

1 Ap. 23d '56 continued.  
2 where you go jumping from one to  
3 another-- The fans are now dotted with  
4 the minute reddish staminate flowers ready  
5 to open-- The skunk cabbage leaf  
6 has expanded in one open place there--so //  
7 it is at least as early as the hellebore of  
8 yesterday. Returning when near the  
9 Dove rock--saw a musquash crossing in  
10 front. He dived without noise in the middle  
11 of the river--& I saw by a bubble or two where  
12 he was crossing my course a few feet before  
13 my boat-- He came up quietly amid the  
14 alders on my right & lay still there with  
15 his head & back partly out, His back looked reddish  
16 brown with a black grain inmixed.

17 I think that that white root washed up since %{}%  
18 the ice broke up--with a stout stem flat on one side  
19 & narrow green or yellowish leaf bud rolled up from each  
20 side with a figure {drawing} in the middle is the  
21 yellow<sup>1</sup> lily--& prob I have seen no pontederia.

22 The white lily root is thickly clothed with  
23 a slate% blue ~~down~~ fur or felt close fitting--  
24 refracting prismatic colors under the micros-  
25 cope--but generally the slate color of the  
26 fur of most animals--& perhaps it is de-  
27 signed to serve a similar use--viz for warmth  
28 & dryness-- The end of the root is abruptly rounded  
29 & sends forth leaves--& along the sides of the  
30 root are attached oval bulb-like off shoots  
31 an<sup>2</sup> in or 2 inches long with very narrow necks--  
32 --ready apparently to be separated soon from

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<sup>1</sup>"yellow" written over "white"

<sup>2</sup>"an" reformed (possibly T wrote "w" to begin the word "with")

1 the parent stock  
2 Hear the yel-- red poll sing on the maples below  
3 Dove Rock--a peculiar though not very in-  
4 teresting strain or jingle--  
5 A very handsome little beetle--deep about 1/4 of  
6 an inch long--with pale golden wing cases artificially  
7 & handsomely marked with burnished dark green marks  
8 & spots, one side answering to the other. Front & be-  
9 neath burnished dark green--legs brown or cinnamon  
10 color-- It was on the side of my boat. Brought  
11 it home in a clam's shells tied up--a good insect  
12 box.

13 Columella says that the best land is not  
14 always black--& that the goodness of  
15 185 land is not to be known by its color--"For  
16 as the strongest cattle are of diverse<sup>3</sup> & almost  
17 innumerable colors--so also the most robust  
18 lands (robustissimae terrae) are of (sortitae<sup>4</sup> sunt)  
19 very many & various colors"--

20 Suggests various ways of testing the goodness of  
21 the soil--sprinkling a little water on a  
22 clod & kneading it with your hand, if it  
23 like pitch as Virgil says  
24 is glutinous, and sticks to your fingers ^ on  
25 the slightest touch--or thrown down does  
26 not crumble-- This proves that there is a  
27 natural juice & fatness in it.

28 Also like Virgil--says if you dig a trench--& wish  
29 to fill it up again & tread it down if, "cum  
30 aliquo quasi fermento abundaverit with a

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<sup>3</sup>final "e" in "diverse" cancelled

<sup>4</sup>HDT's spelling varies slightly from original here

1 certain ferment as it were it shall (overflow)  
2 & be more than enough-- certum erit esse eam  
3 pinguem, it will be a certain sign that  
4 that is fat--; if there shall not be enough,  
5 that it is lean; if it shall fill it up level  
6 (cum aequaverit) that it is middling."  
7 We may distinguish it thus by the taste  
8 186 Also ^ "si ex ca parte agri--if from  
9 that part of the land, quae maximae displi-  
10 cebit, which most displeases you--effosae  
11 glabae, clods being dug--et in fictili vase  
12 madefactae, & soaked in an earthen vase,  
13 dulci aqua permisceantur--  
14 ^ are thoroughly mixed with sweet water, ac  
15 more faeculenti vini diligenter colatae gustu  
16 explorentur, & being carefully strained like  
17 dreggy wine are are tried by tasting; fr nam  
18 qualem traditum abeis retulerit humor saporem--  
19 for whatever taste the liquor may have got  
20 derived from them, talem esse dicemus ejus soli--  
21 such we shall say is the taste<sup>5</sup> of that soil.<sup>6</sup>  
22 Sed citra hoc experimentum, but without this  
23 experiment there are many things--multa sunt  
24 quae et dulcem terram, et frumentis habilem  
25 indicate  
26 significant, which may show a sweet earth  
27 & fit for corn, ut juncus, ut calamus,  
28 ut gramen, ut trifolium, ebulum, rubi, pruni  
29 silvestres, as the rush, the reed<sup>7</sup>, grass, † clover  
30 (is trefoil) dwarf elder, brambles, wild plums<sup>8</sup>  
31 trees, et alia complura, and very many other  
32 things, quae etiam indagatoribus aquarum nota,

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<sup>5</sup>initial "t" uncrossed in "taste"

<sup>6</sup>cancelled close quote

<sup>7</sup>"reed" written over "read"

<sup>8</sup>"plum" written over "plums"

1     which are also known to searchers after water--,  
2     non nisi dulcibus terrae venis educantur, are  
3     not produced {but} by sweet veins of earth."

4             This too it would be well for the  
5     man who plows our garden to remember--  
6     We cultivate one field ~~to~~ solely for the sake  
7     of the trees--yet a good part of them  
8     were nearly ruined by a heedless plow man  
9     whom we will never have come near it again  
10    & last year a choice pear tree was  
11    sadly barked--by the whiffletree of a wild horse  
12    --My question is Can you plow without  
13    touching a tree-- Some plowers get  
14    a wild ox fairly under a low tree with  
15    his great horns well intertwined amid  
16    the branches as in a net & then whip  
17    him into a jig. I would rather have a  
18    short plower with a little more indolem  
19    "Boves cum ad arborem venerint, fortiter  
20    retinere ac retardere, when the oxen  
21    come to a tree he must strongly hold ~~them~~  
22    back & retard them, ne in radicem majore  
23    nisu nisu vomis impactus colla commo-  
24    veat--lest the plow-share being driven  
25    with too great force against a root  
26    give their necks a shock, neve aut cornu  
27    bos ad stipitem vehementius offendat, or  
28    an ox may strike his horn violently against  
29    the stock, aut extremo jugo truncum

1 delibet--or with the extremity of the yoke  
2 may touch (or as if it were delabret--may bark)  
3 the trunk, ramumque deplantet & break  
4 off a branch, ~~¶~~ Voce potius quam verberibus  
5 terrify  
6 terreat--Let him frighten them rather with  
7 his voice than his lashes--"  
8  
9 Plowmen oxen & horses are still the same.  
10 It is true Columella is looking out  
11 more for the oxen than the trees.  
12 This chapter--headed "Quae cura  
13 187  
14 adhibenda sit bubus ab opere disjunctis--  
15 What care is to be taken of the oxen when  
16 they are unyoked from work" reminds  
17 me of Hosmer's weary oxen--which did not  
18 receive such attention-- "Boves cum ab  
19 opere disjunxerit, When he (i.e. the plowman)  
20 or herdsman  
21 has unyoked the oxen, substrictos confricet,  
22 let him rub them down while girt, manibusque  
23 comprimat dorsam, and press the back  
24 with his hands, et pellem revellat, and pull  
25 up the skin, nec patiatu corpori adhaerere,  
26 not<sup>9</sup> let it adhere to the body, quia id  
27 genus morbi maxime est armentis noxiam  
28 for that kind of disease is most hurtful  
29 to oxen. Colla subigat, let him rub their  
30 necks, merumque faucibus, si aestaverint,  
31 infundat, & pour wine down their throats<sup>10</sup>  
32 if they shall have been very hot. Satis autem  
33 est singulis binos sextarios praebere. But  
34 it is enough to give each 2 sextarii [i.e.

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<sup>9</sup>"not" poss written over "nor"

<sup>10</sup>"throats" written over "through"

1 a little more than 2 wine pints] Sed ante ad  
2 praesepia boves ~~relegri~~ religari non expedit,--  
3 quam sudare atque anhelare desierint,  
4 but it is not expedient that the oxen be tied  
5 up to their stalls, till they have left off sweating  
6 & panting; cum deinde tempestive potuerint vesci,  
7 when afterward they can be fed seasonably, non  
8 multum, nec universum cibum, sed partibus, et  
9 paulatim praebere con<sup>ve</sup>nit, it is not proper  
10 to give them much or the whole of their food, but  
11 part at a time & by degrees. Quem cum absump-  
12 serint, when they have consumed this, ad aquam  
13 duci oportet, ~~they ought~~ it is proper that they be led  
14 to water, sibiloque allectari, quo libentius bibant;  
15 and allured by whistling that they may drink more  
16 freely; tum demum reductos largiori pabulo  
17 satiari, then at length being led back be  
18 satisfied with a larger allowance of fodder."

20 Apr 24 '56

21 A rain threatening April day--sprinkles  
22 a little in the forenoon  
23 P. m-- to May-flower--  
24 The yellow willow peels fairly--prob. for  
25 // several days-- Its buds are bursting & showing  
26 a little green--at end of RR bridge. On  
27 money-digger's shore much large yellow<sup>11</sup>  
28 lily root washed--up--that white root  
29 with white fibres & yellowish leaf buds--

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<sup>11</sup>"yellow" written over "white"

1 I doubt if I have seen any pontederia this ?  
2 year-- I find on the SE side of Lupine  
3 Hill nearly 4 rods from the water--&  
4 a dozen feet above its level--a young  
5 Emys picta 1 5/8 inches long & 1 1/2 wide-- //  
6 I think it must have been hatched year  
7 before last-- It was headed up hill. Its  
8 rear above was already covered with some  
9 kind of green moss? or ~~comp~~ the like, which probably  
10 had adhered or grown to it in its winter quarters.  
11  
12 Warren Miles at his new mill tells me  
13 that he found a mud turtle--of middling //  
14 size in his brook there last Monday--or the 21st  
15 I saw--a wood tortoise there. He has //  
16 the young man says & eels--about the shore of the pond which had ap. died in the  
17 winter--  
18 noticed several dead trout ^ washed up  
19 about his mill--some that would weigh  
20 a pound--and thought that they had been  
21 killed by that strong scented stagnant water--  
22 of his pond--. They could not get down--also in the Spring  
23 ^ The cant get above his mill now-- Apparently  
24 ~~they were trying to get up the brook as usual~~  
25 ~~and were stifled by that {green-washy} water.~~  
26 He says that at his mill near the factory  
27 where he used a small under shot wheel  
28 18 inches in diameter for grinding lead  
29 he was prevented from grinding at night  
30 by the eels stopping the wheel-- It was in  
31 August<sup>12</sup> & they were going down stream.  
32 They never ran till about dark--nor  
33 after day light--but at that season

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<sup>12</sup>"A" written over "a"

1                   under  
2 one would get ~~into~~ the wheel every five  
3 minutes & stop it--& it had to be taken  
4 out. There was not width enough beneath  
5 a small under shot one--i.e. between the wheel & the apron  
6 the wheel ^ to allow an eel of ordinary  
7 size to pass--& they were washed in side  
8 wize so as to shut this space up com-  
9 pletely. They were never troubled by them  
10 when going up, which he thought was  
11 in April. At the factory they can some  
12 times catch a bushel in a night at  
13 the same time in the box of wire in  
14 which they wash wool. Said that they  
15 had a wheel at the Paper mills above  
16 which killed every eel that tried to go through.

17               A Garfield (I judge from his face)  
18 confirmed the story of shell drakes killed  
19 in an open place in the river between the  
20 factory & Harrington's just after the first  
21 great snow storm (which must have been  
22 early in January) when the river was  
23 all frozen else where-- There were three  
24 & they persisted in staying & fishing there--  
25 He killed one.

27 //           The Epigaea on the upper edge of the  
28 bank--shows a good deal of the pink  
29 and may open in 2 or 3 days if it is  
30 //pleasant. Equisetum arvense by path  
31 beyond 2d brook prob yesterday XX As usual  
32 am struck with the forwardness of

1 patch of  
2 the dark ^slender rush at the cowslip place.  
3 Returning in the low wood just this side  
4 the 1st 2d Div Brook<sup>13</sup>--near the meadow--see  
5 a brown bird flit--& behold my hermit- //  
6 thrush--with one companion flitting silently  
7 through the birches-- I saw the fox-color on  
8 his tail coverts--as well as the brown streaks  
9 on the breast-- Both kept up a constant  
10 jerking of the tail as they sat on their perches.

11 This season of rain and superabundant moisture  
12 makes attractive many an unsightly hollow  
13 & recess-- I see some road-side lakes where  
14 & clover  
15 the grass ^ had already sprung owing to  
16 previous rain or melted snow--now filled  
17 with perfectly transparent april rain  
18 water--through which I see to their  
19 emerald bottoms--paved with emeral.

20 In the pasture beyond nut meadow  
21 brook crossing the unsightly holes where  
22 rocks have been dug & blasted out--  
23 %are% &<sup>14</sup> now converted into perfect jewels--  
24 They are filled with water of crystalline  
25 transparency--paved with the same emerald  
26 with a few hardhacks & meadow sweets  
27 & jagged points of rock--  
28 standing in them ^ & a few skaters gliding  
29 over them. Even these furnish goblets  
30 & vases of perfect purity to hold the  
31 dews & rains--& what more agreeable  
32 bottom can we look to than--than  
33 this which the earliest moisture & sun had

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<sup>13</sup>"B" written over "b"

<sup>14</sup>"&" cancelled in pencil

1 tinged green. We do not object to see  
2 dry leaves & withered grass at the  
3 bottom of the goblet when we drink,  
4 if these manifestly do not affect  
5 the purity of the water. What wells can  
6 be more charming-- If I see an early grass-  
7 hopper drowning in one--it looks like  
8 a fate to be envied. Here is no dark un-  
9 explored bottom with its imagined monsters &  
10 mud--but perfect sincerity setting off all  
11 that it reveals. Through this medium  
12 we admire even the decaying leaves & sticks  
13 at the bottom-- The brook had risen so  
14 <sup>15</sup>owing to Miles' running his mill--that  
15 I could not get over where I did going.  
16 April wells call them--vases clean as  
17 if enamelled--

18         There is a slight sea turn--I saw  
19 it like a smoke beyond Concord from  
20 Brown's highland & felt the cool fresh  
21 east wind-- Is it not common this  
22 early?

23         The old caterpillar nests which now lie on  
24 the ground under wild cherry trees & which  
25 the birds may use are a quite light colored  
26 cotoney web close & thick matted--together  
27 with the dried excrement of caterpillars & c on  
28 the inside--

29         See a dog's bane with<sup>16</sup> 2 pods open  
30 & partially curved backward on each side

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<sup>15</sup>horizontal lines in margin framing this and the following lines poss.  
indicate transposition

<sup>16</sup>"w" written over "&" or "2"

1 but a third not yet open-- This soon  
2 opens & scatters its down & seeds in  
3 closed<sup>17</sup>  
4 my chamber-- {drawing}  
5  
6 The outside is a dull {drawing} reddish  
7 or mahogany color but<sup>18</sup> the in  
8 side is a singularly polished very pale brown  
9 The inner bark of this makes a strong twine  
10 like that of the milkweed but there is not  
11 so much of it.

