27 A most beautiful day and my good Teddy getting along fine. Edwin and Warren here again today to play "Checkers" with Teddy. We had Edwin take $20.00 to the P.O. and send a Money Order to Freda – she is at point of starvation and tho' Teddy is sick and don't know when he can work and we have always helped them 'til we have nothing laid bye, we are not starving, for we have the cow and chickens and a cellar full of fruit and vegetables, and we have Insurance and sick allowance Policy of $10.00 per week = we are richly blessed even in this, our trial.



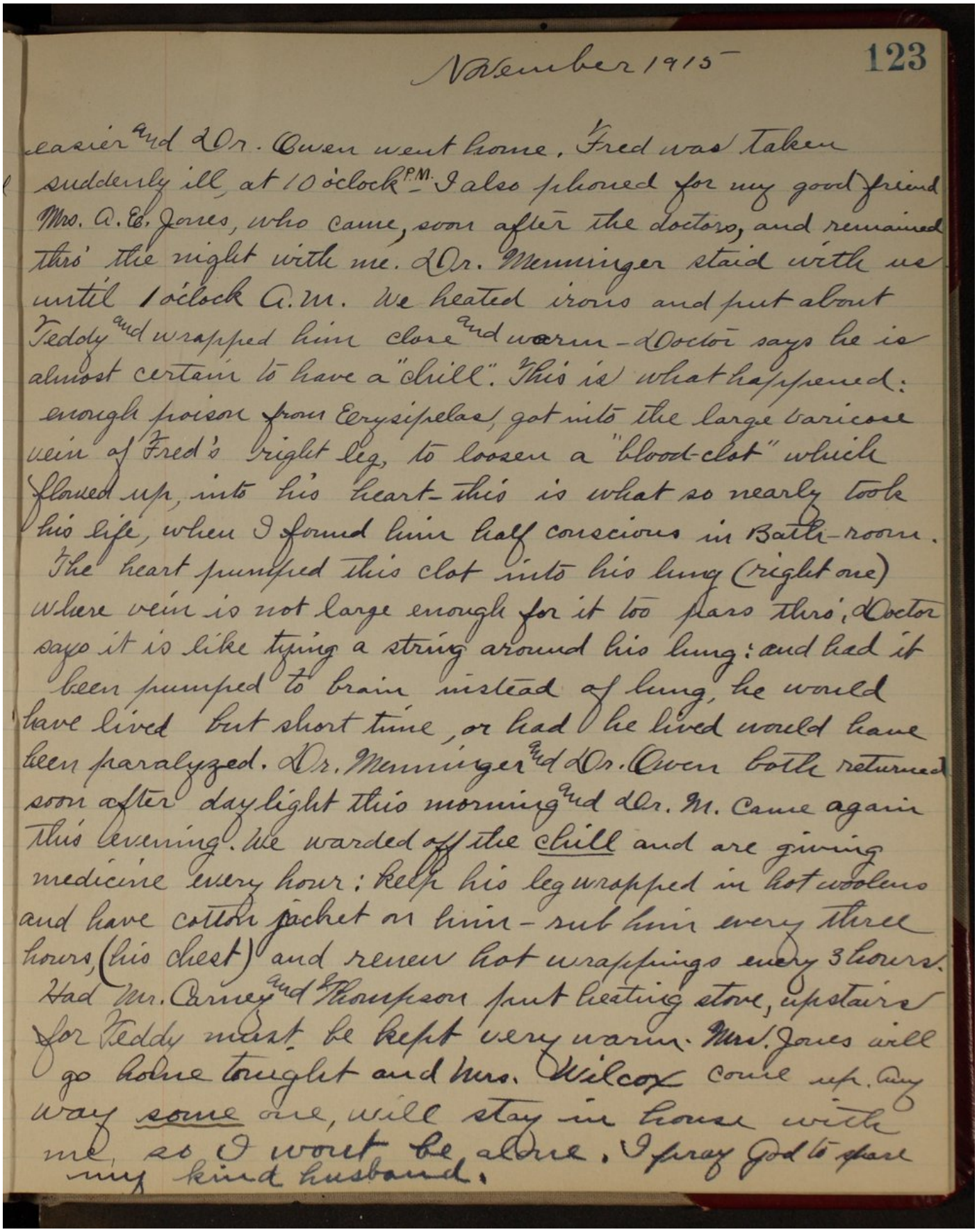
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Sun. 28 Very cold, and strong wind from N. W. this morning and blew up clouds, that sent down a shower of very small snowflakes for fully five minutes, this morning, then the sunshine came and drove the clouds away and the day was fine. I left Teddy and went to Sunday School and taught my Class, then hurried home again - he is doing so fine, I hope he can go with me next Sunday. This afternoon, Mr. John Runyen and Winfield came in to see Teddy and also a bunch of my boys and girls as usual. Ronald McCord, Ernest Shelden, Don Fay, Charlie Plath Edwin Jones, Clarence Plummer, Merle Allton, Harry Davis Warren Remington, Dorothy Reddick, Mona Wiede, Hazel Neer Carrie Wiede, Ellen Swanson and Flo Herren. This evening Warren brought Ruth and Almeda Hare to spend the evening. Warren and Ruth were having a quarrel, and both were stubborn, but of course, I will have to take the part of "my boy."

Mon. 29 A fine day - got my washing on line early - took usual care of my good Teddy, who gets on fine tho' today, has complained of soreness in the large varicose vein of right leg. I had a fine rest this afternoon.

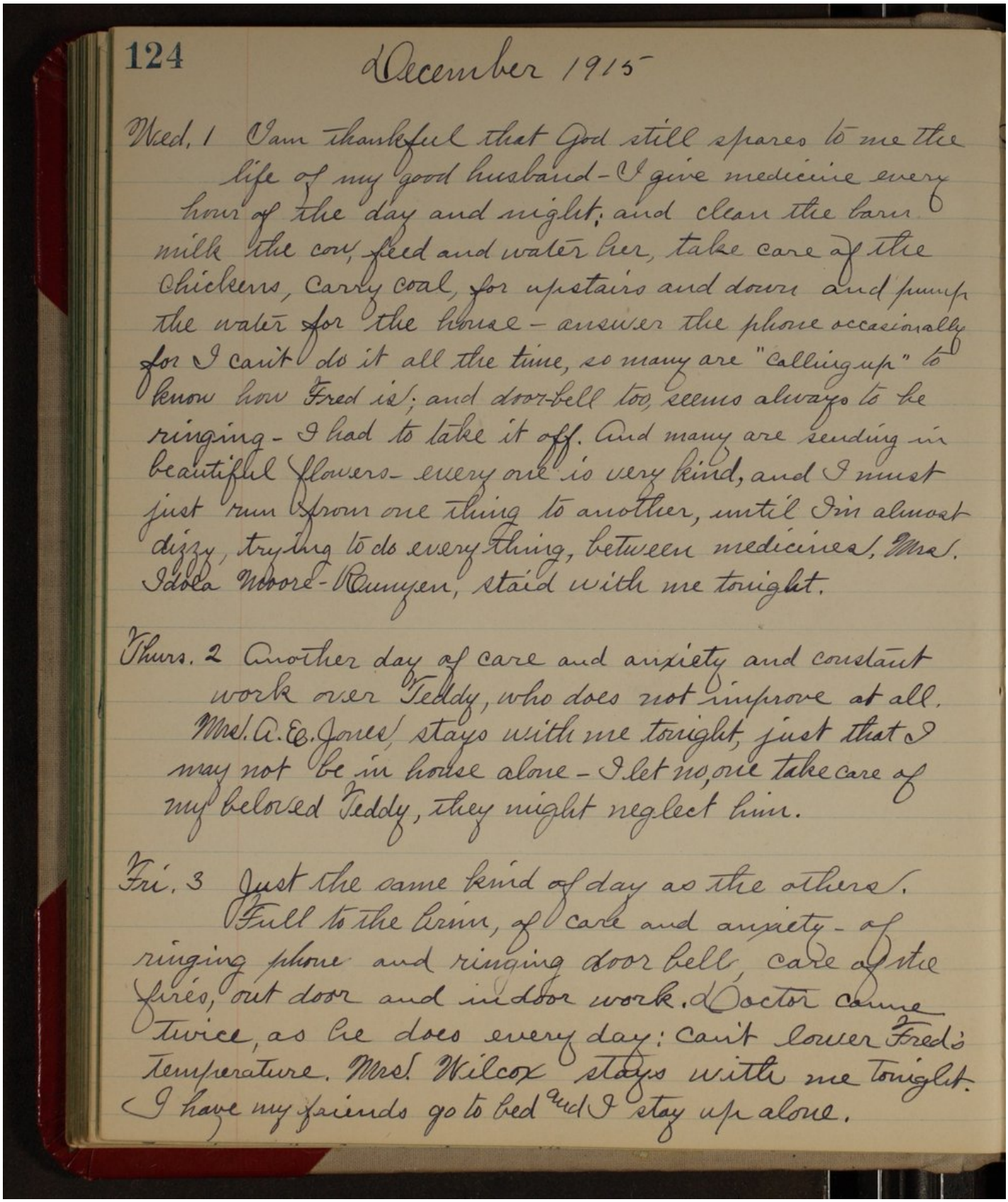
Tues. 30 Beautiful sunshine outdoors, but all darkness in our home, because all last night and today, Death has tried to come in and take my good Teddy: the struggle has been terrible and exhausting and the shadow of death hovers

very near today. Fred was feeling very splendid, when we began to prepare for bed and as he hopped over to the couch to have me dress his foot, the last time for the night; but as he lay down on the couch I heard him breathe heavily and asked what was matter - he replied that he could not breathe good; it all passed in a moment and we came upstairs, he going in bath-room and I getting into bed: he called me in a moment and I ran to him, and found him apparently dying and half unconscious - I held him against me for a moment sitting on edge of bath-tub and rubbed him and he revived so that by help carrying him, I got him into bed He insisted he was alright and I should not call doctor - said he just could not breathe, well. But I made him comfortable as possible then ran down-stairs and phoned Dr. Menninger, who being out to Christ Hospital, had not far to come and was here in about ten minutes; after a hurried examination he told me, what I already knew, that poor Teddy was seriously ill and told me to phone for Dr. Owen, to come at once, I had trouble in "getting" Dr. Owen but finally succeeded, then ran to help Doctor give Teddy, five "Hyperdermics" in the veins, one after the other as fast as he could prepare them; by that time Dr Owen came and the two Doctors began a "Tug o' war" with death, which lasted until Mid-night, when Fred became



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easier and Dr. Owen went home. Fred was taken suddenly ill, at 10 o'clock P.M. I also phoned for my good friend Mrs. A. E. Jones, who came, soon after the doctors, and remained thro' the night with me. Dr. Menninger staid with us until 1 o'clock A.M. We heated irons and put about Teddy and wrapped him close and warm - Doctor says he is almost certain to have a "chill". This is what happened: enough poison from Erysipelas, got into the large varicose vein of Fred's right leg, to loosen a "blood-clot" which flowed up, into his heart - this is what so nearly took his life, when I found him half conscious in Bath-room. The heart pumped this clot into his lung (right one) where vein is not large enough for it to pass thro'; Doctor says it is like tying a string around his lung: and had it been pumped to brain instead of lung, he would have lived but short time, or had he lived would have been paralyzed. Dr. Menninger and Dr. Owen both returned soon after daylight this morning and Dr. M. came again this evening. We warded off the chill and are giving medicine every hour: Kelp his leg wrapped in hot woolens and have cotton jacket on him - rub him every three hours, (his chest) and renew hot wrappings every 3 hours. Had Mr. Carney and Thompson put heating stove, upstairs for Teddy must be kept very warm. Mrs. Jones will go home tonight and Mrs. Wilcox come up. Any way some one, will stay in house with me, so I won't be alone. I pray God to spare my kind husband.

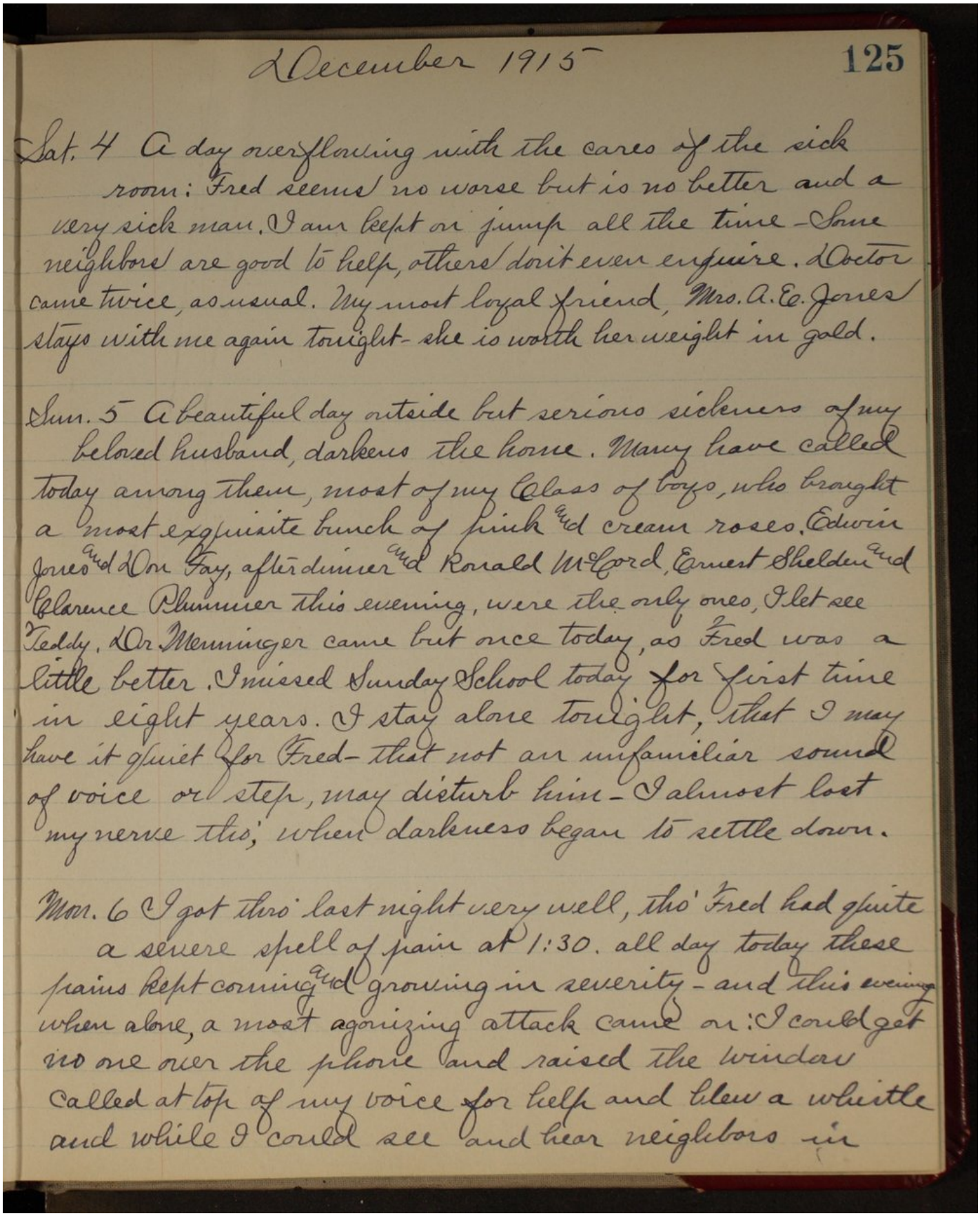


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Wed. 1 I am thankful that God still spares to me the life of my good husband - I give medicine every hour of the day and night; and clean the barn milk the cow, feed and water her, take care of the chickens, carry coal for upstairs and down and pump the water for the house - answer the phone occasionally for I can't do it all the time, so many are "calling up" to know how Fred is; and doorbell too, seems always to be ringing - I had to take it off. And many are sending in beautiful flowers - every one is very kind, and I must just run from one thing to another, until I'm almost dizzy, trying to do every thing, between medicines. Mrs. Idola Moore-Runyen, staid with me tonight.