12 What is that now ancient & decayed--fungus  
13 by the 1st May flowers--trumpet shaped with  
14 a very broad mouth--the chief inner part green  
15 the outer dark brown {drawing} {drawing}

16 Our earliest gooseberry leaf has spread //  
17 1/3 of an inch or more--

18 Goodwin shot about 6 Pm & brought to  
19 me a Cinereous coot Fulica Americana //  
20 which was flying over the willows at Willow  
21 bay--where the water now runs up--

22 It measures 14 inches to end of tail  
23 18 1/2 " " " legs  
24 Tail projects 1/2 inch beyond closed wings  
25 Alar extent 26 inches.<sup>19</sup>

26 Above it is a bluish slate passing into olive  
27 behing the wings--the primaries more brownish.

28 Beneath ash color or pale slate.

29 Head & neck uniform deep black.

30 clear

31 Legs ^ green in front passing into lead

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<sup>17</sup>"closed" is caption for drawing below

<sup>18</sup>"but" written over "with"

<sup>19</sup>"These dimensions are somewhat stretched" written vertically along right margin

1 color behind & on the lobes.  
2 Edging of wings white--also the tips of the  
3 2nd aries for 1/4 of an inch--& a small space  
4 under the tail--  
5 Wings beneath very light almost silvery slate.  
6 Vent for a small space black.  
7 Bill bluish white--with a chestnut bar near tip--  
8 and corresponding chestnut spot on each side of lower  
9 mandible--& a some what diamond shaped chest-  
10 nut spot at base in front-- No noticeable yellow  
11 on bill.  
12 Irides reddish. No noticeable whitish spot beneath eyes--  
13 only bare lid.  
14 Legs & feet are very neat-- {Talons} very slender  
15 curving & sharp--the middle ones 1/2 inch + long.  
16 Lobes chiefly on the inner side of the toes  
17 Legs bare half an inch above the joint.  
18 From its fresh & tender look I judge  
19 it to be a last year's bird.  
20 It is quite lousy.  
21 Ac. to Nuttall--They range from 55° N Lat  
22 to Florida & Jamaica--& west to Oregon (?)  
23 & Mexico. Prob. breed in every part of N.A.  
24 {even} in Fresh Pond--he would imply--but  
25 their nests--eggs--& breeding habits are yet  
26 unknown-- Nocturnal--hiding by day. In  
27 Florida in the winter. Come to Fresh Pond  
28 in Sep-- A pair there in April & seen with  
29 young birds in June. When alarmed utter  
30 a "hoarse kruk" Called Flusterers in  
31 Carolina ac to Lawson--because they fly  
32 trailing their legs or pattering with them

1 over the water-- Food vegetables--also small  
2 shell fish--insects, gravel &c Leave the N  
3 states in November.

4 Ap. 25 '56

5 Minot tells me of David Wheeler of<sup>20</sup> the  
6 Virginia Road--who used to keep an ac  
7 count of the comings & goings &c of ani-  
8 mals. He was one of the few who knew  
9 to set a trap for a fox--so that he  
10 would get into it--scented it in a pe-  
11 culiar way perhaps-- Brought one home  
12 once on his shoulder feigning death--which  
13 came to life suddenly in his entry & ran off  
14 with the trap.

15 Minot says that he could hardly raise  
16 cucumbers in his garden by the brook--  
17 The tortoises (painted I judge from his description)  
18 used to eat them so both small & large--  
19 eating out the insides of the last-- He some-  
20 times found 3 or 4 there at once & they  
21 lay all day hid amid the vines.

22 Saw wasps about his door-yard. //

23 Pm. to Hill by boat

24 Sweet gale is out in some parts of the Island<sup>21</sup>  
25 <sup>several</sup>  
26 birch meadow--next the Ind. field--prob. ~~2 or 3~~ //  
27 at least  
28 days ^ in some places-- Larch not yet sheds pollen ?

29 The toads have begun fairly to ring at noon- //  
30 day in earnest-- I rest awhile on my oars  
31 in this meadow amid the birches to hear them--

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<sup>20</sup>"of" written over "a"

<sup>21</sup>"I" written over "i"

1 The Wind is pretty strong & easterly-- There are  
2 many probably squatted about the edge  
3 of the falling water--in merrick's pasture--  
4 //(The river began to fall again I think day before yesterday.)  
5 It is a low terrene sound--the undertone of  
6 indefinitely far  
7 the breeze. Now it sounds low & ^ ~~farther~~ away,  
8 now rises as if by general consent to a  
9 as if in another & nearer quarter,--a singular alternation.  
10 higher key, ^ The now universal hard metallic  
11 {ring} of toads--blended & partially drowned by  
12 the rippling wind-- The voice of the toad, the  
13 herald of warmer weather.  
14 The cinquefoil well out I see 2 or 3 on the  
15 //  
16 Hemlock dry plain--prob. a day or 2. I observe  
17 A male grackle with a brownish head--& the  
18 small female on one tree--red-wings on  
19 another. Return over the top of the hill  
20 against the-- The great meadows now at  
21 3 1/2 Pm--agitated by the strong Easterly  
22 wind this clear day--when I look against  
23 the wind with the sun behind me--look particularly  
24 dark blue.  
25 // Aspen bark peels how long? I landed  
26 on Merricks pasture near the rock--& when  
27 & drew it up  
28 //I stepped out of my boat ^ a snipe flew up &  
29 lit again 7 or 8 rods off-- After trying in vain  
30 several minutes  
31 for ~~some time~~ to see it on the ground there--  
32 I ~~drew up my boat~~ & I advanced a step &  
33 to my surprise scared up 2 more which had  
34 squatted on the bare meadow all the

1 while within a rod--while I drew up  
2 my boat--& made a good deal of noise.  
3 In short I raised up 12 one or 2 at a  
4 time within a few rods, which were feeding //  
5 edge of the  
6 on the ^ meadow just laid bare, each rising  
7 with a sound like squeak squeak hoarsely  
8 That part of the meadow seemed all alive with them.  
9 ^It is almost impossible to see one on the meadow  
10 they squat & run so low--& are so completely the  
11 color of the ground. They rise from within a rod  
12 fly half a dozen rods & then drop down on the bare  
13 open meadow before your eyes--where there seems  
14 stubble  
15 not grass enough to conceal and are at once  
16 lost as completely as if they had sunk into the  
17 earth-- I observed that some when finally scared  
18 rising quite  
19 from this island flew off ^ quite high one a few  
20 rods behind the other in their peculiar zigzag  
21 manner--rambling about high over the meadow  
22 making it uncertain where they would settle--  
23 lost sight of one &  
24 till at length I ^ saw the other<sup>22</sup> drop down almost  
25 perpendicularly into the meadow--as it appeared--  
26 5 Pm-- Went to see Tommy Wheeler's  
27 bounds-- Warren miles {had} caught  
28 3 more snapping turtles since yesterday-- //  
29 at his {mile} one middling sized one & 2  
30 smaller-- He said they could come down  
31 through his mill without hurt-- Were they  
32 all bound down the brook to the river?  
33 They all came down from the pond through the mill & another one  
34 I brought home one of the small ones--  
35 the 7th of May<sup>23</sup> q.v.  
36 It was 7 1/8 inches long-- -- Put it in a firkin

---

<sup>22</sup>"the other" written over "them"

<sup>23</sup>"May" written over "may"

1 for the night--but it got out without  
2 upsetting it-- It had 4 points on each  
3 side behind--and when I put it in the  
4 river I noticed half a dozen points or projections  
5 on as many of its rear plates--in keeping  
6 with the crest of its tail. It buried itself  
7 in the grassy bottom within a few feet of  
8 the shore-- Moves off very flat on the  
9 bottom. These turtles have been dis{-}  
10 turbed or revealed by his operations.

11 Anne Karney our neighbor looking over  
12 her garden yesterday with my father saw  
13 which the Irish wear on their caps on St Patrick's day  
14 what she said was Shamrock--^the 1st she  
15 had ever seen in this country-- My father  
16 in his own garden  
17 pointed it out ^ to the Irishman who was working  
18 for him--& he was glad to see it for he had  
19 had a dispute with another Irish-man as to  
20 whether it grew in this country--& now he could  
21 convince him--& he put it in his pocket.

22 I saw it afterward--& pronounced it common  
23 white clover--& looking into Webster's dictionary  
24 I read--und. Shamrock-- "The Irish name for  
25 a three-leafed plant, the Oxalis<sup>24</sup> Acetosella, or com-  
26 mon wood-Sorrel. It has been often supposed to be the  
27 Trifolium repens, white trefoil or white clover." This  
28 was very satisfactory--though perhaps Webster's  
29 last sentence should have been--the Trifolium<sup>25</sup>  
30 repens has often been mistaken for it.┘<sup>26</sup>

31 // At evening see a spearer's light.

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<sup>24</sup>"O" written over "o"

<sup>25</sup>"T" written over "t"

<sup>26</sup> canceled close single quote

2 Worm piles about the doorstep this morning-- //  
3 how long?

4 Columella says p 190--De generibus semi-  
5 num.-- Prima et utilissima sunt hom-  
6 inibus frumenta, triticum, & semen adorem--  
7 The first & most useful corns for men are  
8 --the Trans says--"Common<sup>27</sup> bare wheat--&  
9 bearded wheat"--

10 & in De generibus leguminum-- Leguminum  
11 genera cum sint complura, maxime grata et in  
12 usu hominum videntur, faba, lenticula, pisum,  
13 phasellus, cicer, cannabis, milium, panicum, sesa-  
14 ma, lupinum, linum etiam, & ordeum, quia ex eo  
15 ptisana est. Item pabulorum optima sunt medica,  
16 & foenum Graecum, nec minus vicia. Proxima deinde  
17 cicera, & ervum, & farrago, quae est ex ordeo."

18 Which the Eng. trans later writes--"As there  
19 are very many sorts of pulse or legumes, the  
20 most acceptable & those which we see men  
21 make most use of, are beans, lentils, pease,  
22 kidney-beans, tares, hemp-seed, millet, panic,  
23 sesam, lupins, linseed also, and barley, because  
24 ptisan is made of it. Also the best fodder for  
25 cattle are clover-grass, faenugreek, & vetches.  
26 Then next to these are chicklings & bitter vetches,  
27 and forrage which is of barley."

28 In a note he adds at length "But farrago [  
29 which he thinks is from far--& so called because that  
30 was the principal ingredient] properly sig-

---

<sup>27</sup>"C" written over "c"

1 nifies a mixture of wheat, barley, and such  
2 sorts of corn as bear ears, and not pods.  
3 Both Columella & Pliny say, it may be made  
4 of green barley alone. The word, which origi-  
5 nally signified a mixture of several sorts,  
6 was afterwards used to express one sort;  
7 viz, farrago ex hordeo, forrage of green  
8 barley. Probably from this word comes the  
9 French word fourage, & the English word forrage."

10 Columella afterwards adds to the fodder  
11 on p 199 avenam oats--& cytisus--(trans.  
12 shrub-clover) & praises medica very much because  
13 once sown it lasts 10 years--& one jugerum of it  
14 is abundant for 3 horses a year-- It was  
15 sown in beds 10 ft wide & 50 long so that it  
16 might be supplied with water by foot paths, & that  
17 the weeders might get at it from both sides.

18 The trans in a note there on medica says--  
19 "Father Hadouin says, it is now called great  
20 trefoil, or Burgundy hay, or luzern, more com-  
21 monly saintfoin. Pliny calls it a foreign bush from  
22 Greece, & says that it was brought thither  
23 by the Medes<sup>28</sup>.--" & P. says that from once sowing  
24 it will last 30 years.

25 Columella p 193 says that in sowing corn  
26 "some cover the seed-basket with the skin of  
27 a hyaena--& so sow from that when the  
28 seed has remained in it a little while, not  
29 doubting but that will come up which is  
30 thus sown--

---

<sup>28</sup>"M" poss written over "m"

1           The translator--calls--phaseolus kidney bean  
2     & says that Matthiolus describes several  
3     kinds of them--of various colors & that he  
4     says "that the grains of the white are less  
5     than the others, & are sown in the fields as  
6     other pulse;" others in gardens & climb  
7     upon cottages &c Pisum says trans from  
8     Pisa ac to Matthiolus because many grew there.

9           p 198 he says Ab his leguminibus--After<sup>29</sup>  
10    these kinds of pulse--(i.e. ones above named) ratio  
11    est habenda naporum raporumque--account  
12    is to be ~~made~~ made of 'navews & turneps'; [says trans]  
13    nam utraque rusticos implent"--for both  
14    fill the bellies of rustics." Says the napus &  
15    rapum change into one another in some soils--

16           Used less seed for the rapum--more for the napus  
17    because the last "non in ventrem latescunt, sed  
18    tenuem radicem deorsum agunt--"

19           To sarcle, ac to the trans. meant not to weed  
20    but to open the surface of the earth--hardened by the  
21    winter--& let in the sun & says that Pliny  
22    calls this hardened state of the earth solis  
23    tristitia--the sadness of the earth or soil--"as  
24    if by the colds (says the trans.) the earth was made  
25    sad & depressed." Wheat barley &c were  
26    sarclied--beans & other pulse when 4 inches high  
27    v p. 202--& beans 3 times (Sarriendam the word this time--  
28    which means the same.

29           p 204 C. directs to spend the last 3 months & 25 days  
30    of the year "aut in satione trimestrium, aut in vecturis  
31    foeni, et pabulorum, & stercoreum, aliorumque utensilium--

---

<sup>29</sup>"A" written over "a"

1 either in sowing trimestrian seed (which the trans  
2 calls a kind of wheat sown in the spring which comes  
3 to perfection in 3 months) or in carting hay &  
4 fodder & dung, and other things we have occasion<sup>30</sup> to use.

5 205--3 kinds of dung--that of fowls, men, &  
6 cattle--of fowls that of pigeons the best.

7 The dung of cattle holds the 3d place--& of this that  
8 of the ass is the best, that of swine the worst--deterri-  
9 mum. They were to scatter the dust of fowl-  
10 dung by hand as if sowing--over the corn crop--  
11 So guano is nothing new  
12 before ~~hoe~~ sarcling it. ^ Lupins were plowed in  
13  
14 to enrich the land.

15 208 Of the pratium he says that the antient Romans--  
16 Nomen quoque indiderunt ab eo, quod protinus esset  
17 paratum, nec magnum laborem desideraret.--&  
18 C says that Cato recommended the pratium  
19 Quod nec tempestatibus affligeretur ~~affligeretur~~,  
20 ut aliae partes ruris--because it did not  
21 suffer from stormy weather like the other parts  
22 of the farm--& also afforded both pasturage  
23 & hay. There were 2 kinds of pratium  
24 wet & dry.

25 gathered the 23d  
26 // The white cedar ^ does not shed pollen in house till today  
27 & I doubt if it will in swamp before to-morrow--v. 29th  
28 day after  
29 // Monroes larch will apparently by ^ to-morrow XX

30 The white birch at Clam shell--which I tapped  
31 //  
32 long ago still runs--& is partly covered with a  
33 pink froth-- Is not this the only {birch} which  
34 shows the colored froth--as its sap is the  
35 most tinged & most inclined to ferment--

---

<sup>30</sup>"o" written over "a"

1 --a sort of mother which is left on the  
2 bark--& in the hole--

3           Looked over hastily the 1st 200 lines of Lu-  
4 cretius--but was struck only with the lines  
5 referring to Promethius--whose vivida vis  
6 anima-- -- -- "extra  
7 Processit<sup>31</sup> longe flammantia moenia mundi"

8           Speaking of laying down a pratam to  
9 grass--Columella says--that finally the 3d  
10 year--(after cultivating other crops--there) have carefully  
11 plowed it--& got out all the weeds--brambles--bushes

12 209 &c-- Deinde viciam permistam seminibus  
13 foeni seremus, tum glebas sarculis resolvemus, et  
14 inducta crate coaequabimus, grumosque, quos  
15 ad versuram plerunque tractae faciunt crates,  
16 dissipabimus ita, ut necubi ferramentum  
17 foenisecae possit offendere. --{Afterwards} we  
18 will sow vetch mixed with the grass seed,  
19 then break up the clods with hoes, and  
20 level with a (bush?) harrow, & dissipate  
21 the hillocks which for the most part the  
22 harrows make at the turning so that  
23 the scythe of the mower may no where  
24 strike any thing.<sup>32</sup> -- -- --

25           When the vetch is thoroughly ripe so as to have  
26 scattered some of its seeds--tum foeniseecam  
27 messorum oportet<sup>33</sup> inducere, et desectam herbam  
28 religare, et exportare--then we must  
29 bring on the the mower, & bind up the cut  
30 grass & carry it off.

---

<sup>31</sup>"p" written over "p"

<sup>32</sup> canceled close quote

<sup>33</sup>"oportet": second "p" cancelled

1 The 2d year he let smaller cattle (minora  
2 pecora) into the pratu after haying if  
3 it was dry & hard enough--& the 3d year the  
4 larger cattle.

5 Here is an account of haymaking agreeable  
6 to Minot's modes

7 210 Foenum autem demetitur optime antequam  
8 inarescat; nam et largius percipitur, et jucun-  
9 diorem cibum pecudibus praebet. Est autem  
10 modus in siccando, ut neque peraridum, neque  
11 rursus viride colligatur: alterum, quod omnem  
12 succum si amisit, stramenti vicem obtinet:  
13 alterum quod si nimium retinuerit, in tabulato  
14 putrescit: ac saepe cum concaluit, ignem creat  
15 et incendium-- But hay is best cut  
16 before it withers, for both a larger crop is  
17 obtained, & it affords a more agreeable  
18 food to the cattle. But there is a measure  
19 (a rule to be observed) in drying it, that  
20 it be not collected very dry, nor yet green;  
21 for in this case, if it has lost all its juice--,  
22 it is only good for litter, (?)--in the  
23 other case, if it has retained too much  
24 juice, it rots on the scaffold; and often  
25 when it has become hot--, it creates fire  
26 & a conflagration.

27 If it cannot be put into barns or bundled  
28 up--at least--in metas extrui con-  
29 veniet, easque ipsas in angustissimos vertices

1 exacui-- it should be stacked up in hay-  
2 cocks (cones), & they should be sharpened off  
3 to the narrowest points. As on the Sud-  
4 bury Meadows--

5 In reaping corn they used various kinds of scythes  
6 or sickles--& perhaps, ac to the translator, the falx  
7 versiculatae (or vericulatae ?) was the cradle used  
8 in his day in Kent<sup>34</sup>! --The merga was  
9 an instrument for reaping "which no doubt  
10 took its name, as Festus says, from fowls which  
11 dive into the water, and rise up again in  
12 a different; for, as these dive in pursuit  
13 of the fish, so the reapers plunge this  
14 small forked instrument into the corn,  
15 that they may lift up handfuls of it--" Trans'  
16 note.

17 Another instrument was the pecten  
18 by which they cut or combed out the ears only.

19 212 Among the things lawful to  
20 do on holidays-- Feriis autem ritus majorum etiam  
21 illa permittit, far pinsere, faces incidere, candelas  
22 sebare, vineam conductam colere; piscinas, lacus, fossas  
23 veteres tergere, et purgare, prata sicilire, stercora  
24 aequare, foenum in tabulata componere, fuctus  
25 oliveti conductos cogere, mala, pyra, ficos, pandere,  
26 caseum facere, arbores serendi causa, collo  
27 afferre  
28 vel mulo clitellario afferret,<sup>35</sup> sed junco advehere  
29 non permittitur, nec apportata serere, neque  
30 terram aperire, neque arberem collucare; sed  
31 ne sementem quidem administrare, nisi prius  
32 catulo ~~facere~~ &c feceris;--&c &c

---

<sup>34</sup>"K" written over "k"

<sup>35</sup>"afferrec"; canceled "c"



1 equis, assinis, feriae mullae, nisi si in  
2 familia sunt. (unless they are family ones (?))  
3 Palladius says p 516 Necessitas<sup>37</sup>  
4 feriis caret.-- Necessity knows no Sundays (holidays  
5 perchance here?)  
6 Columella--speaking of the care of trees (arborum)  
7 among which he includes vines--says "quae pars  
8 rei rusticae vel maxima est."  
9 p 275-- Actus quadratus undique finitur  
10 pedibus cxx. hoc duplicatum facit jugerum, et  
11 ab eo, quod erat junctum, nomen jugeri usur-  
12 pavit;-- A square actus is bounded on every  
13 side by 120 feet; this doubled makes a jugerum,  
14 and from that, because it was junctum, it  
15 obtained the name jugerum. Ac. to Eng.<sup>38</sup> Trans.  
16 or took<sup>39</sup>  
17 Hardouin corrected a wrong reading of Pliny  
18 --(jugerum instead of jugum)†for<sup>40</sup> Varro says--  
19 that in further Spain jugum vocant, quod  
20 juncti boves uno die exarare possunt.)  
21 & Pliny afterwards speaks of the jugerum as something  
22 not named before. That wrong reading was  
23 the origin of the supposition that a<sup>41</sup> jugerum was  
24 what a yoke of oxen could plow in a day.  
25 2 00 acres or jugera were in Columellas  
26 day--called a centuria of land though originally  
27 that name was given to centum jugeribus "as", ac.  
28 (tribus)  
29 to ~~varro~~ Columella, "the tribes ^ were so called  
30 from the people being divided into 3 parts,  
31 which nevertheless being now multiplied

---

<sup>37</sup>"N" written over "n"

<sup>38</sup>"E" written over "T"

<sup>39</sup>"obtained or took" written in margin

<sup>40</sup> canceled open paren

<sup>41</sup>"a" inserted

1 retain the old name." When I quote the Eng.  
2 translator, I say so.

3 The latter sums up the several parts  
4 of the jugerum mentioned by Columella &  
5 from his table I quote this

|    |                       |       |                   |
|----|-----------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 6  |                       |       | Also gives        |
| 7  | "Divinidium Scrupulum | 1/576 | the values more   |
| 8  |                       |       | exactly in Rom. & |
| 9  | Scrupulum             | 1/288 | in Eng. feet.     |
| 10 | Duo Scrupula          | 1/144 |                   |
| 11 | Sextula               | 1/72  |                   |
| 12 | Sicilicus             | 1/48  |                   |
| 13 | Semuncia              | 1/24  |                   |
| 14 | Uncia                 | 1/12  |                   |
| 15 | Sextans               | 1/6   |                   |
| 16 | Quadraus              | 1/4   |                   |
| 17 | Triens                | 1/3   |                   |
| 18 | Quincunx              | 5/12  |                   |
| 19 | Semis                 | 1/2   |                   |
| 20 | Septunx               | 7/12  |                   |
| 21 | Bes                   | 2/3   |                   |
| 22 | Dodrans               | 3/4   |                   |
| 23 | Dextans               | 5/6   |                   |
| 24 | Deunx                 | 11/12 |                   |
| 25 | Jugerum.              |       |                   |

26 This shows how much occasion the  
27 Romans must have had to speak of & distinguish  
28 small areas of land.

29 p 288 After speaking of the elm-- Sed vitem  
30 maxime opulus (supposed by trans. an error for populus)  
31 videtur alere, deinde ulmus, postetiam fraxi-

1 nus. Opulus quia raram, neque idoneam frondem  
2 pecori praebet, a plerisque repudiata est. Fraxinus,  
3 quae capris et ovibus gratissima est, nec inutilis  
4 bubus, locis asperis, montosis, quibus minus laetatur  
5 ulmus, recte seritur. Ulmus, quod et vitem commo-  
6 dissime patitur, et jucundissimum pabulum  
7 bubus affert, variisque generibus soli provenit,  
8 a plerisque reseritur. (The last word is trans.  
9 by preferred as if it were praeferitur in the Eng. trans.  
10 copy.)

11 p 300 He enumerates 17 kinds of pears, & says that  
12 there are "quaedam alia too numerous to mention"  
13 among the names are regia the royal--pur-  
14 purea, the purple, superba the superb, or-  
15 dacea <sup>^,42</sup> the barley pear (ripe at barley harvest ac. to  
16 Lateritana (prob. from its brick color, says Trans.)  
17 Pliny, says Trans.) ^ volema the hand-filling (also  
18 called libralia--pound pears, says the Trans.) Mul-  
19 sa, honey, praecocia, early-ripe, venerea  
20 venus pears (from their beauty.)

21 Also 8 kinds of apples (mala)--not including  
22 quinces-- among them the orbiculata round--and the  
23 melimela honey-apples & the Syricea or red.

24 Cytisus is translated shrub-trefoil--good for  
25 fodder.

26 306 Says that the ox ought to be honored  
27 above all other cattle--among other reasons  
28 "quod inter fulgentissima sidera particeps caeli:  
29 quod deinde (beside) laboriosissimus adhuc  
30 hominis socius in agricultura; cujus tanta

---

<sup>42</sup>canceled caret

1 fuit apud antiquos veneratio, ut tam(επ) capitale  
2 esset bovem necasse, quam civem."--

3 Ap. 27th '56

4 P. m up Assabet

5 I find none of Monroe's<sup>43</sup> larch buds shed-  
6 ding pollen--but the<sup>44</sup> anthers look crimson &  
7 yellow & the female flowers are now  
8 fully expanded & very pretty but small-- I  
9 ? think it will first scatter pollen tomorrow--

10 Ap. a small bull frog--by river side--  
11 //  
12 though<sup>45</sup> it looks somewhat like a R. fontinalis  
13 --also 2 or 3 of R. palustris in that  
14 well of Monroes--which have jumped in over  
15 the curb. perhaps.

16 I see quite a number of tortiose out sunning  
17 //  
18 just on the edge of the Hosmer meadow--  
19 which is rapidly becoming bare-- Their backs shine  
20 from far in the sun. Also one E. {insculpta} out  
21 higher up. From close by I hear a  
22 red-wing's clear loud whistle--not squeak--  
23 --(which I think may be confined to the grackle)--<sup>46</sup>  
24 it is like ptéa pté-a or perhaps with-  
25 out the p.

26 The tapping of a wood pecker is made a  
27 more remarkable & emphatic sound{--}  
28 --by the hollowness of the trunk--the  
29 expanse of water which conducts the sound--  
30 & the morning hour at which I com-  
31 monly hear it.

---

<sup>43</sup>"M" written over "m"

<sup>44</sup>"the" written over "they"

<sup>45</sup>"though" written over "&"

<sup>46</sup>close paren written over dash



1 new & unexpected flower or animal.  
2 Mr. Newton with whom I rode thought  
3 that there was a peculiar kind of Sugar  
4 ? maple which he called the white--knew  
5 of a few in the middle of Framingham &  
6 said that there was one on our common.  
7         How promising a simple--unpretend-  
8 ing quiet somewhat reserved man--whether  
9 among generals--or scholars--or farmers!  
10 How rare an equanimity & serenity which  
11 are an encouragement to all observers!  
12 Some--youthfulness--some manliness--some  
13 goodness-- Like Tarbell--a man ap--  
14 made a deacon on account of some good-  
15 ness--& not on ac. of some hypocrisy &  
16 badness as usual.  
17         Is not the Hub-- Ditch plant the same  
18 ?  
19 I see in a Nut Meadow pool--& a re-  
20 markable evergreen? with much slime &  
21 many young snails on it?  
22         I hear today frequently the seezer  
23 seezer seezer of the Black & White  
24 //creeper--or what I have referred to that  
25                 %Can it be Myrtle birds?%  
26 from {J.} P. Brown's wood bounding on Dugan--  
27 It is not a note nor a bird to attract at-  
28 tention--only suggesting still warmer  
29 weather--that the season has revolved so  
30 much further. See, but not yet hear,  
31 //  
32 the familiar chewink amid the dry leaves  
33 --amid the underwood on the meadow's

1 edge. Many anemone nemorosas in //  
2 full bloom--at the further end of yel-thistle  
3 meadow--in that warm nook by the brook--  
4 some prob. a day or 2 there-- I think that  
5 they are thus early on ac. of Miles' dam having  
6 broken away & washed off all the snow for  
7 some distance there in the latter part of the winter--  
8 long before it melted elsewhere-- It is a warm  
9 corner under the S side of a wooded hill--where  
10 they are not often--if ever before--flooded.

11 As I am measuring along the Marlboro  
12 Road--a fine little blue-slate butterfly //  
13 fluttered over the chain. Even its feeble  
14 strength was required to fetch the year about.  
15 How daring even rash Nature<sup>48</sup> appears who  
16 sends out butterflies so early! Sardanopa-  
17 lus-like--she loves extremes--& contrasts.

18 I began to survey the meadow there early--  
19 before miles' new mill had been running  
20 long this Monday morning--& flooded it--  
21 but a great stream of water was already  
22 rushing down the brook--& it almost ran  
23 over our boots in the meadow before we  
24 had done.

25 Observing the young p. pines by the road  
26 S of Loring's lot that was so heavily wooded  
27 Geo. Hubbard remarked that if they were  
28 cut down oaks would spring up--&  
29 sure enough looking across the road  
30 to where Lorings White pines recently

---

<sup>48</sup>"N" written over "n"

1 stood so densely--the ground was all  
2 ? covered with young oaks-- {Mem.} let  
3 me look at the site of some thick pine woods  
4 Eg. the p. pines on Thrush alley--& the Wht pines on Cliffs--also at Baker's Chest-  
5 nuts--& the chestnut lot on the Tim. Brooks farm.  
6 which I remember--& see what has sprung up.