Thurs. 2 Another day of care and anxiety and constant work over Teddy, who does not improve at all. Mrs. A. E. Jones, stays with me tonight, just that I may not be in house alone - I let no one take care of my beloved Teddy, they might neglect him.

Fri. 3 Just the same kind of day as the others. Full to the brim, of care and anxiety - of ringing phone and ringing door bell, care of the fires, out door and indoor work. Doctor came twice, as he does every day: can't lower Fred's temperature. Mrs. Wilcox stays with me tonight. I have my friends go to bed and I stay up alone.

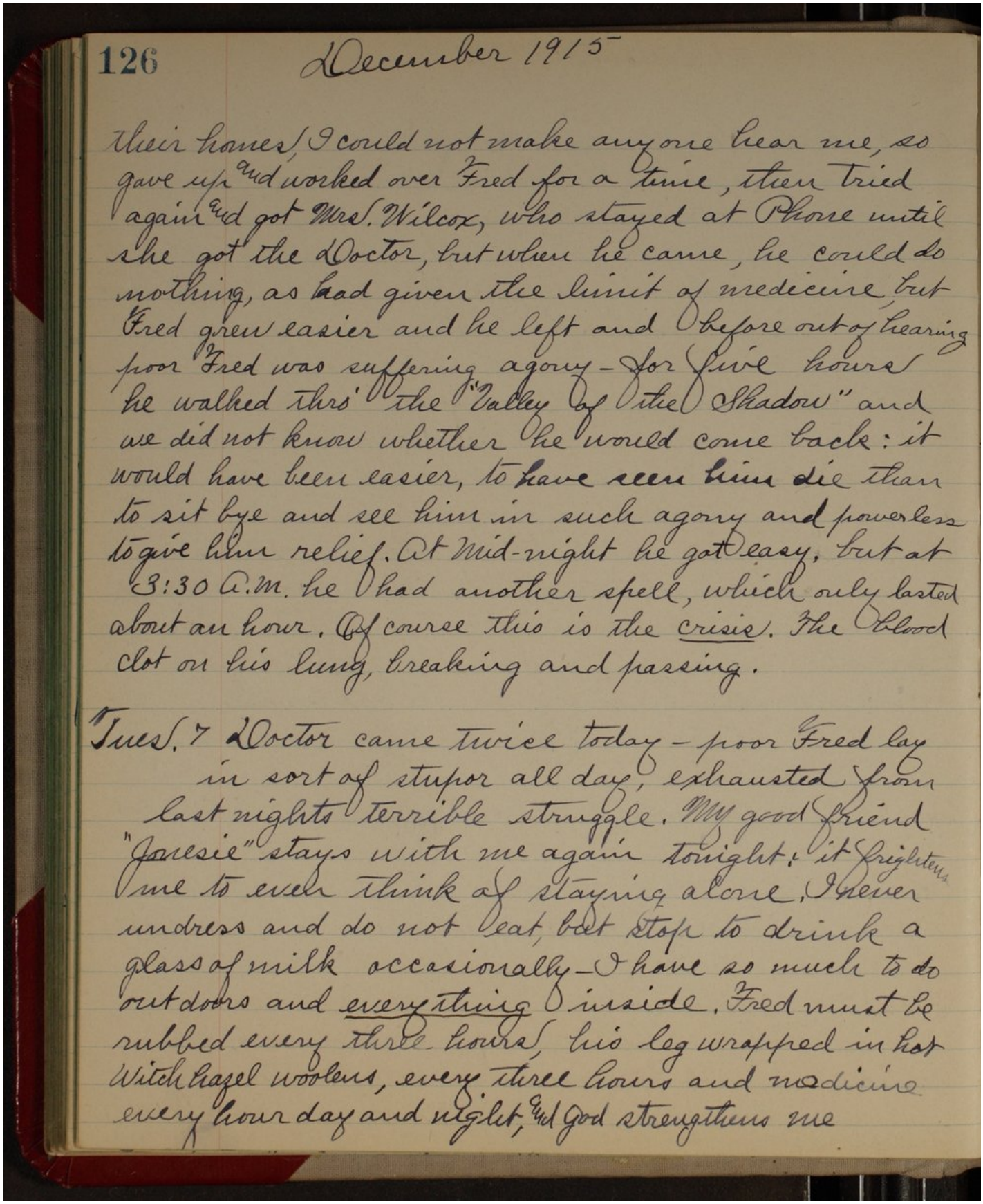


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Sat. 4 A day overflowing with the cares of the sick room: Fred seems no worse but is no better and a very sick man. I am kept on jump all the time - Some neighbors are good to help, others don't even enquire. Doctor came twice, as usual. My most loyal friend, Mrs. A. E. Jones stays with me again tonight - she is worth her weight in gold.

Sun. 5 A beautiful day outside but serious sickness of my beloved husband, darkens the home. Many have called today among them, most of my Class of boys, who brought a most exquisite bunch of pink and cream roses. Edwin Jones and Don Fay, after dinner and Ronald McCord, Ernest Sheldon and Clarence Plummer this evening, were the only ones, I let see Teddy. Dr Menninger came but once today, as Fred was a little better. I missed Sunday School today for first time in eight years. I stay alone tonight, that I may have it quiet for Fred - that not an unfamiliar sound of voice or step, may disturb him - I almost lost my nerve this, when darkness began to settle down.

Mon. 6 I got thro' last night very well, tho' Fred had quite a severe spell of pain at 1:30. all day today these pains kept coming and growing in severity - and this evening when alone, a most agonizing attack came on: I could get no one over the phone and raised the windar called at top of my voice for help and blew a whistle and while I could see and hear neighbors in



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their homes, I could not make anyone hear me, so gave up and worked over Fred for a time, then tried again and got Mrs. Wilcox, who stayed at Phone until she got the Doctor, but when he came, he could do nothing, as had given the limit of medicine, but Fred grew easier and he left and before out of hearing poor Fred was suffering agony - for five hours he walked thru' the "Valley of the Shadow" and we did not know whether he would come back: it would have been easier, to have seen him die than to sit bye and see him in such agony and powerless to give him relief. At Mid-night he got easy, but at 3:30 A.M. he had another spell, which only lasted about an hour. Of course this is the crisis. The blood clot on his lung, breaking and passing.

Tues. 7 Doctor came twice today - poor Fred lay in sort of stupor all day, exhausted from last nights terrible struggle. My good friend "Jonesie" stays with me again tonight: it frightens me to even think of staying alone. I never undress and do not eat, but stop to drink a glass of milk occasionally - I have so much to do outdoors and everything inside. Fred must be rubbed every three hours, his leg wrapped in hot Witch Hazel woolens, every three hours and medicine every hour day and night, and God strengthens me

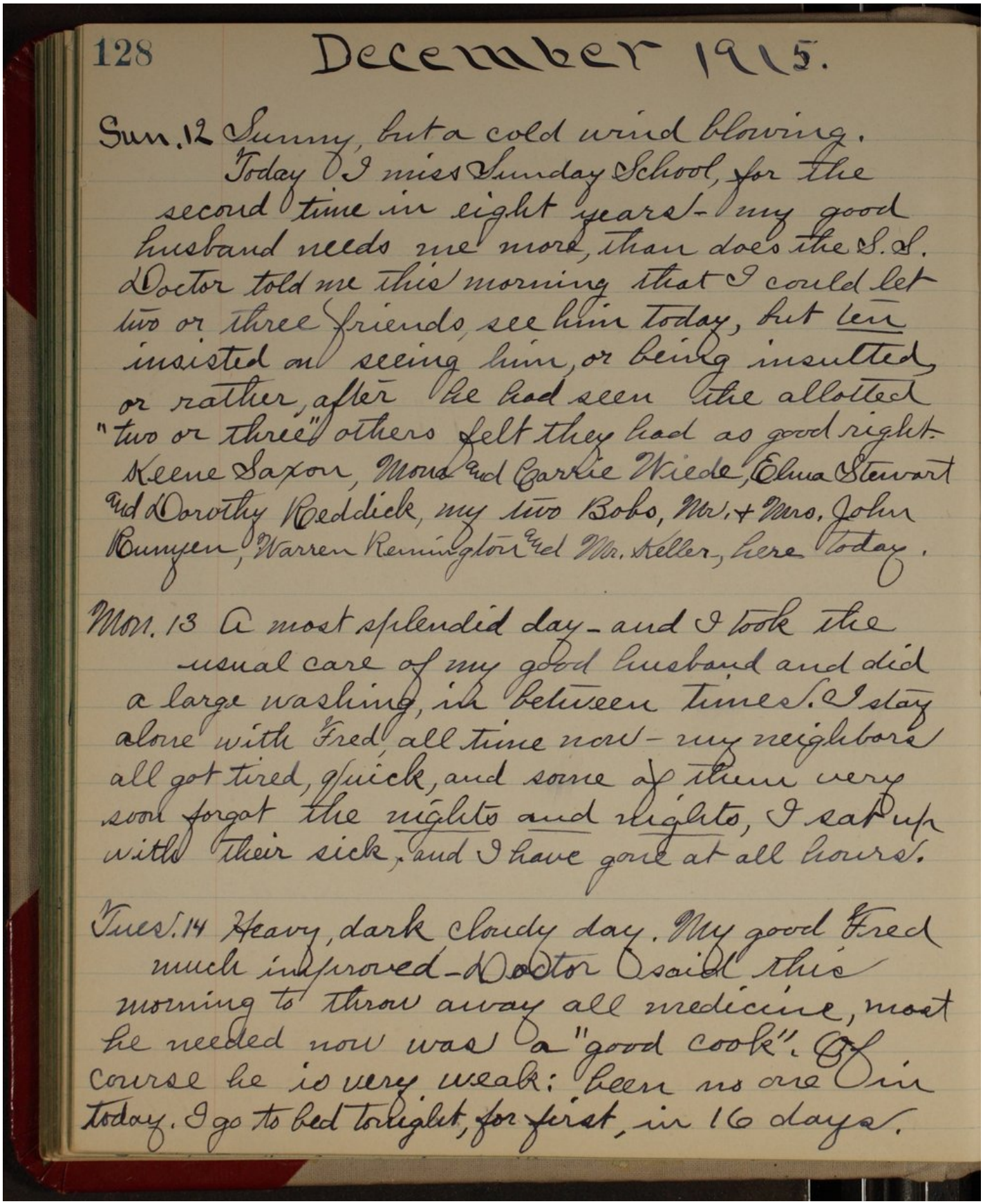
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Wed. 8 Fred still somewhat exhausted but his pulse dropped from 110 to 95 and Doctor and I feel quite Mrs. John Runyen (Idola) stays with me tonight.

Thurs. 9 The day is dark and dreary and looks like snow but there is sunshine in the home today because Fred has safely passed the crisis and pulse dropped to 85 which is still improvement, but Doctor says we must remember he is still a very sick man. My good friend "Jonesie" (Mrs. A. E.) stays tonight again.

Fri. 10 "Sprinkly" and dark and gloomy, but my good Fred is much better, and that makes it all "sunshiny". It is cold and raining tonight and I am going to stay alone, for I will not ask any one to come out in the storm: God will watch with me and we will be alright, Teddy and I; and the home more quiet.

Sat. 11 Another cold gloomy day, but its just like "sunshine" because Teddy is much better. Doctor found Temperature, Normal this morning. I have not undressed for thirteen days, nor sat down to the table, but catch naps between medicines. Doctor said this morning I could quit the leg wrapping and the rubbing and give medicine every two hours now - it seems to good to be true. I will stay alone again tonight. Harry Davis brought Laurence Myers, out tonight - a new boy for Class.

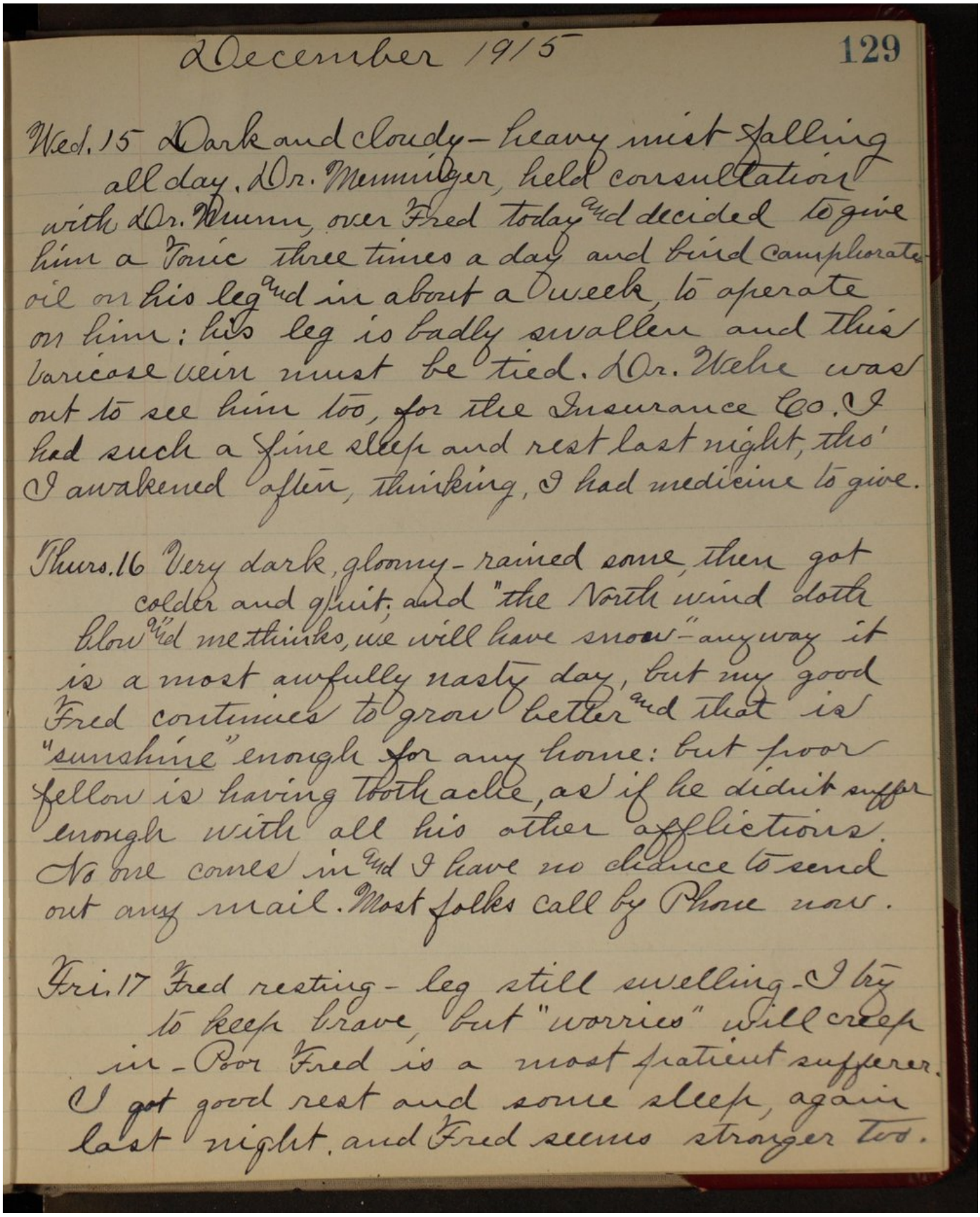


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Sun. 12 Sunny, but a cold wind blowing.
Today I miss Sunday School, for the second time in eight years - my good husband needs me more, than does the S.S. Doctor told me this morning that I could let two or three friends see him today, but Ben insisted on seeing him, or being insulted, or rather, after he had seen the allotted "two or three" others felt they had as good right. Keene Saxon, Mond and Carkie Wiede, Elma Stewart and Dorothy Reddick, my two Bobs, Mr. + Mrs. John Runyen, Warren Remington and Mr. Keller, here today.