7 This was a very pleasant--or rather warm  
8 day--looking a little rainy--but on  
9 our return the wind changed to easterly  
10 // & I felt the cool fresh sea-breeze--

11 This has been a remarkably pleasant  
12 & I think warm spring-- We have not had  
13 the usual sprinklings of snow--having had  
14 so much in the winter--none since I  
15 can remember-- There is none to come down  
16 out of the air.

17 Ap. 29th '56

18 Was awakened early this morning by thunder  
19 //  
20 & some rain--the 2d thunder shower of the season--  
21 but it proved a fair day. At mid forenoon  
22 //saw a fish-hawk flying leisurely over the house  
23 North-easterly.

24 Pm--to Cedar Swamp--

25 Monroe's larch--staminate buds, have now  
26 erected & separated their anthers--& they look--  
27 somewhat withered--as if they had shed a part  
28 //  
29 of their pollen. if so--they began yesterday.

30 It was quite warm when I first came out  
31 --but about 3 Pm I felt a fresh  
32 easterly wind--& saw quite a mist  
33 //in the distance produced by it--a sea turn  
34 ?<sup>49</sup> There was the same phenomenon yesterday

---

<sup>49</sup>"?" cancelled in pencil

1 at the same hour--& on the 24th ult later  
2 in the day-- Yet today the air was not  
3 much cooled-- Your first warning of it may  
4 be the seeing a thick mist on all the hills  
5 & on the horizon. The wind is S. E. I see  
6 great devils needles--whized ~~ed~~ by--coupled  
7 Do not sail well till I reach Dove  
8 Rock--there glide swiftly up the stream.  
9 I move upward against the current  
10 with a moderate but fair wind--the  
11 waves somewhat larger prob. because the  
12 wind contends with the current-- The sun  
13 is in my face & the {w}aves look particularly  
14 lively & sparkling-- I can steer & write at  
15 the same time-- They gurgle under my  
16 stern, in haste to fill the hollow which I  
17 have created-- The waves seem to leap  
18 & roll like porpoises with a slight surging  
19 sound when their ~~tops~~ crests break--& I  
20 feel an agreeable sense that I am  
21 swiftly gliding over & through them,  
22 bound on my own errands, while  
23 their motion is chiefly but an undula-  
24 tion--& an apparent one-- It is pleasant  
25 --exhilarating to feel the boat tossed  
26 up a little by them from time to time--  
27 perhaps a wine-drinker would say it  
28 was like the effect of wine-- It is flatter-  
29 ing to a sense of power to make the

//

1 wayward wind our horse--& sit with  
2 our hand on the tiller. Sailing is much  
3 like flying--& from the birth of the race  
4 men have been charmed by it.

5           Near the little larch scared a small dark  
6 brown hawk from an apple tree which flew  
7 //  
8 off low to another apple tree beside Barrett's  
9 Pond-- just before he flew again I saw with  
10 my glass that his tail was barred with white--  
11 Must it not be a pigeon hawk then? He looked  
12 a dark slate as he sat with tawny white  
13 thighs & under head--far off. He soon started  
14 a 3d time & a crow seemed to be in chase of  
15 him. I think I have not described this<sup>50</sup> white  
16 barred hawk before--but for the black  
17 barred V May 8 '54 & Ap. 16 '55.

18           The White cedar now sheds pollen abundantly  
19 many flowers are effete--though many are  
20 not open--prob. it began as much as 3 days  
21 //  
22 ago. I strike a twig & its peculiar pinkish pollen  
23 fills the air. Sat on the knoll in the  
24 swamp--now laid bare. How pretty a red  
25 //maple in bloom (they are now in prime) seen  
26 in the sun against a pine wood--like these  
27 little ones in the swamp against the neigh-  
28 boring wood-- they are so light & ethereal  
29 not a heavy mass~~ed~~ of color impeding  
30 the passage of the light--& they are of so  
31 cheerful & lively a color--

---

<sup>50</sup>"this" written over "these"

1 The pine warbler is heard very much now at  
2 mid day--when already most birds are  
3 quiet. It must be the female which  
4 has so much less yellow beneath.

5 Do not the toads ring most on a windy  
6 day like this--? I heard but few on the still 27th.

7 A pig. woodpecker alights on a dead cedar  
8 top--near me-- Its cackle thus near sounds  
9 like eh eh eh eh eh &c rapidly &  
10 emphatically repeated.

11 {Some} birch sprouts in the swamp are leafed //  
12 as much as any shrub or tree.

13 Barn swallows & chimney with white- ////  
14 bellied swallows are flying together over the  
15 river-- I thought before that I distinguished  
16 the twitter of the chimney swallow

17 Ap. 30th

18 Surveying the Tommy Wheeler Farm--

19 A fine morning. I hear the first brown- //  
20 thrasher singing within 3 or 4 rods of me  
21 on the shrubby hill side in front of the  
22 Hadley place-- I think I had a glimpse  
23 of one darting down from a sapling top  
24 into the bushes as I rode by the same  
25 place on the morning of the 28th ?

26 This I think is the very place to hear  
27 them early--a dry hill side sloping  
28 to the south covered with {youn} wood &  
29 shrub oaks-- I am the more at-

1     tracted to that house as a dwelling place--  
2     to live where you would hear the first  
3     brown thrasher-- First perchance you  
4     have a glimpse of one's ferruginous long  
5     brown back--instantly lost amid the  
6     shrub oaks--& are uncertain if  
7     it was a thrasher, or one of the other  
8     thrushes--& your uncertainty lasts  
9     commonly a day or 2 until its rich &  
10    varied strain is heard. Surveying seemed  
11    a noble employment which brought  
12    me within hearing of this bird. I was trying  
13    to get the exact course of a wall  
14    thickly beset with shrub oaks--& birches--  
15    making an opening through them with axe  
16    & knife--while the hill side seemed to  
17    quiver or pulsate with the sudden melody.  
18    Again it is with the side of the ear  
19    that you hear--the music or the  
20    beauty belong not to your work itself  
21    but some of its accompaniments.  
22    You would fain devote yourself to  
23    the melody, but you will hear more  
24    of it if you devote yourself to your  
25    work. Cutting off the limbs of a  
26 young white pine in the way of my compass  
27    //I find that it strips freely-- How long this?  
28            By the time I have run through  
29    to the Harvard Road I hear the small  
30    //Peewee's tchevét repeatedly--





1 as warm or warmer than the air when cool.  
2 The scrolls of the ferns clothed in wool //  
3 at Sassafras shore 5 or 6 inches high  
4 Thalictrum anemonoides well out--prob //  
5 a day or 2--same shore by the apple trees  
6 Edith Emerson Ap. 29th X  
7 Viola ovata ^ ✕ on SW side of hill high up near //  
8 pines. How pleasing that early  
9 purple grass in smooth water--half  
10 a dozen long {straight} purple blades  
11 of different lengths but about equal  
12 width close together & exactly parrallel  
13 resting flat on the surface of the  
14 water. There is something agree-  
15 able in their parallelism & flatness.  
16 From the hill top I look over  
17 Wheeler's maple swamp--the maple  
18 tops are now I would say a bright brick  
19 {-}red-- it is the red<sup>52</sup> maple's reign now  
20 as the peach & the apple will have  
21 theirs-- Looking over the swamps  
22 1/4 of a mile distant--you see dimly  
23 defined crescents of bright brick red  
24 above & amid a maze of ash colored  
25 branches.  
26 %white throat%  
27 May 2nd The tea lee of the yel-<sup>53</sup> //  
28 %sparrow%  
29 rump warbler--in the street--  
30 At the end of a cool rainy day-- -- //  
31 May 3d  
32 Another cool rainy day //  
33 A staminate balm of gilead at Poplar //

---

<sup>52</sup>"red" possibly inserted  
<sup>53</sup>"yel" canceled in pencil

1 by Peter's<sup>54</sup> path-- Many of the catkins  
2 fallen & effete in the rain--but  
3 many anthers still red & unopen. Prob-  
4 began 5 or 6 days ago.

5 May 4th '56

6 Pm. to Cedar swamp via Assabet

7 Among others I see republican

8 //swallows flying over river at Island.

9 Again I see, as on the 30th of April--swallows  
10 flying low over Hosmer's meadow--over water--  
11 though comparatively few-- About a  
12 foot above the water about my  
13 boat are many of those little fuzzy  
14 gnats--& I suspect that it is these they  
15 are attracted by. (on the 6th our house  
16 being just painted) the paint is peppered  
17 with the myriads of the same insects which  
18 have stuck to it. They are of various sizes  
19 though all small--and there are a  
20 few shad-flies<sup>55</sup> also caught-- They  
21 are particularly thick on the coping under  
22 the eaves where they look as if they had  
23 been dusted on--& dense swarms of them  
24 are hovering within a foot. Paint a  
25 house now & these are the insects you  
26 catch. I suspect it is these fuzzy gnats that  
27 the swallows of the 30th were catching

28 The river is gone down so much--  
29 though checked by the rain of the 2d & 3d,

---

<sup>54</sup>"p" written over "p"

<sup>55</sup>"flies" altered from "fly"

1 that I now observe the toroises on  
2 the bottom--a sternothaerus among them. //

3 Hear the, something like--twe twe twe  
4 twe twé, ter té te twe twe--of the  
5 myrtle bird & see the bird on the //  
6 swamp white oaks by Island.

7 The aspen there just begun to leaf-- //  
8 not quite the wht maple-- I observe that  
9 the river meadows--especially Hosmers--are  
10 divided by 2 or more ridges & vallies (the  
11 latter {alone} now covered with water & so revealed)  
12 parallel with the river. The same phe-  
13 nomenon--but less remarkable on the Wheeler  
14 meadow. Are they the traces of old river  
15 banks--or where in freshets the current of  
16 the river meets the meadow current & the  
17 sediment is deposited?  
18 which just peeps out  
19 See a Peet weet on Dove Rock--^ As soon  
20 as the rocks begin to be bare the Peet-weet comes  
21 & is seen teetering on them & skimming away from  
22 them. Having fastened my boat  
23 at the maple--met on the bank just  
24 above Luke Dodge--whom I met in  
25 a boat fishing up that way once or twice  
26 last summer--& previous years-- Was surprised  
27 to hear him say--"I am in my 83d year"  
28 --He still looks pretty strong & has a voice  
29 like a nutmeg-grater-- Within 2 or 3 years  
30 at most I have seen him walking with  
31 that remarkable gait-- It is encouraging

1 to know that a man may fish & paddle  
2 on this river in his 83d year. He says  
3 he is older than Winn--though not the  
4 oldest man in the town-- Mr Tolman is  
5 in his 86th year.  
6 Went up Dodges (an Englishman who once  
7 lived up it--& no relation of the last named)  
8 Brook & across Barretts dam. In the  
9 //Cedar Swamp A. Calyculata abundantly  
10 //out how long? Viburnum nudum leafing  
11 //Smilacina trifolia<sup>56</sup> recently up--will ap. open in 10 or 12 days  
12 At the dam am amused with the  
13 various curves of jets of water which leak through  
14 at different heights. According to the  
15 {drawing} pressure--  
16 For the most part a  
17 %reminds me of the last%  
18 %piece in Bewick of Land { } from 2 holes%  
19 thin sheet was falling smoothly over the top--  
20 %& knowledge of {what shewn}%  
21 & cutting short off some smaller jets from the  
22 1st crack (on edge of the 7th plank) leaving them like  
23 white spikes seen through the water-- The dam  
24 leaked in a hundred places between & under the  
25 planks & there were as many jets of various  
26 //size & curve. Shadflies<sup>57</sup> on the water  
27 //schooner like-- See & hear<sup>58</sup> a goldfinch--  
28 on the ground--  
29 May 6th  
30 To Clam shell by river--  
31 /// Our earliest currant out X Oat spawn  
32 showing little polly wogs (?) in meadow  
33 water-- The Horse chestnut & Mt

---

<sup>56</sup>"trifolia" inserted

<sup>57</sup>"Shadflies" written over "Shadfly"

<sup>58</sup> T drew a line to transpose "See" and "& hear"

1 ash leafing--gnawel out at clam shell //  
2 //  
3 how long? cerastium out there under the //  
4 bank. That early white birch there was //  
5 about done running sap. Eq-- sylvaticum //  
6 a day or 2 on the ditch bank there.

7 Wednesday May 7th '56  
8 fresh easterly wind.  
9 2--Pm to Bearberry<sup>59</sup> on Major Heywood Road.

10 In Dea. Hosmers{--}Barn meadows hear the  
11 dout dout of a bull frog. //

12 In the first hollow in the bank--this side  
13 of Clam Shell--where sand has been dug for  
14 the meadow--are a hundred or more bank- //  
15 at 2 P. m.  
16 swallows ^-- (I suspect I have seen them for some  
17 time--) engaged in prospecting & digging  
18 their holes--& circling about-- It is a snug  
19 place for them {drawing} (though the upright  
20 portion of the bank is only 4 or 5 feet high--)  
21 a semicircular recess facing the SE. Some  
22 I see it cast out of the holes behind them  
23 are within scratching out the sand--<sup>60</sup> others  
24 others on the flat sandy space beneath in front  
25 hanging on to the entrance of the holes--^ & others  
26 circling about a dozen rods off over the  
27 meadow-- Theirs is a low dry grating twitter  
28 or rather rattle--less metallic or musical than  
29 the vite vite & twittering notes of barn & white-  
30 bellied swallows.-- They are white bellied--dark  
31 winged & tailed--with a crescent of white nearly  
32 around the lower part of the neck--& mouse-  
33 colored heads & backs-- The upper & greater  
34 part of this hawk is a coarse sliding gravel  
35 & they build only in the perpendicular & sandy

---

<sup>59</sup>"B" written over "b"

<sup>60</sup>dash written over caret

1 part. (I sit & watch them within 3 or 4 rods)  
2 & close to the upper part of it. While I am  
3 looking they all suddenly with one consent  
4 take to wing & circle over the hill side &  
5 meadow-- As if they chose to work at making  
6 their holes a little while at a time only--  
7 I find the holes on an average about a foot  
8 deep only as yet--some but a few inches--  
9 In the mean while I hear through this  
10 fresh raw E. wind the te-a-lea of myrtle<sup>61</sup>  
11 birds from the woods across the river  
12 ?//The bearberry will perhaps open to-morrow. %^XX%  
13 //I hear the evergreen forest note close  
14 by-- & hear & see many myrtle birds  
15 at the same time that I hear--what I have  
16 called the black & white creeper's note--  
17 ? Have I ever confounded them?  
18 {Over} the edge of Miles' Mill Pond now running off--  
19 //a bumble-bee--goes humming over the dry brush--  
20 I think I saw one on the 5th also--  
21 Miles began last night to let the water run  
22 off-- The pond falls about 3 inches in 24  
23 hours. The brook below is full of fishes  
24 suckers--pouts--eels--trouts endeavoring  
25 to get up--but his dam prevents. This  
26 morning his young man killed a num-  
27 ber of pouts & eels & suckers with a  
28 shovel-- Here he comes now at 4 Pm  
29 with a spear--& raises the gate--  
30  
31

---

<sup>61</sup>"myrtle" cancelled in pencil.

1 --& waits a few moments for the water  
2 which was 2 or 3 feet deep just below  
3 the mill to run off--& then I see a  
4 good sized trout--4 or 5 pouts--& several  
5 suckers--& one eel still making their  
6 way upward--though the water hardly  
7 covers their backs-- They do not turn & go  
8 down the stream with the water which is  
9 thus suddenly and rapidly let off-- Meanwhile  
10 this young man picks out half a dozen  
11 pouts eels & suckers with his spear--  
12 20 rods down the brook I saw many  
13 more suckers trying to make their way  
14 & one large eel squirming directly over an indifferent wood turtle--  
15 up-- They found it difficult now to get  
16 {concluding} to go down the stream--but it soon hid under a projecting bank  
17 over the bars where the water was very shallow  
18 & were sometimes confined to the hollows between.  
19 I saw 2 or 3 in company trying to squeeze through  
20 a narrow passage under some alder boughs  
21 which was blocked up by 2 spotted tortoises  
22 The pouts &c would suddenly bury them-  
23 selves in the sand or mud--& be lost.  
24 The fishes seemed unwilling to turn & go  
25 down the brook--& for the most part  
26 would come so near in the shallow water  
27 that they could easily be struck with  
28 the spear-- The water thus suddenly let off  
29 there were many spotted & wood tortoises  
30 seen crawling about on the bottom.  
31 One little snapping (making the 5th of  
32 its species here) 3 1/2 inches long going down

1 a few ~~inch~~ rods below the dam. This like the  
2 larger ones going down the brook--where to? &  
3 why? He can not be old enough to breed yet  
4 & it is too early to be laying at the desert.  
5 This young snap. turtle was very strong scented--  
6 Its tail appeared particularly long--as long as its  
7 shell & very tapering--& very distinctly & sharply  
8 heeled-- The 1st half doze of its dorsal serrations  
9 were very prominent & sharp--& its bill was  
10 It had 4 sharp points on each side of its shell behind--& I noticed that it swam  
11 better than  
12 very sharp--also. ^ There were tracks of  
13 other kinds of tortoises-- Its head was as large as that of an  
14 other turtles on the sandy bank. The  
15 ordinary wood tortoise.  
16 young man said that the eels came ~~through~~  
17 along as many as 3 in an hour in the night--  
18 & this morning there were a great many  
19 of them about the wheel-- Last fall  
20 (this dam being made late in the fall) they  
21 found in the hollow under the wheel which  
22 they bailed out 16 trout which weighed 8  
23 lbs. It is surprising how many fishes  
24 will run up & breed in such a little brook  
25 as this. The fishes generally would  
26 conceal themselves in the mud under a pro-  
27 jecting bank--or in some deep hole in the  
28 sand in mid channel which communicated  
29 with the mud beneath.  
30 One of those larger snapping turtles seized the  
31 one I had by the head & they braced & struggled  
32 awhile--  
33 The miller now raises his gate & lets his  
34 pond--run off-- Do they not generally earlier?

1 For a week the road has been full //  
2 of cattle going up country.  
3 Columella in the chapter De  
4 Canibus--p 353 says  
5 Villae custos eligendus est amplissimi corporis,  
6 The Guardian of the villa is to be selected of  
7 most ample body, vasti tatratus canorique,  
8 of powerful & sounding bark, ut prius  
9 auditu maleficum, deinde etiam conspectu  
10 terreat, that he may frighten the evil-doer  
11 terreat, that he may frighten the evil-doer  
12 first by the hearing & afterwards also by the sight  
13 (of himself)-- et tamen nonnunquam, ne visus  
14 quidem, horribili fremitu suo fuget insidiantem,  
15 ~~sit autem~~ and yet sometimes, when not even  
16 he may  
17 seen, ~~let him~~ put him lying in wait to flight  
18 by his horrible growling. Sit autem coloris  
19 unius, isque magis eligatur albus in pastorali,  
20 niger in villatico; But let him be of  
21 be selected white  
22 one color, and that rather ^ ~~black~~ for  
23 a shepherd dog--& black for a house dog."  
24 (The former white that the shepherd may distinguish him from a wolf in the  
25 twilight & not strike  
26 him--)  
27 X X X "Villaticus, qui hominum  
28 maleficiis opponitur, sive luce clara fur advenerit,  
29 terribilior niger conspicitur; sive nocte, ne  
30 conspicitur quidem propter umbrae similitudi-  
31 nem; The house-dog, which is opposed  
32 to the evil-doing of men, when the  
33 thief may have approached by broad day  
34 is to behold  
35 light ~~appears~~ more terrible ^ if black;  
36 or if by night, he is not seen at all

1 on account of his resemblance to the dark-  
2 ness. quamobrem tectus tenebris canis tutiorem  
3 accessum habeat ad insidiantem. wherefore  
4 under cover of  
5 concealed by<sup>62</sup> the darkness he may have a safer  
6 access to him lying in wait. Probatur quadra-  
7 tus, potius quam longus aut brevis, one of a  
8 square form is approved, rather than long or  
9 short, capite tam magno, ut corporis vi-  
10 deatur pars maxima, with a head so big  
11 that it may seem the greatest part of the  
12 body, dejectis et propendentibus auribus, with  
13 falling ears &<sup>63</sup> hanging before, nigris vel glaucis  
14 oculis acri<sup>64</sup> lumine radiantibus with black  
15 (Trans. says fiery red)  
16 or glaucous (?) eyes radiating a sharp light  
17 amplo villosoque pectore, with an ample  
18 & shaggy breast--, latis armis, cruribus  
19 crassis et hirtis, cauda brevi, broad shoulders  
20 legs (shanks) thick & rough, short tail, vestigiorum  
21 articulis et unguibus amplissimis, qui Graece  
22 {Greek} appellantur--and very large toes &  
23 nails, which in Greek are called {Greek}  
24 Hic erit villatici canis status praecipue lau-  
25 dandus. This will be the form &c of a house  
26 dog particularly to be praised. Mores autem, neque  
27 mitissimi, neque rursus truces atque crudeles,  
28 quod illi furem quoque adulantur, hi etiam  
29 domesticos invadunt; But let his manners  
30 be neither very gentle, nor yet fierce &  
31 cruel, for the former fawn on the thief

---

<sup>62</sup>T draws lines around "concealed by" and replaces it above

<sup>63</sup>"&" inserted

<sup>64</sup>"acri" possibly canceled

1 also, the latter attack even the domestics; satis  
2 esse severos esse nec blandos, it is enough  
3 &  
4 if they are ~~neither~~ severe ^ not mild, est non-  
5 nunquam etiam conservos iratius intueantur,  
6 semper excandescant in exteros. so that some-  
7 times they may even look rather angrily at their  
8 fellow servants, always be in a fume toward  
9 strangers. Maxime autem debent in  
10 custodia vigilaces conspici, nec erronei, sed assidui,  
11 et circumspecti magis magis quam temerarii:  
12 But especially they ought to be seen vigilant  
13 in guarding, not wandering about, but  
14 assiduous and circumspect rather than  
15 ~~{rash}~~  
16 inconsiderate; nam illi nisi quod certum  
17 comperunt, non indicant; hi vano strepitu,<sup>65</sup>  
18 et falsa suspicione concitantur. for in  
19 ~~{give warning}~~  
20 the former case they do not indicate  
21 it when they have discovered something  
22 aroused  
23 certain;--<sup>66</sup> in the latter they are ^ ~~excited~~  
24 ~~{unfounded}~~  
25 by an insignificant noise & false suspicion.  
26 X X X Nec multum refert an  
27 villatici corporibus graves, et parum veloces  
28 sint; Nor is it of much consequence  
29 if the house dogs are heavy of body  
30 & not swift; plus enim cominus et in  
31 (Trans. "passage & entry to the house")  
32 gradu ^ quam eminus et in spatioso cursu  
33 ~~{trans. says}~~ on the steps?  
34 facere debent; for they are to do more † close  
35 at hand & <sup>67</sup> at a slow pace <sup>68</sup> than far off †  
36 ~~{ }~~  
37 in distant coursing, nam semper circa septa,  
38 ~~{running}~~

---

<sup>65</sup>"strepitu" final "s" canceled

<sup>66</sup>semicolon written over dash

<sup>67</sup>line drawn from caret to "far off"

<sup>68</sup>line drawn from caret to "closes" above

1 et intra aedificium consistere, imo ne longius qui-  
2 dem recedere debent, for they ought always  
3 to stand about the enclosures & in the house,  
4 %never%  
5 yea & not go further off, satisque pulchre  
6 funguntur officio, si et advenientem sagaciter  
7 odoriuntur, et latratu conterrent; and they  
8 do their duty sufficiently well, if they attack (?)  
9 sagaciously him who approaches, & terrify  
10 him with their barking; nec patiuntur  
11 propius accedere, vel constantius ap-  
12 propinquantem violenter invadunt.  
13 nor suffer him to approach nearer, or  
14 violently attack him who steadily approaches;  
15 primum est (enim) non abtentari, se-  
16 cundum est lacessitum fortiter et perseveranter  
17 vindicari-- for the first thing is not to be  
18 (Trans. attached (?)  
19 corrupted), the 2d being provoked bravely  
20 & perseveringly to defend. X X X (Again<sup>69</sup>  
21 at bot of p 354) Nominibus<sup>70</sup> autem non lon-  
22 gissimis appellandi sunt, quo celerius quisque  
23 vocatus exaudiat; But they are not to be  
24 called by very long names, that each being  
25 called may hear the more quickly; nec  
26 tamen brevioribus, quam quae duabus syl-  
27 labis enuntientur, nor yet by shorter  
28 than may be pronounced by 2 syllables,  
29 sicuti Graecum est σχυλαξ, Latinum  
30 ferox; Graceum λάκων, Latinum celer; vel  
31 femina, ut sunt Graeca σπουδῦ, αλχῦ, ῥώμη;

---

<sup>69</sup>"A" written over "a"

<sup>70</sup>"N" written over "n"

1 Latina, lupa, cerva, tigris." like the Greek  
2 οχυλαξ, Latin ferox, Greek λαων, Latin  
3 celer, or female like the Greek, σπουδη,  
4 αλχι, ρωμη, Latin lupa, cerva, tigris."

5 cut off their tails--for shepherds thought  
6 it prevented their going mad.

7 In De gallinarum generibus--p 356  
8 he says-- Earum genera sunt vel  
9 cohortalium, vel rusticarum, vel Africana-  
10 rum. Cohortalis est avis, quae vulgo per omnes  
11 fere villas conspicitur; Rustica quae non  
12 dissimilis villaticae per aucupem decipitur; ea-  
13 que plurima est in insula, quam nautae  
14 in Ligustico mari sitam producto nomine  
15 alitis Gallinariam vocitaverunt; Africana  
16 est quam plerique Numidicam dicunt,  
17 Meleagridi similis, nisi quod rutilam  
18 galeam, et cristam capite gerit, quae utra-  
19 que sunt in Meleagride caerulea. Sed ex  
20 his tribus generibus cohortales foeminae proprie  
21 appellantur gallinae,--

22 Varro speaks of the same 3 kinds, but describes  
23 them especially the meleagrides somewhat dif-  
24 ferently-- names the Ligurian Mts op. to which was  
25 the island Gallinaria. Varro also says that the  
26 African hens were what the Greeks called Melea-  
27 gides.

28 Both Columella & Varro agree that the  
29 rustic or Silvestres gallinae do not breed  
30 in captivity.

1 Columella--speaking of De Palumbis  
2 et Columbibus--says they are bred with  
3 least care in distant regions where they  
4 are not likely to be caught--in fowlers' snares  
5 or on the  
6 p 166 quoniam vel summis turribus, vel edi-  
7 highest edifices  
8 tissimis aedificiis assignatas sedes frequentant  
9 patentibus fenestras, per quas ad requirendos  
10 for 2 or 3 months  
11 cibos evolitant. Duobus tamen aut tribus  
12 mensibus acceptant condititia cibaria, caeteris  
13 seipsas pascunt seminibus agrestibus.  
14 In the chapter De comparandis  
15 apibus, et quemadmodum silvestria examina  
16 capiantur of buying bees & how wild  
17 swarms may be taken.--this--  
18 Ubicunque saltus sunt idonei, mellifici,  
19 nihil antiquius, quam apes, quibus utantur,  
20 vicinos eligunt fontes: Where there are  
21 suitable woods, yielding honey, one of  
22 the first things which the bees do is to se-  
23 lect some fountains in the neighborhood for  
24 their use: eos itaque convenit plerunque  
25 ab hora secunda obsideri, specularique  
26 quae turba sit aquantium. you must  
27 therefore take your position by these ~~and~~  
28 commonly after the 2d hour of the day,--and  
29 %the numbers%  
30 observe %(%how great is the multitude%)% of  
31 those coming to water. nam si paucae  
32 admodum circumvolant (nisi tamen  
33 Palladius gives ap. an abstract of this<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> T wrote this sentence vertically along the left margin.

1 complura capita rivorum diductas faciunt  
2 rariores) intelligenda est earum penuria,  
3 propter quam locum quoque non esse  
4 are  
5 mellificum suspicabimur. for if few ^ flying  
6 about ~~them~~ (unless indeed many heads  
7 of running water make them thinner because  
8 dispersed) a scarcity of them is to be inferred,  
9 on which account one shall suspect the  
10 place also not to be productive of honey.  
11 At si commeant frequentes, spem quoque  
12 aucupandi examina majorem faciunt,  
13 eaque sic inveniuntur. But if they flock  
14 thither in numbers, they increase our hope  
15 of capturing swarms, & these are discovered  
16 thus. Primum quam longe sint explorandum  
17 est, praeparandumque in hanc rem, liquida  
18 [Palladius' word is {festucular}]  
19 rubrica, qua cum festucis ^ illitis contigeris  
20 apum terga fontem libantium, commoratus  
21 eodem loco facilius redeuntes agnoscere poteris;  
22 First it is to be explored how far off they  
23 are, and there must be prepared for this  
24 purpose some liquid ochre, (ruddle-red-{lead--}  
25 vermillion) When you have touched the  
26 ~~or~~ dipped in  
27 backs of the bees with straws (smeared  
28 with) this, having waited in the same  
29 place you can more easily recognize them  
30 on  
31 ~~when their~~<sup>72</sup> return; ac si non tarde id faciunt,  
32 scias eas in vicino consistere: sin autem serius,  
33 pro morae tempore aestimabis distantiam loci.