Mon. 13 A most splendid day - and I took the usual care of my good husband and did a large washing, in between times. I stay alone with Fred all time now - my neighbors all got tired, quick, and some of them very soon forgot the nights and nights, I sat up with their sick, and I have gone at all hours.

Tues. 14 Heavy, dark cloudy day. My good Fred much improved - Doctor said this morning to throw away all medicine, most he needed now was a "good cook". Of course he is very weak: been no one in today. I go to bed tonight, for first, in 16 days.

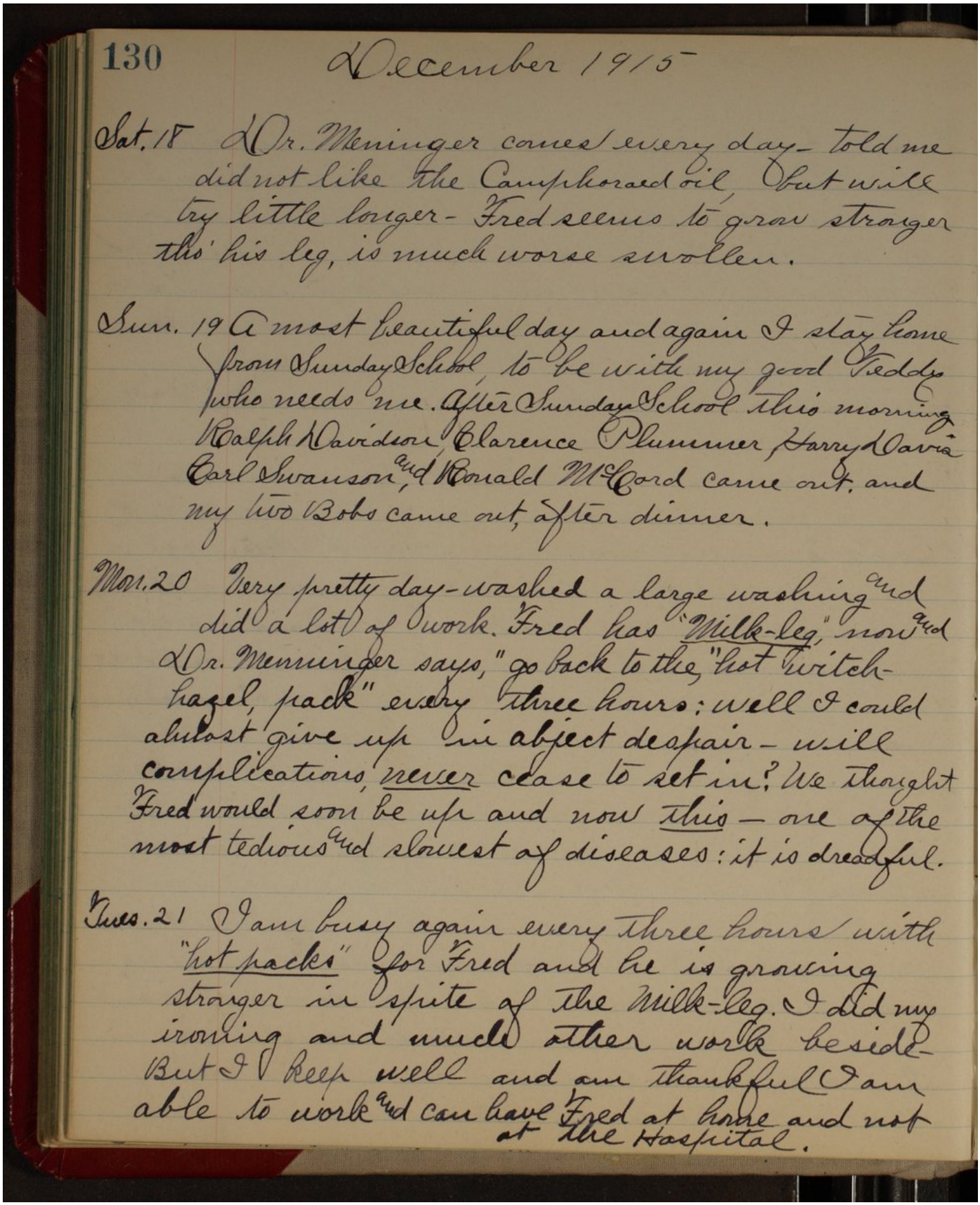


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Wed. 15 Dark and cloudy – heavy mist falling all day. Dr. Memminger held consultation with Dr. Munn, over Fred today and decided to give him a Tonic three times a day and bind camphorated oil on his leg and in about a week, to operate on him: his leg is badly swollen and this varicose vein must be tied. Dr. Hehe was out to see him too, for the Insurance Co. I had such a fine sleep and rest last night, tho' I awakened often, thinking, I had medicine to give.

Thurs. 16 Very dark, gloomy – rained some, then got colder and sleet; and "the North wind doth blow" and me thinks, we will have snow – anyway it is a most awfully nasty day, but my good Fred continues to grow better and that is "sunshine" enough for any home: but poor fellow is having toothache, as if he didn't suffer enough with all his other afflictions. No one comes in and I have no chance to send out any mail. Most folks call by Phone now.

Fri. 17 Fred resting – leg still swelling. I try to keep brave, but "worries" will creep in. Poor Fred is a most patient sufferer. I got good rest and some sleep, again last night, and Fred seems stronger too.



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Sat. 18 Dr. Meninger comes every day - told me did not like the Camphorated oil, but will try little longer - Fred seems to grow stronger this' his leg, is much worse swollen.

Sun. 19 A most beautiful day and again I stay home from Sunday School, to be with my good Freddy who needs me. After Sunday School this morning Ralph Davidson, Clarence Plummer, Harry Davis Carl Swanson, and Ronald McCord came out, and my two Bobs came out, after dinner.

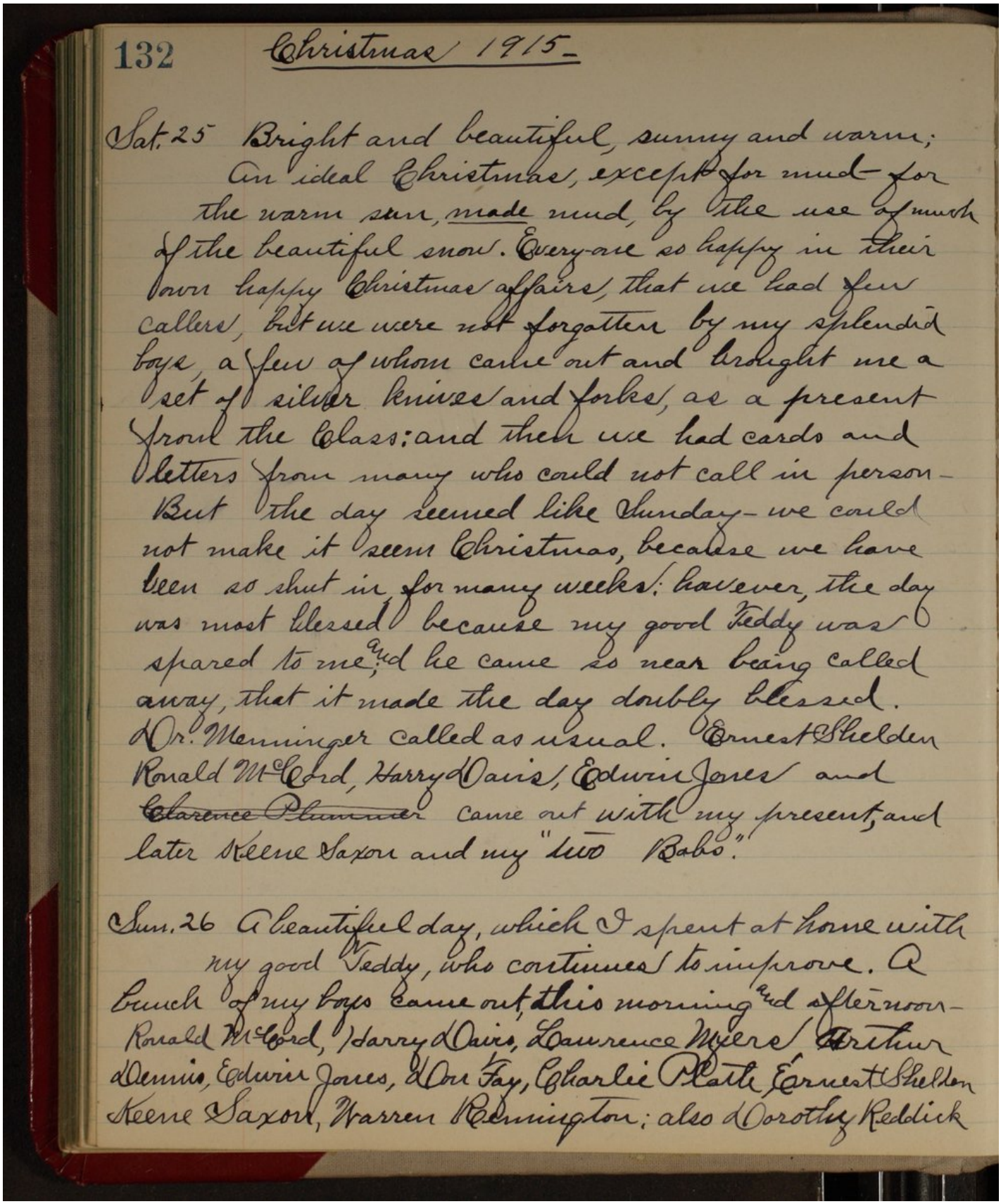
Mon. 20 Very pretty day - washed a large washing and did a lot of work. Fred has "Milk-leg," now and Dr. Menninger says, "go back to the "hot witch-hazel pack" every three hours: well I could almost give up in abject despair - will complications, never cease to set in? We thought Fred would soon be up and now this - one of the most tedious and slowest of diseases: it is dreadful.

Tues. 21 I am busy again every three hours with "hot packs" for Fred and he is growing stronger in spite of the Milk-leg. I did my ironing and much other work beside - But I keep well and am thankful I am able to work and can have Fred at home and not at the Hospital.

Wed. 22 Fred seems to grow stronger as his leg smells worse - We seldom see anyone any more, but the Doctor - everybody calls by phone and its the Holiday season and everybody rushed. I can't make it seem like Christmas for I have not been outside our gate for four weeks and have done no shopping - sent no presents - saw no Holiday decorations - nothing that looks like Christmas

Thurs. 23 Fred sits up in bed and shaves himself - His leg gets no worse - I get more sleep and I guess things are going better than I feel. But it is funny (?) Everybody, rush and hustle and happy in the rush of Christmas - Me in a sick room, anxious and worried, with no thought of Christmas preparation, yet happy as those others because I still have my good Freddy -

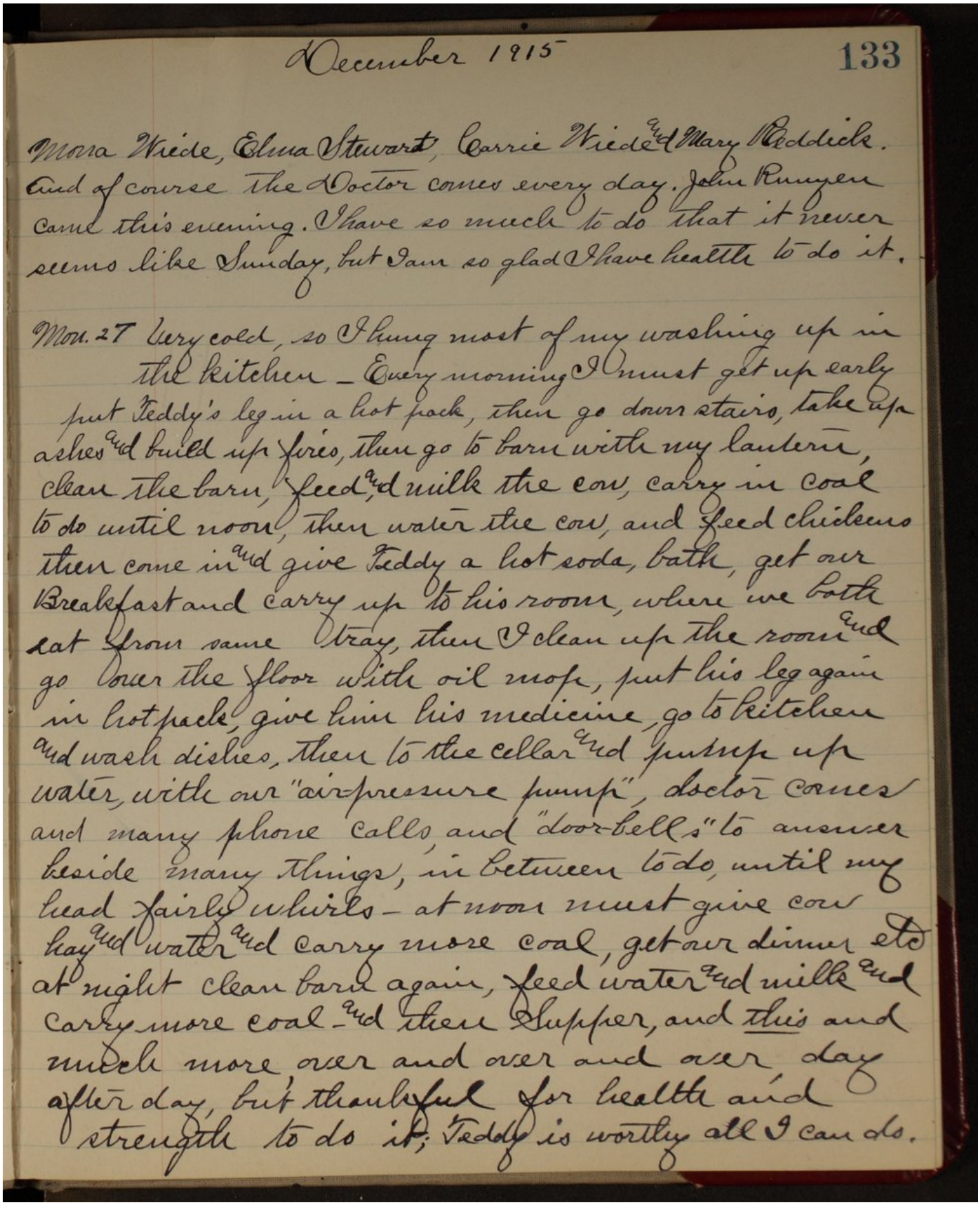
Fri. 24 Awakened this morning to find the ground white and a most beautiful snow falling - such a lovely snow-storm - more work for me - snow to shovel: quit before noon. Our first snow - Colder by night. Fred better and swelling going down just a tiny bit - We are getting a few Christmas tokens, but I can't make it seem Christmas at all.