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<sup>72</sup>"their" written over "they"

1 and if they do this quickly, you may  
2 know that they have their abode in the  
3 neighborhood: but if later, you will estimate  
4 the distance of the place according to the  
5 time they are gone. Sed cum animadvert(ens)  
6 celeriter redeuntes, si non aegre persequeris  
7 iter volantium, ad sedem perducere exami-  
8 nis. But when you may have observed  
9 them returning speedily, if without  
10 much difficulty you pursue the course  
11 of them flying, you will be conducted to  
12 the abode of the swarm. In iis autem  
13 quae longius meare videbuntur, solertior adhi-  
14 bebitur cura, quae (f) talis est. But in  
15 the case of those which shall be seen  
16 to go further, more cunning pains  
17 will be used, such as these.<sup>73</sup> Arundinis inter-  
18 nodium cum suis articulis exciditur, & terebratur  
19 ab latere talea, & per id foramen exiguo melle  
20 vel defruto instillato, ponitur juxta fontem.  
21 A length of reed is cut off with its joints  
22 & the cutting pierced in the side, & through  
23 this hole a little honey or defrutum<sup>74</sup> (the ^ trans.  
24 Eng.  
25 says "sodden must" & elsewhere that defrutum  
26 has<sup>75</sup> the best must reduced by boiling to one  
27 third, & various ingredients mixed with it)  
28 having been dropped into it it is placed  
29 near the fountain. deinde cum ad  
30 odorem dulcis liquoris complures apes

---

<sup>73</sup>"these" written over "this"

<sup>74</sup> T drew lines to transpose "through this hole" with "a little honey or defrutum".

<sup>75</sup>"h" written over "w"

1 irrepserunt, tollitur talea, & appposito foramini  
2 pollice non emittitur, nisi una, quae cum  
3 evasit, fugam suam demonstrat observanti:  
4 atque is, dum suffecit, persequitur evolantem.  
5 afterwards when many bees, attracted  
6 by the odor of the sweet liquor have crept  
7 into it, the cutting is taken up, and the  
8 thumb being placed over the hole only one is let  
9 out, which when it escapes shows its  
10 course to the observer: and he, as long as he  
11 can, (?) pursues him flying. Cum deinde con-  
12 spicere desiit apem, tum alteram emittit: & si  
13 eandem petit caeli partem, vertigiis prioribus  
14 inhaeret: When afterward he has ceased  
15 to discover the bee, he lets out another,  
16 & if this seeks the same quarter of the  
17 heavens, he sticks to his former course:  
18 & si minus, aliam quoque atque aliam  
19 foramine adaperto patitur egredi; but  
20 if not, he lets another & another escape,  
21 the hole being opened; regionemque notat, in  
22 quam plures revolent, & eas persequetur,  
23 donec ad latebram perducatur examinis:  
24 quarter  
25 and let him observe the region toward  
26 which most of them fly back & pursue  
27 them, till he is conducted to the re-  
28 treat of the swarm: quod si est abditum  
29 specu, fumo elicatur, & cum erupit, aeris  
30 strepitu coercetur. But<sup>76</sup> if (sic Eng. trans also)  
31 it is hidden in a cave, it is expelled by smoke

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<sup>76</sup>"B" written over "b"

1 & when it bursts forth is restrained by  
2 the sound of brass. Nam statim sono territum,  
3 vel in frutice, vel in editiore silvae fronde  
4 considet, et a vestigatore praeparato vase  
5 reconditur. For immediately, frightened by  
6 the sound, they<sup>77</sup> settles<sup>78</sup> either on a bush or  
7 on the higher leaves of the forest, & are<sup>79</sup> shut  
8 up by the bee-hunter in a vase prepared  
9 for the purpose. Sin autem sedem habet  
10 arboris cavae, et aut extat ramus, quem  
11 obtinent, aut sunt in ipsius arboris trunco,  
12 tunc si mediocritas patitur, acutissima serra,  
13 quo celerius id fiat, praeciditur primum  
14 superior pars, quae ab apibus vacat: de-  
15 inde inferior, quatenus videtur inhabitari.  
16 But if they have their abode in a hollow  
17 tree, and either the branch which they occupy  
18 stands out, or they are in the trunk of  
19 the tree itself, then if the moderate size  
20 of it allows, it is cut off with a  
21 very sharp ~~sra~~ saw, that it may be  
22 done the quicker, first the upper part,  
23 which is empty of bees, then the lower,  
24 as far as it seems to be inhabited. tum  
25 recisus utraque parte mundo vestimento  
26 contegitur, quoniam hoc quoque pluri-  
27 mum refert, ac si quibus rimis hiat,  
28 illinitur, & ad locum perfertur: then  
29 being cut off on each side it is covered  
30 with a clean garment, for this too

---

<sup>77</sup> "they" written over "it"

<sup>78</sup> "settle" terminal "s" canceled

<sup>79</sup> "are" written over "is"

1 is of the utmost importance, and {if}  
2 there are any chinks in it, they are smeared  
3 over, & it is brought to the place [designed  
4 for it]<sup>80</sup>: relictisque parvis (utjam dixi)  
5 foraminibus, more caeterarum alvorum  
6 collocatur. and little holes being left,  
7 (as I have already said) it is placed (%in the  
8 %like%  
9 same manner with%)% the rest of the hives.  
10 Sed indagatorem convenit matutina tem-  
11 pore vestigandi eligere, ut spatium diei  
12 habeat, quo exploret commeatus apum: ~~apum~~:  
13 But it is well for the bee-hunter to choose  
14 morning time for hunting, that he may have  
15 ample day time in which to explore the  
16 coming & going of the bees: saepe enim si serius  
17 coepit eas denotare, etiam cum in propinquo  
18 sunt, justis operum peractis se recipiunt, nec  
19 remeant ad aquam: for often if he has  
20 begun to observe them too late, even when  
21 they are near, their ordinary task being  
22 done they go home, & do not return to the  
23 water: quo evenit ut vestigator ignoret,  
24 quam longe a fonte distet examen. Whence  
25 it happens that the hunter is ignorant  
26 how far off the swarm is from the foun-  
27 tain. Sunt qui per initia veris apiastrum,  
28 atque (ut ille vates ait) trita meli-  
29 phylla, [melisphylla in best ed. of Virgil] & cerin-  
30 thae ignobile gramen, aliasque colligant  
31 similes herbas, quibus id genus animalium  
32 cent  
33 delectatur, et ita alvos perfricent ut

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<sup>80</sup>brackets altered from parens

1 {odor et} succus vasi inhaereat:  
2 There are those who during the first part  
3 of Spring collect bee-aster [It chances  
4 that this would be a suitable Lat. name for my  
5 late aster frequented by the bees. The Eng. Trans.  
6 calls it mint(?) Ainsworth says balm-gentle or mint]  
7 and, (as that poet says) 'bruised balm  
8 gentle [ac to Delphine Virgil] & the ignoble honey-suckle'  
9 [ac. to D. Virg.] & other similar herbs in which  
10 that kind of animals delight, and rub  
11 the hives so thoroughly with them that the  
12 odor & the juice may ~~stick~~ adhere to the vase:  
13 quae deinde mundata exigue melle re-  
14 spergant, et per nemora non longe a fonti-  
15 bus disponent, eaque cum repleta sunt  
16 examinibus domum referant.<sup>81</sup> which after-  
17 ward being cleaned they sprinkle with a little  
18 honey, & place here & there through the  
19 forest not far from the fountains, & when  
20 they are filled with swarms carry them home.  
21 sed hoc nisi locis quibus abundant apes,  
22 facere non expedit, nam saepe inania vasa  
23 nacti, qui forte praetereunt, secum auferunt.  
24 but it is not expedient to do this except  
25 in places where bees abound, for often  
26 those who chance to be passing by, having  
27 found the empty vases, carry them away  
28 with them. &c &c" But if  
29 they got enough bees to pay for  
30 the loss of a few vases in this

---

<sup>81</sup>T translates "referāt" (in the original) correctly as the nasal "a" or "an".

1 way--very well.  
2 He recommends for a garden--p 404--  
3 a place where elms spring up spontaneously  
4 --wild vines--wild pears & plums--~~& the~~  
5 et injussi consternitur ubere mali &  
6 the ground is strewn with the fruit of an un-  
7 bidden apple tree.  
8 This is what he says of the cucumis  
9 & cucurbita p 413  
10 Tum modo dependens trichili, modo more chelydri,  
11 Sole sub aestivo gelidas per graminis {Iumbras}  
12 ^Intortus cucumis, praegnansque cucurbita serpit.  
13 Una neque est illis facies: nam si tibi cordi  
14 Longior est, gracili capitis quae vertice pendet,  
15 E tenui collo semen lege: sive globosi  
16 Corporis, atque utero nimium quae vasta tumescit,  
17 Ventre leges medio, sobolem dabit illa capacem  
18 Naryciae picis, aut Actaei mellis Hymetti,  
19 Aut habilem lymphis hamulam, Bacchove lagoenam:  
20 Tum pueros eadem fluviis innare docebit.  
21 Lividus ac cucumis gravida qui nascitur alvo  
22 Hirtus & ut coluber nodoso gramine tectus  
23 Ventre cubat flexo, semper collectus in orbem,  
24 Noxius exacuit morbos aestatis iniquae,  
25 Foetidus hic succo, pingui quoque semine fartus.  
26 At qui sub trichila manantem repit ad undam  
27 Labentemque sequens nimio tenuatur amore  
28 Candidus effoetae tremebundior ubere porcae,  
29 Mollior infuso calathis modo lacte gelato,  
30 Dulcis erit, riguoque madescit luteus arvo,

1 Et feret auxilium quondam mortalibus aegris<sup>82</sup>  
2 Cum &c--  
3 Which the Eng. Trans. thus renders  
4 "The crooked cucumber & pregnant gourd,  
5 Sometimes from arbors pendent, and sometimes  
6 Snake-like, through the cold shades of grass they creep,  
7 And from the summer sun a shelter seek.  
8 These have not the same features, nor one shape;  
9 For, if the largest pleases most, which grows  
10 Suspended by its own head's slender top,  
11 Then from its slender neck select the seeds;  
12 But if that, with a globe-like body, please,  
13 Which with too huge a belly swells, then choose  
14 The seed which in its womb inclosed lies;  
15 This will an offspring bring, fit to contain  
16 Hymethan honey, or Narycian pitch:  
17 If likewise flagons, fit for Bacchus' use,  
18 And goblets, meet for water, will produce;  
19 And boys in rapid streams will teach to swim:  
20 But then the livid cucumber, which grows  
21 With pregnant womb, and hairy like a snake,  
22 Lies on its crooked belly, always coiled,  
23 And covered with the knotty grass, impairs  
24 The health, and of the unfriendly summer makes  
25 Diseases more acute; of this the juice  
26 Is fetid; likewise with fat seeds 'tis stuffed.  
27 But that which to the dropping watter creeps  
28 Below the arbour, and pursues the same  
29 As down it trickles, and with too much love

---

<sup>82</sup>"aegris" possibly ligatured

1     Extenuated, and of a color white,  
2     More trembling than the udder of a sow  
3     Which newly has brought forth, and softer is  
4     Than curdled milk just in the cheese-vat pour'd,  
5     Shall to the taste be sweet; and, when 'tis ripe,  
6     In land well watered it yellow grows,  
7     And to sick mortals sure relief will bring;  
8     When &c"

9     The translator says of Cucumis "It seems that  
10    this word, amongst the Romans, was of a  
11    larger signification; and signified not only  
12    what we call cucumbers, but pompions &  
13    melons also: such of them as grew bulky, &  
14    ran out in length, and became very mellow,  
15    tender, & flaccid, when thoroughly ripened, lost  
16    their name, and were called pepones; but  
17    such of them as grew round like an apple,  
18    they called melopepones: but the true  
19    cucumis, the riper it grows, the more  
20    solid cartilages does it consist of, and  
21    is covered, as it were, with an hard woody  
22    crust. Our author seems here to have de-  
23    scribed particularly the cucurbita, which  
24    grows to a great bulk, so that they  
25    formed vessels of them for containing  
26    honey & pitch, and goblets for drinking; &  
27    when dried, were made use of by boys  
28    the  
29    for supporting them in ^ water, when they were  
30    learning to swim."

1 Columella says p 443 that the cucumis &  
 2 ¶ cucurbita -- -- -- -- plurimum juvantur humore.  
 3 p 444 says that some to make the cucumis--tener et  
 4 jucundissimus soak the seed in milk, some to  
 5 make it dulcior sweeter soak the seed in mulsa  
 6 mead (?). Palladius speaks of treating the  
 7 & also says that will be odorati high-scented if the seeds are  
 8 buried for some time amid dry rose leaves.  
 9 seeds of melones also in the same way.<sup>83</sup>

10 P 423 Columella says VIII Cal. Martii  
 11 Sagitta crepusculo incipit oriri, variae tempes-  
 12 tates: Halcyonei dies vocantur, in Atlantico quidem  
 13 mari summa tranquillitas notata est.

14 The Eng. trans says-- "The 22nd of Feb. in the twilight  
 15 in the evening, the Arrow begins to rise &c" & in a note  
 16 days  
 17 says that Aristotle & Pliny place these ^ about  
 18 the winter solstice.

19 Might I not call my first smooth April  
 20 water--Halcyon days?

21 P 426 C. says Bonus operarius prati jugerum  
 22 desecat, nec minus mille ducentos manipulos  
 23 unus obligat, qui sint singuli quaternarum libra-  
 24 rum. A good laborer cuts down a jugerum  
 25 (99 rods) of grass ground (in a day), and  
 26 one binds not less than one thousand & 200  
 27 bundles (bottles), which weigh 4 lbs each.

28 436 says the way to sow a hedge of dog's  
 29 thorn (sentis canis Greek {Greek}) was to mix the  
 30 seeds with the meal of vetches & smear the  
 31 mixture over old ship's ropes--coil them up  
 32 & lay them away--then in the spring stretch  
 33 them in a furrow & bury them

---

<sup>83</sup>The interlined text appears in two narrow lines above the last five words of the line.

1 A brine was ripe if it would float sweet  
2 cheese.

3 p 458 De malis & pyris in sole siccandis.

4 Hoc eodem tempore, vel etiam primo  
5 mense Augusto, mala & pyra dulcissimi  
6 saporis mediocriter matura eliguntur,  
7 et in duas vel tres partes arundine, vel  
8 osseo cultello divisa in ~~in~~ sole ponuntur,  
9 donec arescant. So with apples & pumpkins  
10 here.