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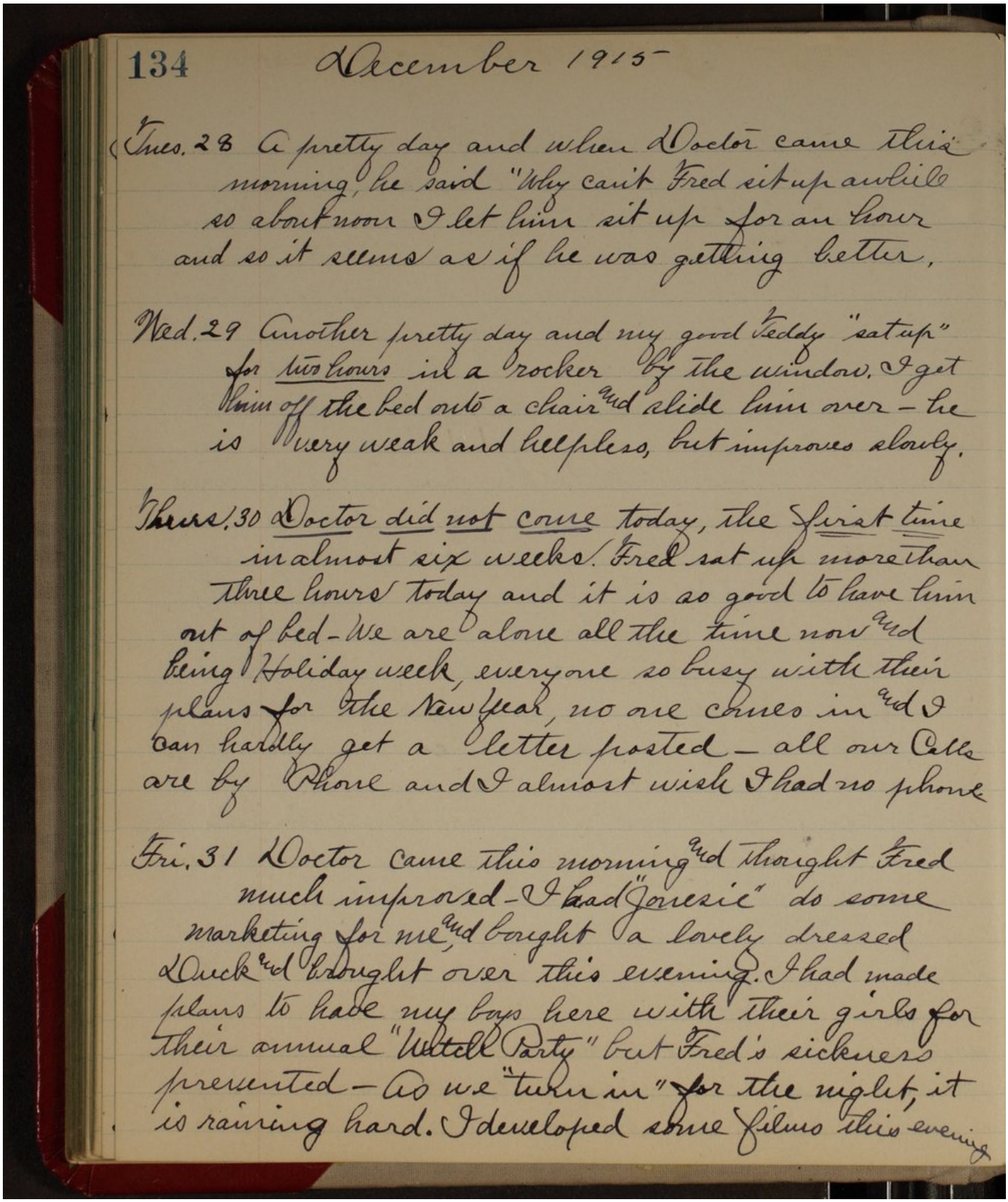
Sat. 25 Bright and beautiful, sunny and warm; An ideal Christmas, except for mud—for the warm sun, made mud, by the use of much of the beautiful snow. Every-one so happy in their own happy Christmas affairs, that we had few callers, but we were not forgotten by my splendid boys, a few of whom came out and brought me a set of silver knives and forks, as a present from the Class: and then we had cards and letters from many who could not call in person— But the day seemed like Sunday— we could not make it seem Christmas, because we have been so shut in for many weeks: however, the day was most blessed because my good Teddy was spared to me, and he came so near being called away, that it made the day doubly blessed. Dr. Menninger called as usual. Ernest Sheldon Ronald McCord, Harry Davis, Edwin Jones and ~~Clarence Plummer~~ came out with my present, and later Keene Saxon and my "two Babs."

Sun. 26 A beautiful day, which I spent at home with my good Teddy, who continues to improve. A bunch of my boys came out this morning and afternoon— Ronald McCord, Harry Davis, Laurence Myers, Arthur Dennis, Edwin Jones, Don Fay, Charlie Platt, Ernest Sheldon Keene Saxon, Warren Remington: also Dorothy Reddick



Mona Wiede, Elma Stewart, Carrie Wiede and Mary Riddick. And of course the Doctor comes every day. John Runyen came this evening. I have so much to do that it never seems like Sunday, but I am so glad I have health to do it.

Mon. 27 Very cold, so I hung most of my washing up in the kitchen _ Every morning I must get up early put Teddy's leg in a hot pack, then go down stairs, take up ashes and build up fires, then go to barn with my lantern, clean the barn, feed and milk the cow, carry in coal to do until noon, then water the cow, and feed chickens then come in and give Teddy a hot soda, bath, get our Breakfast and carry up to his room, where we both eat from same tray, then I clean up the room and go over the floor with oil mop, put his leg again in hot pack, give him his medicine, go to kitchen and wash dishes, then to the cellar and pump up water, with our "air-pressure pump", doctor comes and many phone calls, and "door-bells" to answer beside many things, in between to do, until my head fairly whirls - at noon must give cow hay and water and carry more coal, get our dinner etc at night clean barn again, feed water and milk and carry more coal - and then Supper, and this and much more over and over and over day after day, but thankful for health and strength to do it; Teddy is worthy all I can do.



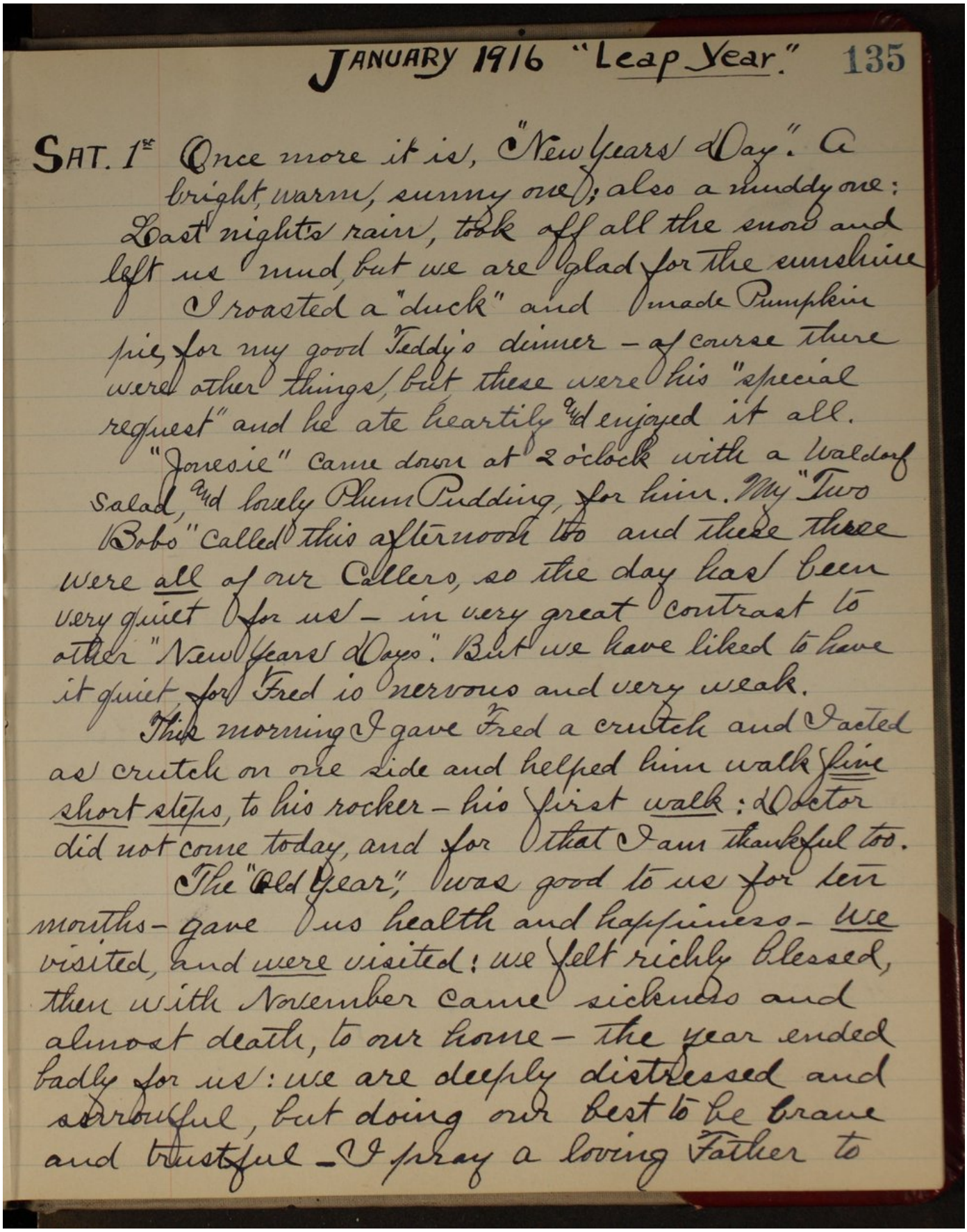
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Tues. 28 A pretty day and when Doctor came this morning, he said "Why can't Fred sit up awhile so about noon I let him sit up for an hour and so it seems as if he was getting better.

Wed. 29 Another pretty day and my good Teddy "sat up" for two hours in a rocker by the window. I get him off the bed onto a chair and slide him over - he is very weak and helpless, but improves slowly.

Thurs. 30 Doctor did not come today, the first time in almost six weeks. Fred sat up more than three hours today and it is so good to have him out of bed - We are alone all the time now and being Holiday week, everyone so busy with their plans for the New Year, no one comes in and I can hardly get a letter posted - all our Calls are by Phone and I almost wish I had no phone

Fri. 31 Doctor came this morning and thought Fred much improved - I had "Jeresie" do some marketing for me and bought a lovely dressed Duck and brought over this evening. I had made plans to have my boys here with their girls for their annual "Watch Party" but Fred's sickness prevented - As we "turn in" for the night, it is raining hard. I developed some films this evening

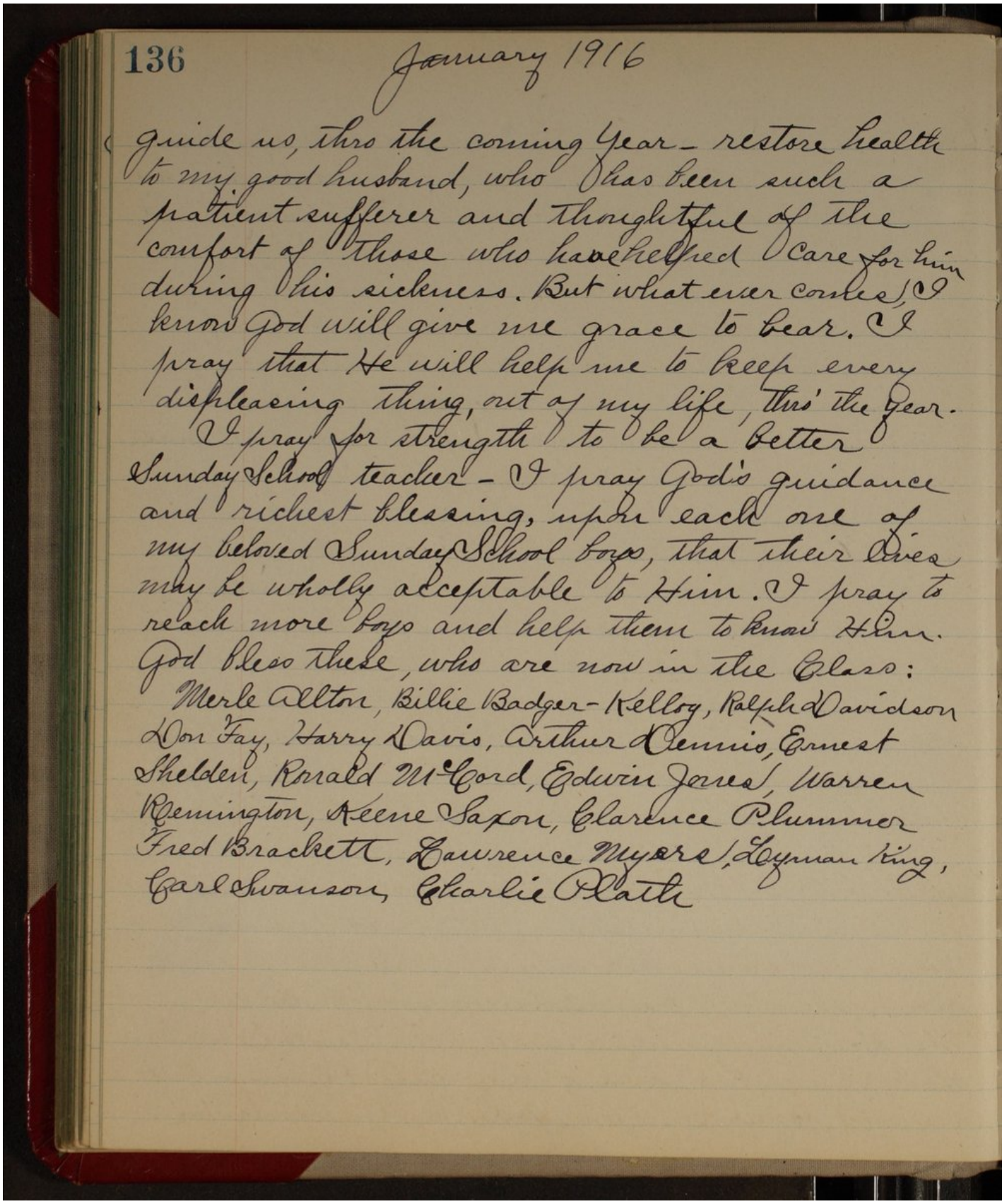


JANUARY 1916 "Leap Year." 135

SAT. 1st Once more it is, "New Years Day". A bright, warm, sunny one; also a muddy one: Last nights rain, took off all the snow and left us mud, but we are glad for the sunshine I roasted a "duck" and made Pumpkin pie, for my good Teddy's dinner – of course there were other things, but these were his "special request" and he ate heartily and enjoyed it all. "Jonesie" came down at 2 o'clock with a Waldorf Salad, and lovely Plum Pudding, for him. My "Two Bobs" called this afternoon too and these three were all of our Callers, so the day has been very quiet for us – in very great contrast to other "New Years Days". But we have liked to have it quiet for Fred is nervous and very weak.