11 489 gave swine nothing to drink the day before they  
12 were killed that their flesh might take up the  
13 brine faster--

14 Used the genista as well as osiers to bind vines with.

15 Columella describes cucumbers (cucumis)--  
16 gourds (cucurbita)--These being sometimes sweet, &  
17 ap. what we call melons--& Palladius also  
18 describes melons (melones)

19 May 10th

20 The 3d day of rain. The river has again //  
21 gone over the meadows which were almost  
22 bare.

23 Pm to Walden--in rain--

24 R. Rice speaks of having seen myriads  
25 of eels formerly going down the Charles<sup>84</sup>  
26 River--young ones not longer than his  
27 hand--stopped behind a board at the  
28 dam-- That once there when repairing  
29 the dam he saw while standing on  
30 the bared bottom below it a large eel

---

<sup>84</sup>"C" written over "c"

1     come up close by it through hard  
2     gravel--& he believed it had just come  
3     down the river--& had penetrated through  
4     6 feet in thickness of the same character--  
5     for the dam was carried down to that depth  
6     below the bottom of the river.  
7     That the snapping turtle caught fish by lying  
8     buried<sup>85</sup> in the mud with only his eyes out--  
9     was Rice's supposition.  
10  //Some vac. Pennsylvanicum out in Cut woods  
11     May be a day, as it has rained steadily the last  
12     2 days--it seems to bloom with or immediately after  
13     the bearberry. I would gladly walk far in  
14     this stormy weather--for now I see & get near  
15  //to large birds. 2 quails whirr away from  
16     the old shanty stubble field--& 2 turtle  
17     doves go off from an apple tree with their clikit  
18     Also at Walden shore a pig. hawk--(or else  
19     sharp shinned) with deep brown back--went off  
20     from close at hand-- I see those just above  
21     the edge of the Pool in Hubbards woodpath  
22     the V. blanda passing into the V. lanceolata  
23  //which last also is now in bloom--prob. earlier  
24     there than in wetter places. May have been  
25  
26     as early as the blanda.  
27     Where the Pitch pines were cut some  
28     years ago--on Thrush Alley--I now  
29     see--birches--oaks--& p. ~~p~~<sup>86</sup> & white pines--  
30     On the R. R. causeway against trillium

---

<sup>85</sup>"buried" poss written over "with"

<sup>86</sup>second "p" canceled

1 wood--I see an ap. native willow--a shrub-- //

2 with greenish bark--& conspicuous yellow cat-

3 kins--now in full bloom--ap. a little earlier

4 but its leaflets or bracts much less advanced & conspicuous

5 than the S. alba. ^ Another on the Walden road--

6 %v 16th inst%

7 what is it? Mr. Pritchards Canada Plum //

8 will open as soon as it is fair weather--%V 12th%

9 Palladius p 516 says Domino vel

10 colono confinia possidenti, qui fundum vel

11 agrum suum locat, damnis suis ac litibus

12 studet. He who lets his farm or field

13 to a neighboring proprietor or farmer--, <sup>87</sup>

14 prepares the way for his own loss & for

15 lawsuits." (also -- -- -- Qui agrum

16 colit, gravem tributis creditorem patitur,

17 cui sine spe absolutionis adstrictus est.

18 P. -- Says you must always put an

19 uneven number of eggs under a hen, in the

20 increase of the moon--

21 Even in his day speaking of geese--

22 Albi foecundiores sunt: varii vel fusci, mi

23 nus, quia de agresti genere ad domesticum

24 transierunt. White geese are the more

25 fruitful: those of various colors or fuscus

26 less so, because they are sp mongrels between

27 the wild & tame species.

28 Also to defend the bees--Aves etiam pannis

29 & crepitaculis terreamus. Let us frighten

30 away birds also with scare-crows (?) & rattling

31 tins(?)

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<sup>87</sup>comma written over dash

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May 11th '56

Rains still

I noticed the other day that the stump of the large oak at Clam Shell Hill, cut down 15 years ago or more, was quite rotten while the trunk which lay by its side, having never been removed was comparatively sound.

The Roman writers--Columella & Palladius warn not to build in a low valley or by a marsh--& the same rule is observed here today-- In the west the prudent settler avoids the banks of rivers--choosing high & open land.

It suggests that man is not completely at one with nature--or that she is not yet fitted to be his abode-- Adam soon found that he must give a marsh a wide berth--that he must not put his bower in or near a swamp in the new country--else he would get the fever & ague or an intermittent fever-- Either nature may be changed or man.

Some animals--as frogs & musquash are fitted to live in the marsh--

Only a portion of the earth is habitable by man. Is the earth improving or deteriorating in this respect? Does it require to be improved by the hands of man; or is man to live more naturally & so

1 more safely?  
2 P. m. to Cedar Swamp--up Assabet  
3 There is at length a prospect of fair weather  
4 --It will clear up at evening--this 4th day //  
5 of the rain. The river is nearly as high as //  
6 it has been this spring.  
7 Palladius says to him who would  
8 keep bees-- Let him cultivate Herbas nu-  
9 triat, origanum, thymum, serpyllum, satureiam,  
10 melisphyllum, violas agrestes, asphodilum,  
11 citraginem, amaracum, hyacinthum, qui iris  
12 vel gladiolus dicitur scimilitudine foliorum,  
13 narcissum, crocum, caeteras-que herbas sua-  
14 vissimi odoris & floris. Then he names frutices  
15 & arbores And then says-- Primi<sup>88</sup>  
16 saporis mella thymi succus effundit. Se-  
17 cundi meriti thymbra, serpyllum vel  
18 origanum. Tertii meriti rosmarinus &  
19 Satureia. Caetera, ut arbatus & olera, sa-  
20 porem rustici mellis efficiunt.  
21 p 564--speaking of apples<sup>89</sup> Si caduca  
22 sunt poma, fissae radici lapis injectus  
23 poma retinebit.  
24 Mala rotunda, quae orbiculata dicuntur,  
25 sine cura toto anno servari possunt.  
26 Palladius adds to Columella's ac. of  
27 bee hunting-- Aliqui mellis brevissimum circa  
28 aquam vasculum ponunt. De quo cum apis  
29 aguando gustaverit, ad commune pabulum

---

<sup>88</sup>"p" written over "p"

<sup>89</sup>cancelled dash or colon following "apples"

1 pergens, alias exhibebit: quarum frequentiam  
2 subinde crescentem, notata revolantium parte  
3 usque ad examina persequeris.  
4 Of Chestnutwood P. says Castanea mira  
5 soliditate perdurat in agris, & tectis, & operibus caeteres  
6 intestinis, cirjus solum pondus in vitio est.  
7 Also De aqua invenienda this  
8 Ante autem solis iis locis quibus aqua quae-  
9 renda est, aequaliter pronus mento ad  
10 solum depresso jacens in terra spectabis  
11 Orientem, & in quo loco crispum subtili  
12 nebula aerem surgere videbis, & velut  
13 rorem spargere, signo aliquo vicinae stirpis  
14 aut arboris praenotabis. Nam constat  
15 siccis locis, ubi hoc fiet, aquam latere:  
16 x x x Locus ergo,  
17 ubi supradicta signa repereris, fodiatur  
18 latitudine pedibus tribus, altitudine pedibus  
19 quinque, & proxime solis occasum, mundum  
20 vas ibi aereum vel plumbeum interius  
21 unctum inversum ponatur in solo ipsius  
22 fossionis. Tunc supra fossae labra crate  
23 facta de virgis ac frondibus, additaque  
24 terra, spatium omne cooperiatur. Sequenti  
25 die aperto loco, si in eodem vase sudores  
26 intrinsicus invenientur, aut stillae,  
27 aguas ibi esse non dubites. Item si  
28 vas figuli siccum, neque coctum eadem

1 ratione ponatur, ac similiter operiatur,  
2 [sic]  
3 altero [vero] die, si aquarum vena est, in  
4 presenti vas concepto humore solvetur. Item  
5 vellus lanae aequè positum, vel coopertum,  
6 si tantum colligit humoris, ut alia die  
7 fundat expressum, copias inesse testabitur.  
8 Item lucerna oleo plena & accensa, si  
9 ibi similiter tecta ponatur, & secuto  
10 die inveniatur extincta superantibus  
11 alimentis, aquas idem locus habebit. Item  
12 si in eo loco focum feceris, & terra vaporata  
13 humidum fumum nebulosumque ructaverit,  
14 aquas inesse cognosces.--

15 The S. alba by my boat is out--& beaten  
16 by the rain--perhaps 3 or 4 days in some places--but //  
17 not on the 6th-- It does not rain now though  
18 completely overcast,--but looks as if it would  
19 clear up before night. There are many  
20 swallows circling low over the river behind  
21 Monroe's--bank swallows--barn--~~whit~~  
22 republican--Chimney--& white bellied-- These  
23 are all circling together a foot or 2 over  
24 the water--passing within 10 or 12 feet of  
25 me in my boat. It is remarkable how  
26 social the different species of swallow are  
27 one with another-- They recognize their affin-  
28 ity more than usual. On the prospect  
29 of fair weather after so long a storm  
30 the birds are more lively than ever--  
31 As I float though the Wheeler Ind. field

1 //meadow--I see a veery hopping silent  
2 under the alders. The black &  
3 white-creeper also is descending the oaks  
4 &c and uttering from time to time his  
5 seeser seeser seeser. What a rich  
6 strong striped--blue black (?) & white bird--  
7 much like the myrtle bird at a little  
8 distance when the yellow of the latter is  
9 not seen. At a distance I hear the  
10 //first yellow-bird.  
11 //The S. sericea at Island rock is  
12 //out--also the S. cordata off  
13 Prichard's both apparently with S. alba.  
14 But I have not yet compared them (for  
15 date) quite accurately enough-- I  
16 think I can pretty well distinguish the  
17 sericea--by the grayness of the fem. catkins  
18 twig & all--but am not sure I have seen  
19 the staminate. Neither am I sure that  
20 I see the staminate S. cordata. Those at  
21 Prichards are ap. all female.  
22 There are many staminate ones now in full  
23 bloom--in the Wheeler-meadow--I suspect like  
24 male & female side by side 5 rods N of S. alba--also male W side near ring post  
25 that of the RR. causeway ^ (v may 10th) or they  
26 may be staminate plants of S cordata--or some  
27 ? perhaps of S. sericea. V. how many different  
28 ? kinds of leaves & mark them 6 weeks hence  
29 ? V. if those just off the N end of Holden wood  
30 (Conantum) are all S. cordata for there  
31 are ~~some~~ many staminate ones like the last named

1 also V. that one on the N side the road ?  
2 & root fence beyond bush on Corner Road--  
3 (perhaps like the RR. one)--male & female  
4 All these willows blossom  
5 now a little past prime-- when the early willows--which bloom before  
6 leafing--are going to seed.  
7 Large white maples are leafing. //  
8 I see near the top of the bank at  
9 the further end of the first hemlocks--dirty  
10 white fungi in nests--each about 3/4  
11 of an inch diameter--without any thick  
12 rind which peels off. Each one is burst a  
13 little at top--& is full of dust of a yellowish  
14 rotten-stone color--which is perfly dry &  
15 comes forth like a puff of smoke on  
16 being pinched-- now after 4 days of rain  
17 before the fair weather has come--& though  
18 each one is nearly half full of water--  
19 This dust certainly has but little affinity  
20 for moisture--and might be of use in  
21 some cases.  
22 I leave my boat in Hosmer's poke-  
23 logan--& walk up the bank-- a blue-  
24 hollow  
25 birds nest & 5 eggs in a^ apple tree //  
26 3 feet from ground near the old bank swallow  
27 pit. Made with much ~~dry~~ stubble & dried grass.  
28 Can see the bird sitting from without.  
29 There are a great many large flat  
30 black--cock croach (?) like beetles float-  
31 ing & paddling on the flood on the //?  
32 meadows--which have perhaps fallen in  
33 in the night (if not washed out of the  
34 grass)--also a few of the thick dull red- //  
35 dish brown ones--

1                    May 12th  
2     A glorious day  
3   Pm Walked round by Dennis' & Hollowell  
4     Place with Alcott. It is suddenly  
5   //very warm-- A washing day--with a  
6     slight haze accompanying the strong  
7     warm wind. I see in the road  
8     beyond Luther Hosmer's in dif. places  
9   //2 bank swallows which were undoubtedly  
10    killed by the 4 days N. E. rain we have just  
11    had. Puffer says he has seen 2 or 3 dead  
12    sparrows also. The sudden heat com-  
13    pels us to sit in the shade at the bars above  
14    Puffer's--whence we hear the first bobo-  
15   //link. How suddenly the birds arrive after  
16    the storm--(even yesterday before it was fairly  
17    over) as if they had foreseen its end!  
18     How much life the note of the bobolink imparts  
19                    cultivated  
20   //to the meadow! I see a ^ cherry X in bloom  
21     & Prichard's Canada plum will prob--  
22   //bloom tomorrow. The river is ~~about the~~  
23     higher than  
24     ~~same height as yesterday--~~about the same  
25   //as when highest before this spring. And goes  
26    no higher. Thus attains its height the day  
27    after the rain.  
28                    May 13th  
29   //Hear a warbling vireo. Dandelions  
30   //  
31    by roadside--prob several days in some places.  
32     P. m up river to Kal. glauca swamp--  
33    In the swallow holes behind Dennis'

1 I find 2 more dead bank swallows--&  
2 one in the sand beneath--& the feathers  
3 of 2 more which some creature has eaten--  
4 This makes at least 7 dead bank swallows //  
5 in consequence of the long cold N. E. rain.  
6 A male harrier--skimming low had nearly  
7 reached this sand pit before he saw me  
8 & wheeled-- Could it have been he that de-  
9 voured the swallows?  
10 These swallows were 10 3/4+ alar extent  
11 4 3/4 inches long-- a wing 4 3/4+ x 1 3/4+  
12 Above they were a light brown on their backs--  
13 winks blackish--beneath white--with a  
14 dark brown band over the breast & again white  
15 throat & sides of neck--bill small & black--  
16 --reddish brown legs--with long sharp slender  
17 claws-- It chanced that each one  
18 of 2--I tried weighed bet. 5 & 6 sixteenths  
19 of an ounce--or bet. 5 & 6 drams  
20 arvoirdupois-- This<sup>90</sup> seems to be the average  
21 weight--or say 6 drams because they  
22 have pined a little. A man who weighs  
23 150 lbs--weighs 6400 times as much as  
24 one--  
25 The wing of one contains about 7 square<sup>91</sup>  
26 inches--the body about 5--one whole  
27 bird 19 If a man were to be provided  
28 with wings &c in prop. to his weight--they  
29 would measure about 844 square feet  
30 cover 311 feet or  
31 & one wing would ^ be about 33 feet long  
32 x 14 wide. This is to say nothing of his muscle.

---

<sup>90</sup> "This" written over "Saw"

<sup>91</sup> "square" written over "{or} 8"

1 ? The Kalmia glauca will not open  
2 for some days at least. (Mrs Ripley  
3 told me last night that Hill said  
4 the toads rang till they died if their call  
5 was not answered or attended to.) At  
6 the swamp hear the yorrick of Wilsons Thrush.  
7 or S Americana  
8 // //the Tweezer bird ^--Also<sup>92</sup> the oven bird sings  
9 //Caterpillars nests on an apple 2 inch  
10 just  
11 //diameter-- Downy amelanchier ^ out  
12 at Lupine bank elsewhere maybe a day or 2.  
13 Where my sap has dried on the white birch  
14 bark it has now turned a bright light red  
15 -- What a variety of colors it assumes.  
16 <sup>93</sup>Potter has a remarkable field of mulleins  
17 sown as thickly as if done with a machine  
18 (under bear garden Hill) I remarked them last  
19 year. Wm Wheeler thinks the seed lies in the  
20 ground an indefinite period ready to come  
21 up. I thought that it might have  
22 been introduced with his grain when it was  
23 sown lately. Wheeler says that many  
24 a pasture if you plow it up after it  
25 has been lying still 10 years will pro-  
26 duce an abundant crop of wormwood--  
27 & its seeds must have lain in the ground.  
28 Why do not the chemists in the analyses  
29 of soils oftener mention the seeds of plants?  
30 Would not a careful analysis of old  
31 pasture sod settle the question?