This morning I gave Fred a crutch and I acted as crutch on one side and helped him walk five short steps, to his rocker – his first walk: Doctor did not come today, and for that I am thankful too.

The "Old Year", was good to us for ten months – gave us health and happiness – We visited, and were visited: we felt richly blessed, then with November came sickness and almost death, to our home – the year ended badly for us: we are deeply distressed and sorrowful, but doing our best to be brave and trustful – I pray a loving Father to

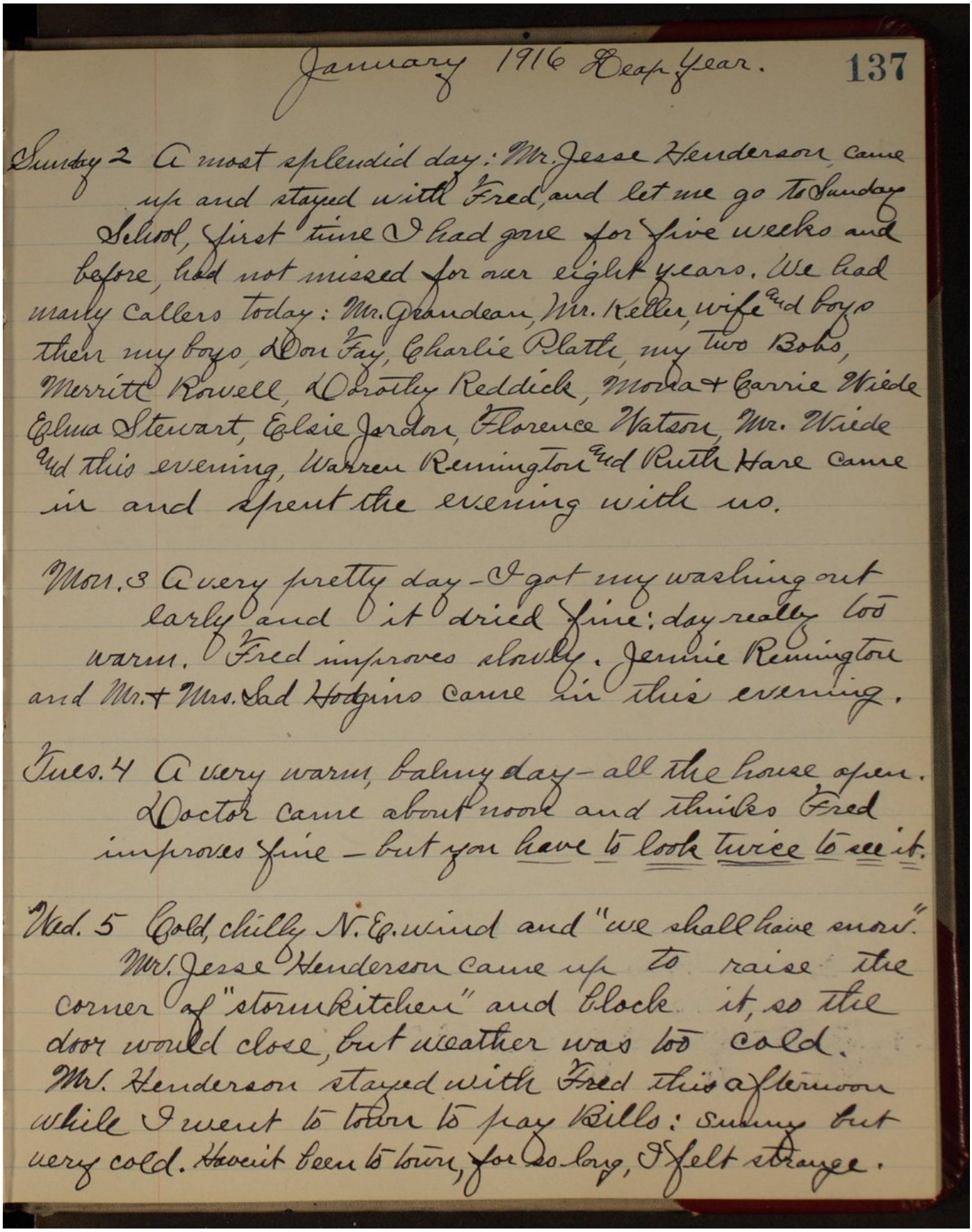


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guide us, thro the coming Year – restore health to my good husband, who has been such a patient sufferer and thoughtful of the comfort of those who have helped Care for him during his sickness. But what ever comes, I know God will give me grace to bear. I pray that He will help me to keep every displeasing thing, out of my life, thro' the Year.

I pray for strength to be a better Sunday School teacher – I pray God's guidance and richest blessing, upon each one of my beloved Sunday School boys, that their lives may be wholly acceptable to Him. I pray to reach more boys and help them to know Him. God bless these, who are now in the Class:

Merle Allton, Billie Badger-Kelley, Ralph Davidson Don Fay, Harry Davis, Arthur Dennis, Ernest Shelden, Ronald McCord, Edwin Jones, Warren Remington, Keene Saxon, Clarence Plummer Fred Brackett, Laurence Myers, Lyman King, Carl Swanson, Charlie Plath



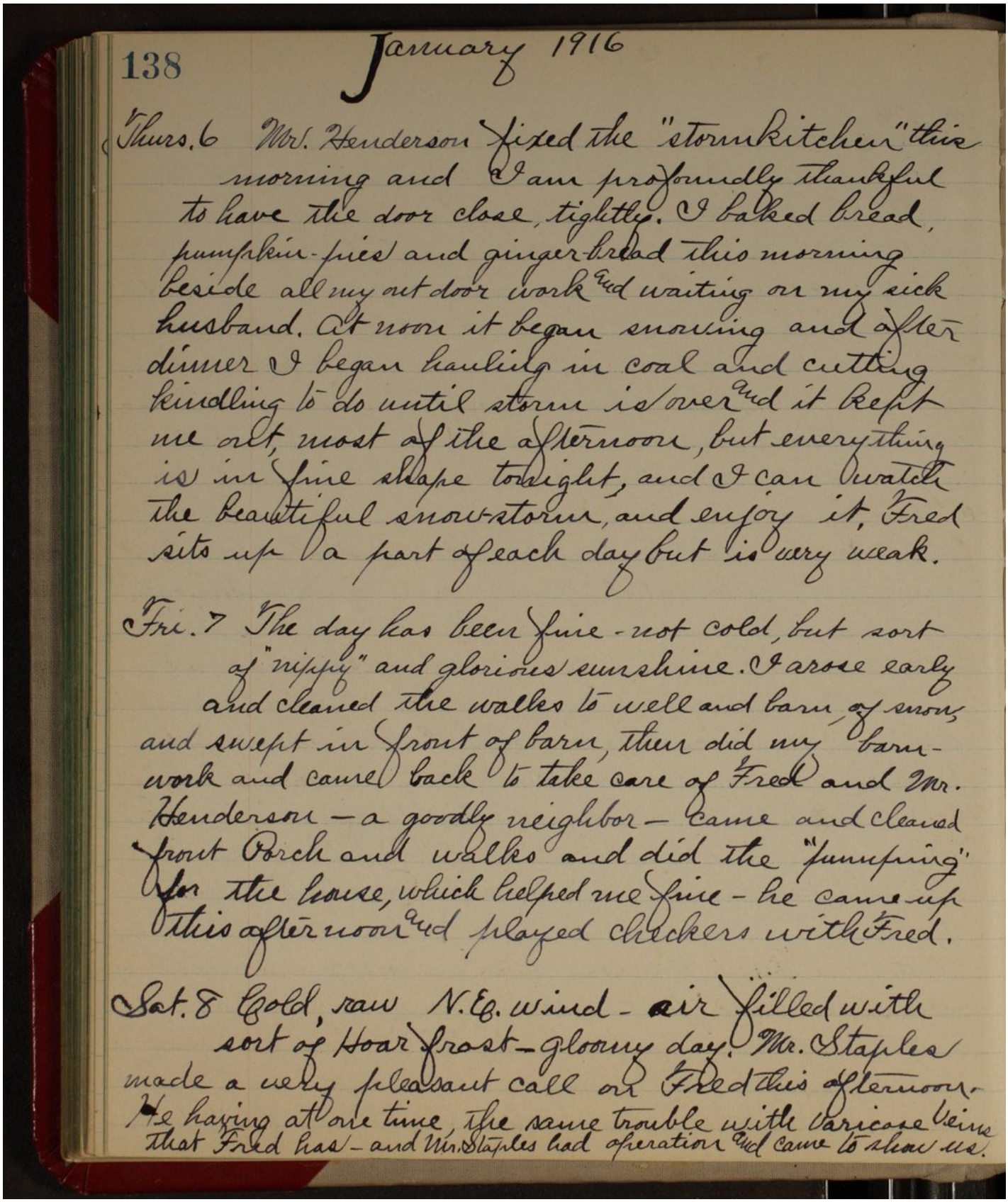
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Sunday 2 A most splendid day: Mr. Jesse Henderson came up and stayed with Fred, and let me go to Sunday School, first time I had gone for five weeks and before, had not missed for over eight years. We had many callers today: Mr. Grandeau, Mr. Keller, wife and boys then my boys, Don Fay, Charlie Platt, my two Bobs, Merritt Rowell, Dorothy Reddick, Moda & Carrie Wiede Elma Stewart, Elsie Jordon, Florence Watson, Mr. Wiede and this evening, Warren Remington and Ruth Hare came in and spent the evening with us.

Mon. 3 A very pretty day - I got my washing out early and it dried fine: day really too warm. Fred improves slowly. Jennie Remington and Mr. & Mrs. Sad Hodgins came in this evening.

Tues. 4 A very warm, balmy day - all the house open. Doctor came about noon and thinks Fred improves fine - but you have to look twice to see it.

Wed. 5 Cold, chilly N. E. wind and "we shall have snow". Mr. Jesse Henderson came up to raise the corner of "storm kitchen" and block it, so the door would close, but weather was too cold. Mr. Henderson stayed with Fred this afternoon while I went to town to pay Bills: sunny but very cold. Have it been to town, for so long, I felt strange.

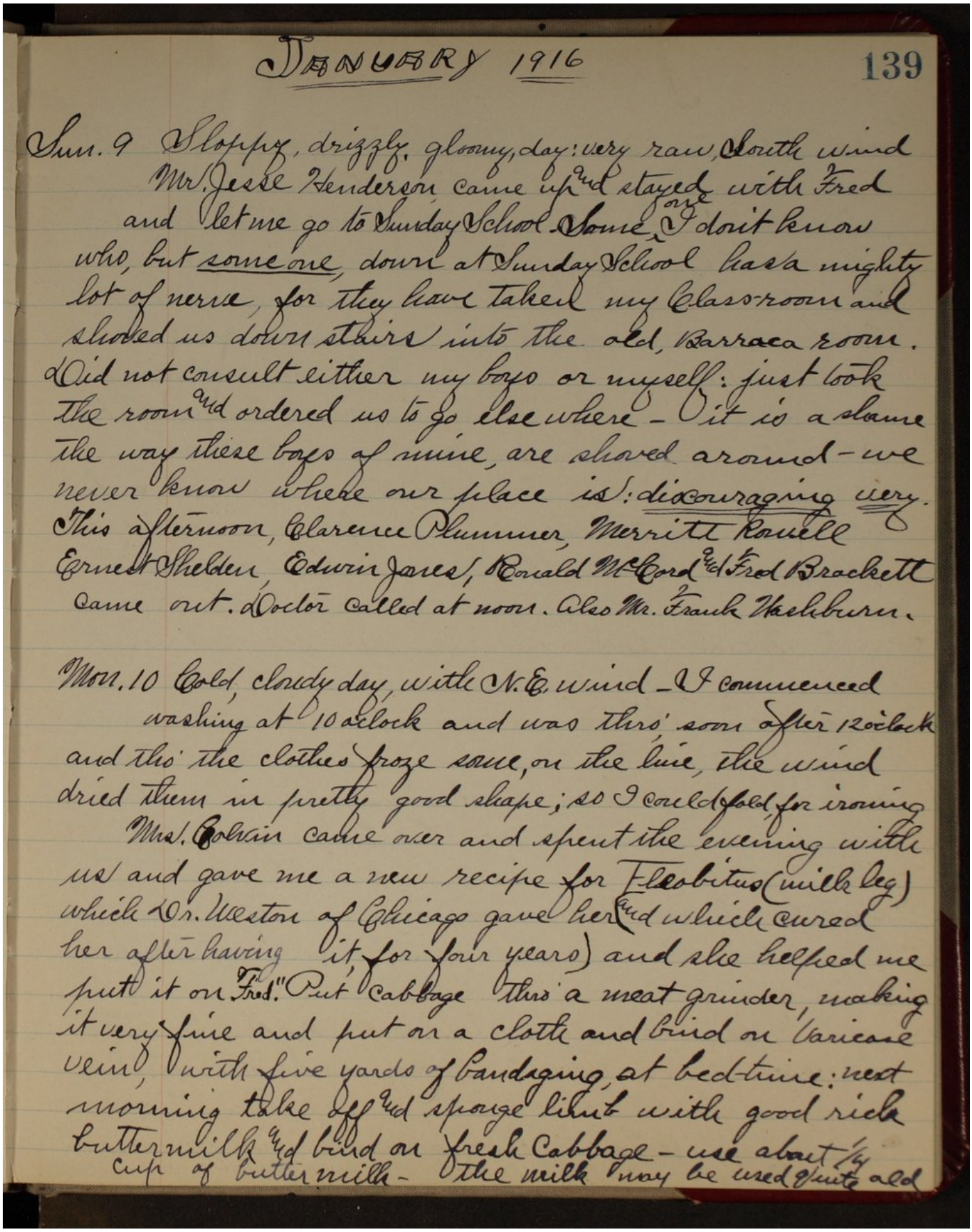


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Thurs. 6 Mr. Henderson fixed the "stovepipe kitchen" this morning and I am profoundly thankful to have the door close, tightly. I baked bread, pumpkin-pies and ginger-bread this morning beside all my out door work and waiting on my sick husband. At noon it began snowing and after dinner I began hauling in coal and cutting kindling to do until storm is over and it kept me out, most of the afternoon, but everything is in fine shape tonight, and I can watch the beautiful snow-storm, and enjoy it, Fred sits up a part of each day but is very weak.

Fri. 7 The day has been fine - not cold, but sort of "nippy" and glorious sunshine. I arose early and cleaned the walks to well and barn, of snow, and swept in front of barn, then did my barn-work and came back to take care of Fred and Mr. Henderson - a goodly neighbor - came and cleaned front Porch and walks and did the "pumping" for the house, which helped me fine - he came up this afternoon and played checkers with Fred.

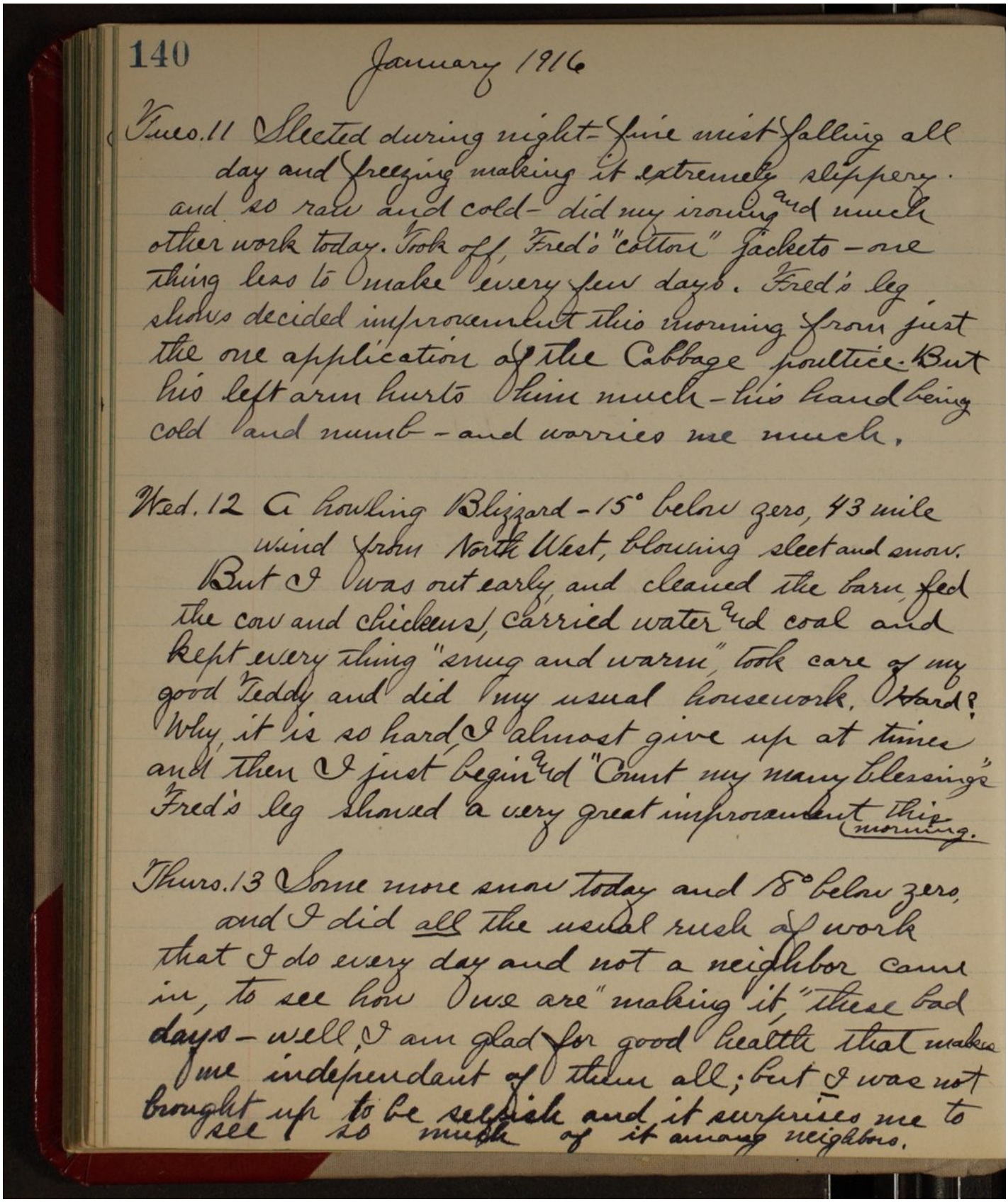
Sat. 8 Cold, raw N.E. wind - air filled with sort of Hoar frost - gloomy day. Mr. Staples made a very pleasant call on Fred this afternoon. He having at one time, the same trouble with varicose veins that Fred has - and Mr. Staples had operation and came to clear us.



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Sun. 9 Sloppy, drizzly, gloomy, day: very raw, South wind Mr. Jesse Henderson came up and stayed with Fred and let me go to Sunday School. Some, I don't know who, but someone, down at Sunday School has a mighty lot of nerve, for they have taken my Class-room and shoved us down stairs into the old, Barraca room. Did not consult either my boys or myself: just took the room and ordered us to go else where - it is a shame the way these boys of mine, are shoved around - we never know where our place is: discouraging very. This afternoon, Clarence Plummer, Merritt Rowell Ernest Shelden, Edwin Jones, Ronald McCord and Fred Brackett came out. Doctor called at noon. Also Mr. Frank Washburn.

Mon. 10 Cold, cloudy day, with N.E. wind - I commenced washing at 10 o'clock and was thro' soon after 12 o'clock and tho' the clothes froze some, on the line, the wind dried them in pretty good shape; so I could fold, for ironing Mrs. Colvin came over and spent the evening with us and gave me a new recipe for Fleobitus (milk leg) which Dr. Weston of Chicago gave her (and which cured her after having it for four years) and she helped me put it on Fred's. Put cabbage thro' a meat grinder, making it very fine and put on a cloth and bind on Varicose vein, with five yards of Bandaging, at bed-time: next morning take off and sponge limb with good rich buttermilk and bind on fresh Cabbage - use about ¼ cup of buttermilk - the milk may be used quite old

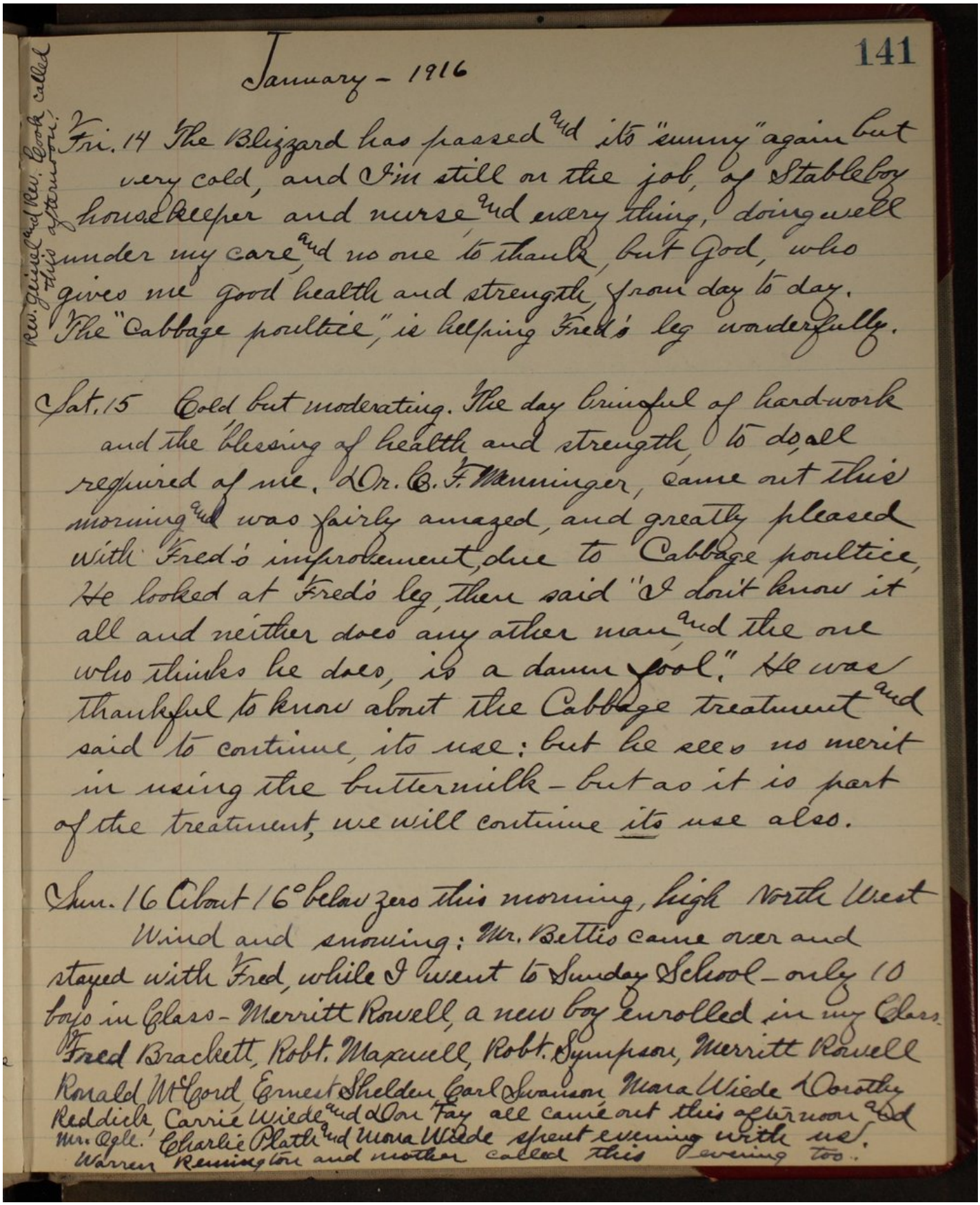


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Tues. 11 Sleeted during night - fine mist falling all day and freezing making it extremely slippery. and so raw and cold - did my ironing and much other work today. Took off Fred's "cotton" jackets - one thing less to make every few days. Fred's leg shows decided improvement this morning from just the one application of the Cabbage poultice. But his left arm hurts him much - his hand being cold and numb - and worries me much.

Wed. 12 A howling Blizzard - 15° below zero, 43 mile wind from North West, blowing sleet and snow. But I was out early and cleaned the barn, fed the cow and chickens, carried water and coal and kept every thing "snug and warm" took care of my good Teddy and did my usual housework. Hard? Why it is so hard I almost give up at times and then I just begin and "Count my many blessings" Fred's leg showed a very great improvement this morning.

Thurs. 13 Some more snow today and 8° below zero, and I did all the usual rush of work that I do every day and not a neighbor came in, to see how we are "making it" these bad days - well I am glad for good health that makes me independant of them all; but I was not brought up to be selfish and it surprises me to see so much of it among neighbors.



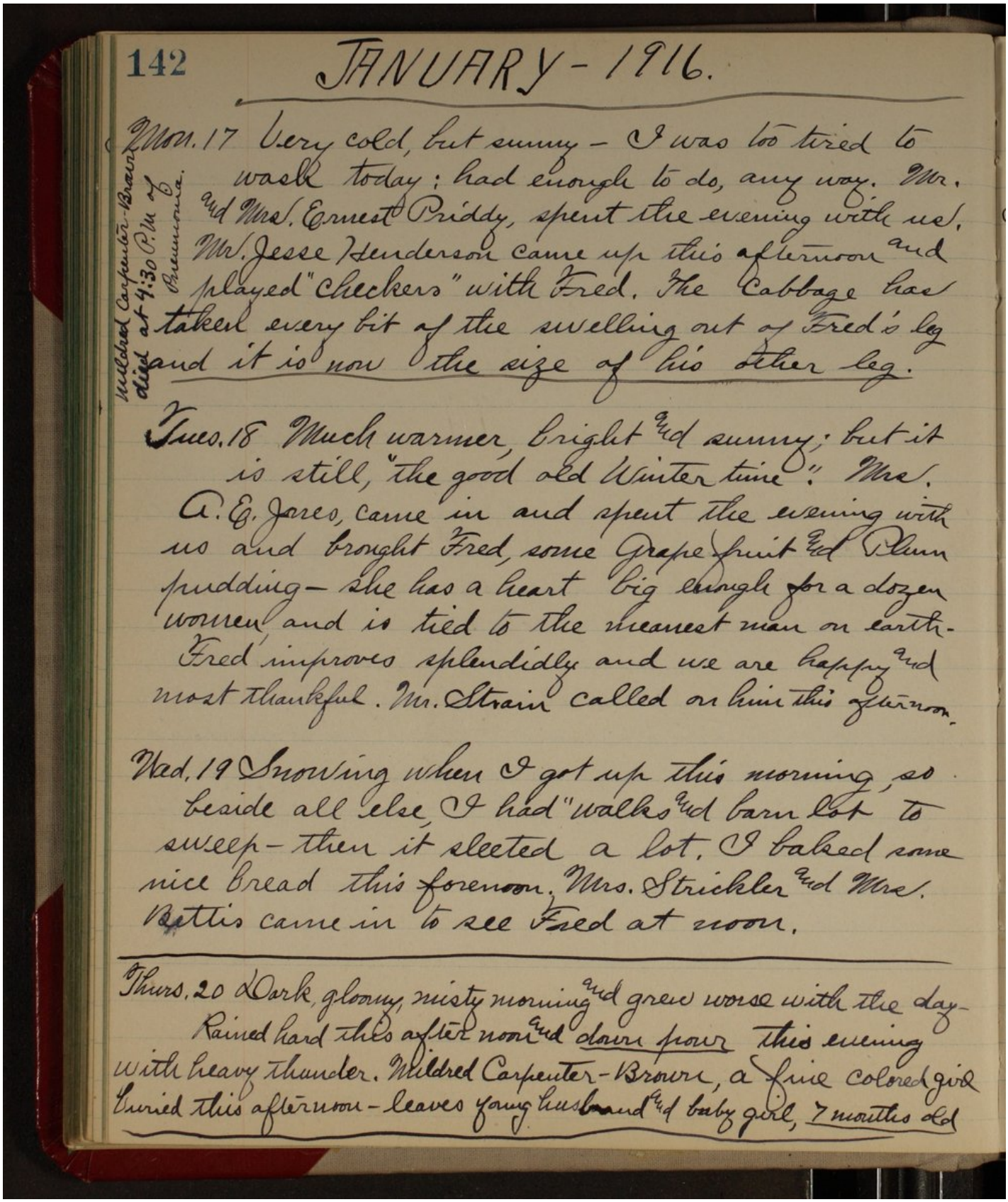
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Rev. Grist and Rev. Cook called this afternoon.

Fri. 14 The Blizzard has passed and its "sunny" again but very cold, and I'm still on the job, of Stableboy housekeeper and nurse and every thing, doing well under my care and no one to thank, but God, who gives me good health and strength, from day to day. The "Cabbage poultice," is helping Fred's leg wonderfully.

Sat. 15 Cold but moderating. The day brimful of hard-work and the blessing of health and strength to do all required of me. Dr. C. F. Manninger, came out this morning and was fairly amazed, and greatly pleased with Fred's improvement, due to Cabbage poultice, He looked at Fred's leg, then said "I don't know it all and neither does any other man, and the one who thinks he does, is a damn fool." He was thankful to know about the Cabbage treatment and said to continue its use: but he sees no merit in using the buttermilk - but as it is part of the treatment, we will continue its use also.

Sun. 16 About 16° below zero this morning, high North West Wind and snowing: Mr. Bettis came over and stayed with Fred, while I went to Sunday School - only 10 boys in Class - Merritt Rowell, a new boy enrolled in my Class. Fred Brackett, Robt. Maxwell, Robt. Sympson, Merritt Rowell Ronald W. Lord, Ernest Shelden, Carl Swanson, Mara Wiede, Dorothy Reddick, Carrie Wiede and Dan Fay all came out this afternoon and Mr. Ogle. Charlie Plath and Mara Wiede spent evening with us. Warren Remington and mother called this evening too.



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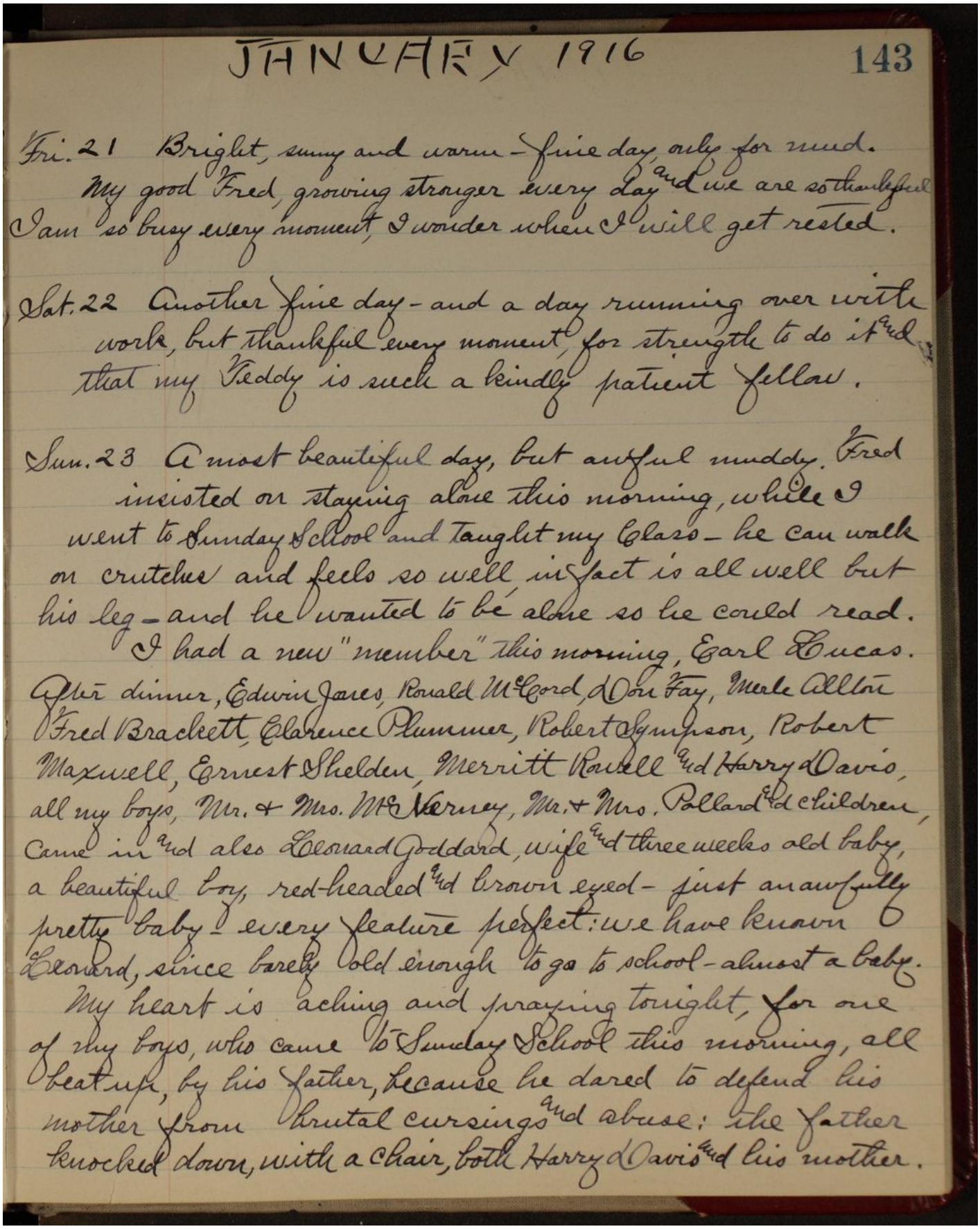
Mon. 17 Very cold, but sunny - I was too tired to walk today; had enough to do, any way. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Priddy, spent the evening with us. Mr. Jesse Henderson came up this afternoon and played "Checkers" with Fred. The Cabbage has taken every bit of the swelling out of Fred's leg and it is now the size of his other leg.

Mildred Carpenter-Brown died at 4:30 P.M. of Pneumonia.

Tues. 18 Much warmer, bright and sunny; but it is still, "the good old Winter time". Mrs. A. E. Jones, came in and spent the evening with us and brought Fred, some Grapefruit and Plum pudding - She has a heart big enough for a dozen women and is tied to the meanest man on earth. Fred improves splendidly and we are happy and most thankful. Mr. Strain called on him this afternoon.

Wed. 19 Snowing when I got up this morning, so beside all else, I had "walks and barn lot to sweep - then it sleeted a lot. I baked some nice bread this forenoon. Mrs. Strickler and Mrs. Bettis came in to see Fred at noon.

Thurs. 20 Dark, gloomy, misty morning and grew worse with the day. Rained hard this afternoon and down pour this evening with heavy thunder. Mildred Carpenter-Brown, a fine colored girl buried this afternoon - leaves young husband and baby girl, 7 months old



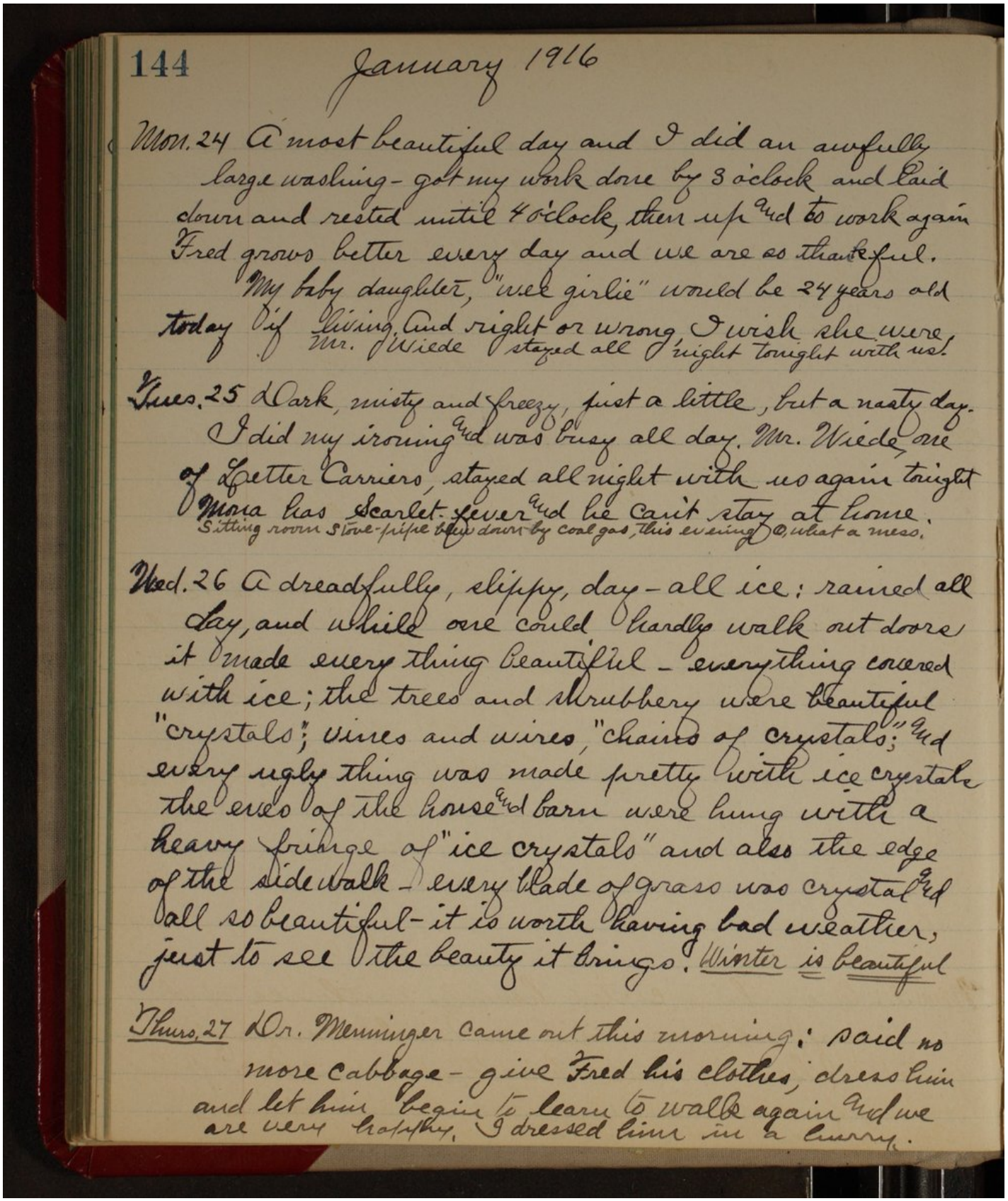
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Fri. 21 Bright, sunny and warm - fine day, only for mud. My good Fred, growing stronger every day and we are so thankful I am so busy every moment, I wonder when I will get rested.

Sat. 22 Another fine day - and a day running over with work, but thankful every moment, for strength to do it and that my Teddy is such a kindly patient fellow.

Sun. 23 A most beautiful day, but awful muddy. Fred insisted on staying alone this morning, while I went to Sunday School and taught my Class - he can walk on crutches and feels so well in fact is all well but his leg - and he wanted to be alone so he could read. I had a new "member" this morning, Earl Lucas. After dinner, Edwin Jones, Ronald McCord, Don Fay, Merle Allen Fred Brackett, Clarence Plummer, Robert Sympson, Robert Maxwell, Ernest Shelden, Merritt Rowell and Harry Davis, all my boys, Mr. & Mrs. McKinney, Mr. & Mrs. Pollard and children, came in and also Leonard Goddard, wife and three weeks old baby, a beautiful boy, red-headed and brown eyed - just an awfully pretty baby! every feature perfect: we have known Leonard, since barely old enough to go to school - almost a baby.

My heart is aching and praying tonight, for one of my boys, who came to Sunday School this morning, all beat up, by his father, because he dared to defend his mother from brutal cursings and abuse: the father knocked down, with a chair, both Harry Davis and his mother.



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Mon. 24 A most beautiful day and I did an awfully large washing - got my work done by 3 o'clock and laid down and rested until 4 o'clock, then up and to work again. Fred grows better every day and we are so thankful.
My baby daughter, "wee girlie" would be 24 years old today if living. And right or wrong, I wish she were.
Mr. Wiede stayed all night tonight with us.

Tues. 25 Dark, misty and freezy, just a little, but a nasty day. I did my ironing and was busy all day. Mr. Wiede one of Letter Carriers, stayed all night with us again tonight. Mona has Scarlet fever and he can't stay at home.
Sitting room stove-pipe blew down by coal gas, this evening. Oh, what a mess.

Wed. 26 A dreadfully, slippy, day - all ice; rained all day, and while one could hardly walk out doors it made every thing beautiful - everything covered with ice; the trees and shrubbery were beautiful "crystals"; vines and wires, "chains of crystals;" and every ugly thing was made pretty with ice crystals. the ends of the house and barn were hung with a heavy fringe of "ice crystals" and also the edge of the sidewalk - every blade of grass was crystaled and all so beautiful - it is worth having bad weather, just to see the beauty it brings. Winter is beautiful

Thurs. 27 Dr. Menninger came out this morning; said no more cabbage - give Fred his clothes, dress him and let him begin to learn to walk again and we are very thankful. I dressed him in a hurry.

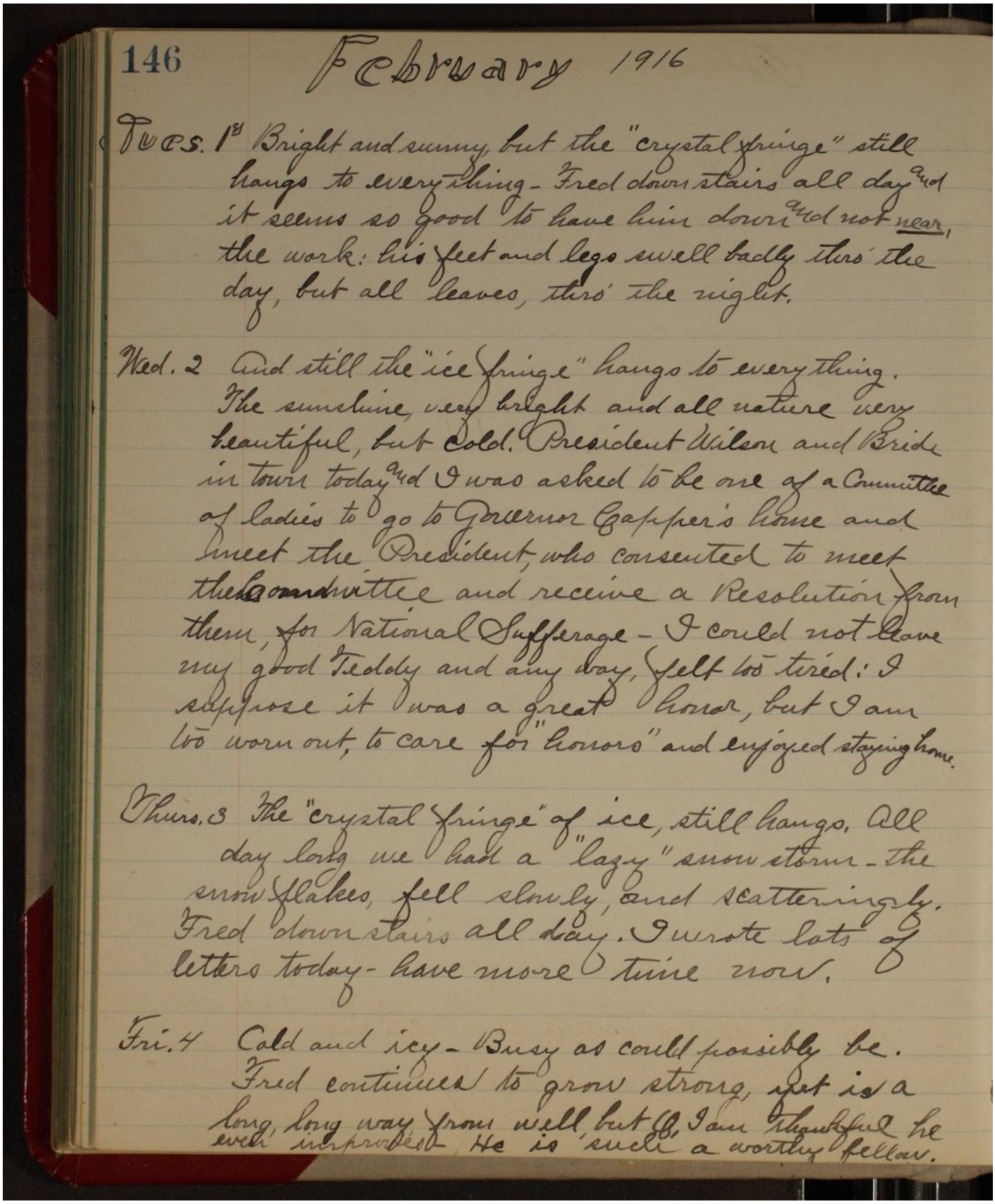
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Fri. 28 O it seems so good, to have Fred well enough to put his clothes on, and be rid of cabbage - it was ill-smelling stuff, but one can stand anything, for a "cure" and at least, it has done wonders for Fred. Cold, and everything covered with beautiful ice crystals - I'm glad I live in a land that has Winter as well as Summer.

Sat. 29 More than busy, all the time, but don't have to put cabbage on Fred's leg any more, and that cuts out, lots of work. Ice still hangs on.

Sun. 30 Some snow, and heavy sleet fell and still everything covered with beautiful ice crystals. I went to Sunday School this morning and Mr. Betts came over to sit with Fred. I only had five boys what a shame - Merle Allton, Ronald McCord, Clarence Plummer, Harry Davis and Ralph Davidson at Sun. School. This afternoon, Edwin Jones, Harry Davis, Ronald McCord, Charlie Plath, Don Fay, Robt. Sympson and Robt. Maxwell came out. Warren Remington and Ruth Hare came in and spent the evening with us. We so much enjoy young folks.

Mon. 31 Everything coated heavily with ice, and very cold so I did not wash and anyway I wanted to clear up house and bring Fred down stairs and I had him down for dinner - and I got him a dandy dinner. Apple pie Roast Chicken and graham biscuit.



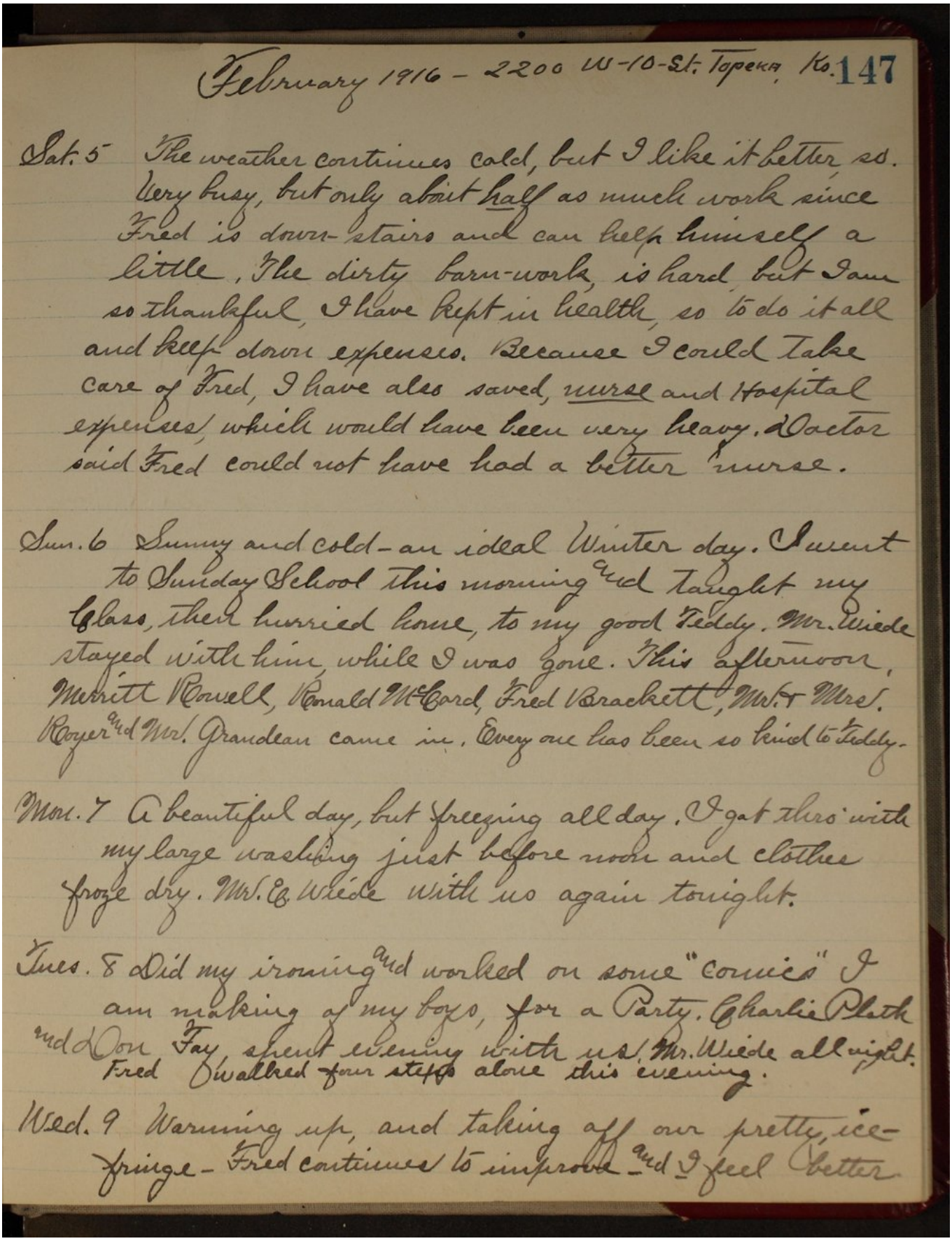
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Tues. 1st Bright and sunny, but the "crystal fringe" still hangs to everything - Fred down stairs all day and it seems so good to have him down and not near the work: his feet and legs swell badly thro' the day, but all leaves, thro' the night.

Wed. 2 And still the "ice fringe" hangs to everything. The sunshine, very bright and all nature very beautiful, but cold. President Wilson and Bride in town today and I was asked to be one of a Committee of ladies to go to Governor Capper's home and meet the President, who consented to meet the Committee and receive a Resolution from them, for National Suffferage - I could not leave my good Teddy and any day, felt too tired: I suppose it was a great honor, but I am too worn out, to care for "honors" and enjoyed staying home.

Thurs. 3 The "crystal fringe" of ice, still hangs. All day long we had a "lazy" snow storm - the snow flakes, fell slowly, and scatteringly. Fred down stairs all day. I wrote lots of letters today - have more time now.

Fri. 4 Cold and icy - Busy as could possibly be. Fred continues to grow strong, yet is a long, long way from well, but O, I am thankful he ever improved. He is such a worthy fellow.



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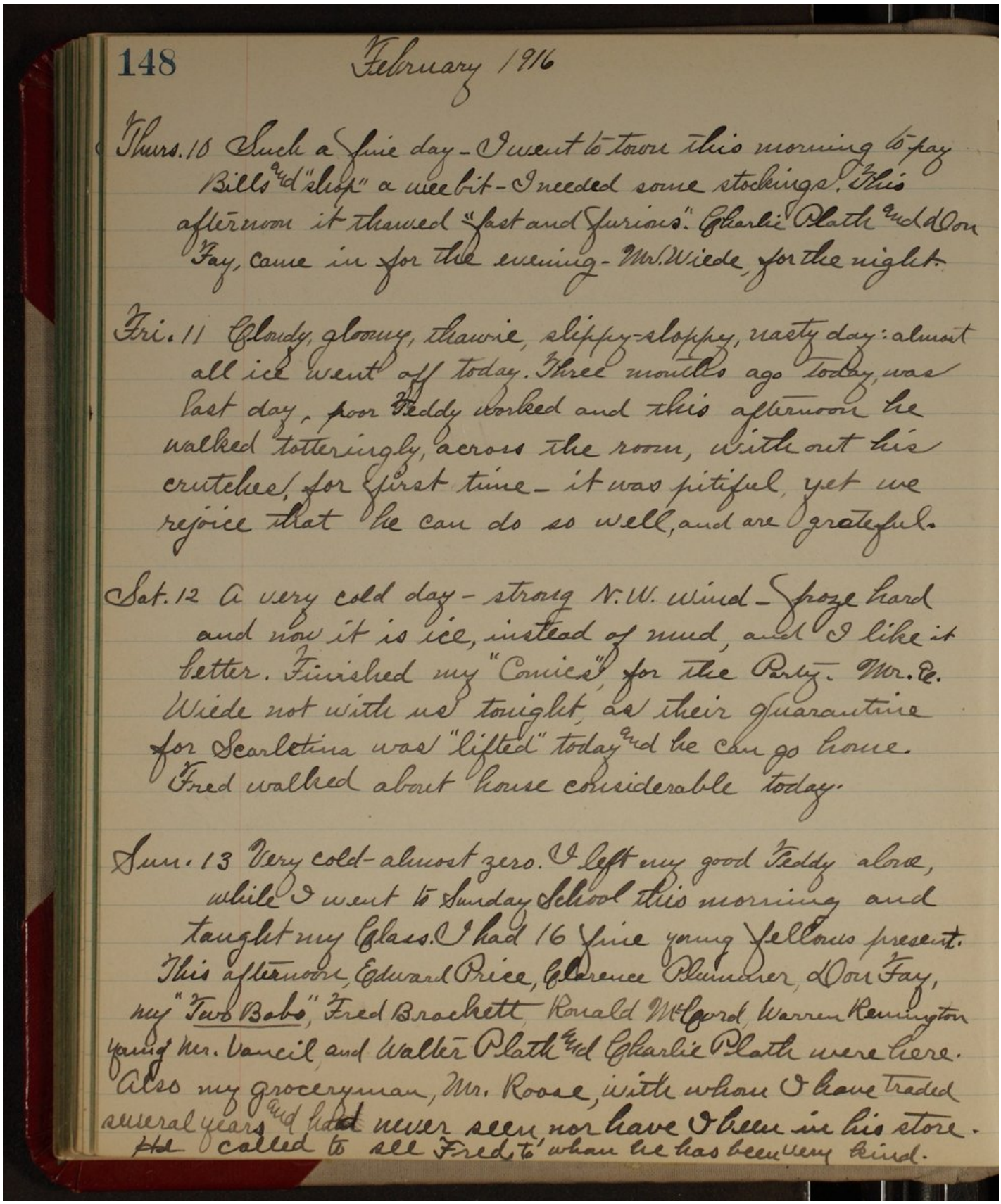
Sat. 5 The weather continues cold, but I like it better so. Very busy, but only about half as much work since Fred is down-stairs and can help himself a little. The dirty barn-work is hard, but I am so thankful, I have kept in health, so to do it all and keep down expenses. Because I could take care of Fred, I have also saved, nurse and Hospital expenses, which would have been very heavy. Doctor said Fred could not have had a better nurse.

Sun. 6 Sunny and cold – an ideal Winter day. I went to Sunday School this morning and taught my Class, then hurried home, to my good Teddy. Mr. Wiede stayed with him while I was gone. This afternoon, Merritt Powell, Ronald McCord, Fred Brackett, Mr. & Mrs. Royer and Mrs. Grandeau came in. Every one has been so kind to Teddy.

Mon. 7 A beautiful day, but freezing all day. I got thro' with my large washing just before noon and clothes froze dry. Mr. E. Wiede with us again tonight.

Tues. 8 Did my ironing and worked on some "comics" I am making of my boys, for a Party. Charlie Plath and Don Fay spent evening with us. Mr. Wiede all night. Fred walked four steps alone this evening.

Wed. 9 Warming up, and taking off our pretty, ice-fringe – Fred continues to improve – and I feel better



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Thurs. 10 Such a fine day - I went to town this morning to pay Bills and "shop" a wee bit - I needed some stockings. This afternoon it thawed "fast and furious". Charlie Plath and Don Fay, came in for the evening - Mr. Wiede for the night.

Fri. 11 Cloudy, gloomy, thawie, slippy-sloppy, nasty day: almost all ice went off today. Three months ago today was last day, poor Teddy worked and this afternoon he walked totteringly, across the room, without his crutches, for first time - it was pitiful, yet we rejoice that he can do so well, and are grateful.

Sat. 12 A very cold day - strong N.W. wind - froze hard and now it is ice, instead of mud, and I like it better. Finished my "Comics" for the Party. Mr. E. Wiede not with us tonight, as their quarantine for Scarletina was "lifted" today and he can go home. Fred walked about house considerable today.

Sun. 13 Very cold - almost zero. I left my good Teddy alone, while I went to Sunday School this morning and taught my Class. I had 16 fine young fellows present. This afternoon, Edward Price, Clarence Plummer, Don Fay, my "Two Babs", Fred Brackett, Ronald McCord, Warren Remington young Mr. Vancil, and Walter Plath and Charlie Plath were here. Also my groceryman, Mr. Roose, with whom I have traded several years and had never seen nor have I been in his store. He called to see Fred to whom he has been very kind.