---

<sup>92</sup>"Also" written over "The"

<sup>93</sup>T draws a vertical pencil line down the length of this paragraph in the left margin

1 I suspect that I can throw a little  
2 light on the fact that when a dense  
3 pine wood is cut down oaks &c may  
4 take its place. There were only pines no other  
5 tree-- They are cut off--& after two years  
6 have elapsed--you see oaks or perhaps a  
7 few other hardwoods springing up with scarcely  
8 a pine amid them-- And you wonder how  
9 the acorns could have lain in the ground  
10 so long without decaying-- There is a good  
11 example at Loring's<sup>94</sup> Lot. But if you look  
12 through a thick pine-wood--even the exclusively  
13 pitch pine ones--you will detect many little  
14 oaks birches &c<sup>95</sup>--sprung probabably from seeds  
15 carried into the thicket by squirrels &c & blown  
16 thither--but which are over shadowed &  
17 choaked by the pines-- This planting under  
18 the shelter of the pines may be carried on annually  
19 & the plants annually die--but when the  
20 pines are cleared off--the oaks ~~and~~--&c  
21 having got just the start they want--& now  
22 secured favorable conditions immediately spring  
23 up to trees. Scarcely enough allowance has  
24 been made for the agency of squirrels &  
25 birds in dispersing seeds.

26 Earliest gooseberry in garden X //

27 At the Kalmia swamp--the particolored warbler-- //

28 & was that switter switter switter switter swit

29 also by it?--prob by this or the red-start which last I  
30 distinguish on the 17th inst.  
31 May 14th

32 Air full of golden-robins--Their loud //

---

<sup>94</sup>"L" written over "C"

<sup>95</sup> "&c" possibly written over "an"

1 clear note betrays them as soon as they  
2 arrive. Yesterday & today--I see half a  
3 //dozen tortoises on a rail--their first appearance  
4 //in numbers-- Catbird. amid shruboaks  
5//// --Female<sup>96</sup> red-wing. Flood tells me he saw  
6 //cherry birds on the 12th of April in  
7 Munroe's Garden.  
8 May 15th '56  
9 //A Fog this morning. Our peach out X  
10 //  
11 //2d<sup>97</sup> gooseberry in garden X  
12 P. m. to Beeches--  
13 As I sat by the Riorden crossing think it  
14 ? was the Tanager I heard? I think now--only  
15 because it is so early--that it may have been the  
16 yel-throat-vireo-- no It must have been {a} tanager which I hear  
17 frequently the 19th  
18 See also for a moment in dry woods a warbler  
19 // no doubt the S. americana blue yellow back-- or particol-  
20 heard before ored warb.  
21 with blue-slate head ^ & ap all yellow beneath  
22 for a minute--nothing else conspicuous--note  
23 slightly like tseep, tseep, tseep, tseep, tsit sitter  
24 ra-re-ra the last fast--on maples &c  
25 may be I heard the same yesterday.  
26 cut by RR  
27 //North wild red cherry out--may ^ be day or 2 elsewhere  
28 //--A Heywood spring I see a clumsy wood  
29 chuck now at 4 pm out feeding--gray or  
30 grizzly above brown beneath-- it runs or waddles  
31 to its hole 2 or 3 rods off--and as usual pauses  
32 listening at its entrance till I start again--then  
33 dives in.  
34 Viola cucullatas abundant now. Just on  
35 //  
36 the brink of this Heywood spring I find  
37

---

<sup>96</sup>"F" written over "f"

<sup>97</sup>"2" written over "&"

1 what may be the stellaria borealis (if it is not //  
2 the longifolia~~r~~ but it is not in cimes like that only  
3 a single flower to each axil, now at least) though  
4 Bigelow<sup>98</sup> makes its calyx divisions nerveless--these  
5 are 3 nerved-- And one flower at least ~~appear~~ has  
6 5 (!) styles. It has been out perhaps several days--  
7 some of the flowers are without petals--others  
8 with those very deeply cleft or divided white petals--  
9 2 inch high--leaves rather  
10 The others may have pollen. broad-- V the<sup>99</sup> 21st  
11 Strawberry well out how long? //  
12 On Amelanchier botrapium many narrow  
13 dark bronze-colored beetles (say 3/4 inch long) coupled //  
14 & at same time eating the flowers calyx and all--  
15 Night warbler-- Hickory leafets not ////  
16 so large as beech-- beech leaves 2 inch long--  
17 say it has leafed a day or 2 White birch pollen X ////  
18 Beech not out yet-- //  
19 Checker berries very abundant on S side of ?  
20 Pine Hill-- by P. pine wood-- Now is prob best  
21 time to gather them--  
22 Cleared out the Beech spring--which is  
23 a copious one-- So I have done some ser-  
24 vice--though it was a wet & muddy job--  
25 Cleared out a spring while you have been {///  
26 to the wars. Now that warmer days make the  
27 traveller thirsty--this becomes an important work.  
28 This spring was filled & covered with a  
29 great mass of beech leaves amid & beneath  
30 which--damp & wet as they were were my-  
31 riads of snow fleas--& also their white //  
32 exuviae; the latter often whitening a whole

---

<sup>98</sup>"B" written over "b"  
<sup>99</sup>"the" inserted

1 leaf--mixed with live ones-- It looks  
2 as if for coolness & moisture (which the  
3 snow had afforded--) they were compelled to  
4 take refuge here†.

5 // Cerasus pumila X S side Pine Hill-- not yet by  
6 Perceive some of that delicious  
7 RR.  
8 //Cut woods. meadow fragrance coming over the ^ causeway

9 Measured a chestnut stump cut last winter  
10 on pine hill--25 inch diameter & 56 rings.

11 // May 16th rainy day

12 ? I think that willow of May 10th q.v. which  
13 blooms ap. just before S alba--(on RR at Trill-  
14 wood both male & female 6 rods this side {are}  
15 S. alba below on westside near ring post: 1st  
16 large bush--a male--& 2 or more on RR at  
17 1st Walden & elsewhere) about same time  
18 with S sericea & cordata is a distinct species  
19 from any of them from 3 to 13 feet high--dry  
20 looking with reddish or reddish brown twigs--  
21 & plain ashy grey bark--leaflets or bracts  
22 appearing at same time though much less con-  
23 spicuous than those of S alba-- Catkins  
24 {of fem} & female an inch or less long--former  
25 hairy  
26 with yellowish brown ^ scales longer than their stalks.

27 The Willow<sup>100</sup> inclined to form a wide bush like the earliest  
28 ones--not a tree like the alba. There may be  
29 some varieties of it at the Pond on RR. %{The S. rostrata}%

30 May 17th '56

31 // Rain still or lowering  
32 Pm. to my boat at Cardinal Shore--thence to  
33 Lee's Cliff.

---

<sup>100</sup>"willow" written over text

1 King bird. The beech twigs I //  
2 gathered the 15th show anthers today  
3 in chamber, so it prob. blossoms today or tomorrow //  
4 in woods. V. vacillans ap. a day or 2 at least //  
5 Veronica serpyllifolia abundant now on banks //  
6 erected-- Maryland yel throat heard //  
7 afar in meadows as I go along the road toward  
8 Hubbards Bridge. It is warm but still overcast  
9 & sprinkling occasionally-- near the end of the rain  
10 and the birds are very lively. A goldfinch twitters //  
11 over. In the dry lupine bank pasture,  
12 about 15 rods from the river--ap--travelling  
13 %V. July 19%  
14 up the hill--I see a box tortoise--the //  
15 first I have found in Concord. Beside  
16 being longer (5 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches) it is much  
17 its upper shell<sup>101</sup>  
18 less oval<sup>102</sup>  
19 flatter & more oblong ^ than the one I found  
20 on Cape Cod last July-- especially it is con-  
21 spiculously broader & flatter forward--  
22 The 2 rear marginal plates have a triangular  
23 sinus between them, ~~while~~ {drawing} while  
24 the C. Cod ones come to a point {drawing}--  
25 The 5th & 6th marginal plates do not project  
26 by their edges beyond the shell.  
27 The yellow marks are much narrower & more  
28 interrupted & like oriental characters than on  
29 the Cape Cod one--  
30 The Sternum also is less oval--uniformly  
31 blackish brown except a few slight bare or horn-  
32 colored blotches--while the C. Cod one is light  
33 yellow with a few brown blotches.  
34 The scales of the sternum in this are<sup>103</sup> much less

---

<sup>101</sup>"its upper shell" interlined below "(5 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches)" and joined by lines framing text

<sup>102</sup>"less oval" encircled and joined to caret

<sup>103</sup>stray mark following word



1 & inserts its long tongue in each--turning  
2 toward me that splendid ruby on its breast--  
3 even this is coal black in some lights!!  
4 --that glowing ruby--^ There along with me  
5 in the deep wild swamp above the andromeda  
6 amid the spruce-- Its hum was heard afar at  
7 first like that of a large bee--bringing a  
8 larger summer-- This sight & sound would make  
9 me think I were in the tropics--in Demerara--  
10 another on our cherry blossoms the next day  
11 a long slender black bill.  
12 or Maracaibo (?)  
13 Nemopanthes X on that very swamp edge. //  
14 V. corymbosum? or the high blueberry--X //  
15 Hear the first veery note & doubless the ?  
16 Musicappa olivacea-- //  
17 The S. americana-- Particolored warbler &c  
18 is<sup>106</sup> very numerous there--darting about amid  
19 the hoary buds of the maples & oaks &c It<sup>107</sup> seems  
20 the most restless of all birds--blue more less deep  
21 above--with yellow dust on the back-- yellow  
22 breast & white beneath-- (the male with bright  
23 orange throat--& some with a rufous crescent  
24 on breast) wings & tail dark-black--with  
25 2 white bars or marks--dark bill & legs.  
26 At Lees--the Turritis stricta pods 3 inches ?  
27 long. & plant 2 1/2 feet high by measure  
28 get some to press. Myosotis stricta above there //  
29 may be several days. Ranunculus bulbosus //  
30 a day or 2 at least. Arenaria serpyllifolia X //  
31 Mrs Ripley showed me from her son  
32 Gore in Minnesota a few days ago the  
33 first spring flower of the prairie there--  
34 a hairy stemmed--slender divisioned & hairy in-

---

<sup>106</sup>"i" poss written over "I"  
<sup>107</sup>"I" written over "i"

1 volucre--6 petall'd blue flower--prob--  
2 a species of hepatica-- no leaves with it.  
3 ? Not described in Gray. Yes %They say it is Pulsatilla Patens%  
4 // Yel. columbine well out at Lees 1 rod from  
5 rock 1 rod E of ash--  
6 How plainly we are a part of nature--for we  
7 live like the animals around us-- All day the  
8 cow is cropping the grass of yonder meadow  
9 appropriating as it were a part of the solid earth  
10 into her self--except when she rests & chews  
11 the cud--, and from time to time she wends  
12 her way to the river and fills her belly with that.  
13 Her food and drink are not scarce & precious  
14 but the commonest elements of which nature is  
15 composed. The dry land in these latitudes except  
16 in woods & deserts is almost universally clothed  
17 with her food--& there are inland seas  
18 ready mixed of the wine that she loves--  
19 The Mississippi is her drink--the prairie grass  
20 her food.  
21 The<sup>108</sup> shrub oak--& some other oak leafets just  
22 expanding now begin to be pretty.  
23 in the cavity  
24 Within the shell of my box turtle ^ between its  
25 thighs & its body--were small dry leaves & seeds  
26 showing where it laid. From these I should  
27 say it had come from amidst the alders.  
28 May 18 '56  
29 // Ed. Emerson says he saw at Medford yesterday  
30 many ground birds nests & eggs under apple trees--

---

<sup>108</sup> "The" altered from "She"; "T" written over "S"

1           %ap. it is American%  
2 R. W. E's black currant ^ --(<sup>109</sup>which the wild  
3 R. floridum is said to be much like--) may  
4 be a day-- R. W. E. says that Agassiz tells  
5 him he has had turtles 6 or 7 yrs which grew  
6 so little compared with others of the same size  
7 killed at first--that he thinks they may  
8 live 4 or 500 years--  
9 Pm to Kalmia Swamp--  
10 Go across fields from R. W. E's to my boat  
11 at Cardinal<sup>110</sup> Shore-- In A Wheeler's stubble field  
12 w. of deep cut-- a female (?) goldfinch on an  
13 oak--without any obvious black--is mewng //  
14 incessantly--the note ending rather ~~p~~ musically  
15 When I get over the fence a flock of 20  
16 or more male & female rise from amid the  
17 stubble & alighting on the oaks--sing pleasantly  
18 all together, in a lively manner--  
19 Going along the Spring path--hear an oft  
20 repeated tchip tchar / tchip tchar &c or  
21 (This is a common note with birds)  
22 tchip tcharry ^ from a large bird on a tree  
23 top--a sort of flaxen olive--made me  
24 think of a female rose breasted grossbeak ?  
25 though methought the beak more slender.  
26 On the surface of the water amid the  
27 maples on the Holden Wood Shore where I  
28 landed--I noticed some of the most splendid  
29 or opalesence  
30 irridescence ^ from some oily matter--where the  
31 water was smooth amid the maples--that  
32 I ever saw-- It was where some sucker or other  
33 fish perchance had decayed. The colors are  
34 intense blue & crimson--with dull golden  
35 The whole at first covering 7 or 8 inches  
36 --but broken by the ripples I have made--

---

<sup>109</sup>paren written over dash  
<sup>110</sup>"C" written over "K"

1 into polygonal figures like the fragments  
2 of a most wonderfully painted mirror.  
3 These fragments drift & turn about ap.  
4 as stiffly on the surface as if they were as  
5 thick & strong as glass-- The colors are  
6 in many places sharply defined in fine lines--  
7 making unaccountable figures, as if they  
8 were produced by a sudden crystallization.  
9 How much color--or expression can reside  
10 in so thin a substance-- With such ac-  
11 companiments does a sucker die & mix  
12 his juices with the river-- this beauty like  
13 the rain-bow & sunset sky marks the spot  
14 where his body has mingled with the elements.  
15 A somewhat similar beauty reappears painted  
16 on the clam's shell. Even a dead sucker  
17 suggests a beauty--& so a glory of its own.  
18 I leaned over the edge of my boat & admired  
19 it, as much as ever I did a rain-bow or  
20 sunset sky. The colors were not faint but  
21 strong & fiery--if not angry.  
22 Found a young turtle about 2 inches long  
23 of a flat roundish form with scales as  
24 dull  
25 rough as usual--but a ^ reddish or yellowish  
26 spot in middle of each scale & edges beneath  
27 were also a pinkish red-- Can it be a young  
28 yel spot?  
29 //I have not noticed a tree-sparrow  
30 since December!  
31 A. S. Americana--Particolored warbler--in

1 the Holden wood--sings a-tshrea tshrea tshrea  
2 / tshré tshritty tshrit  
3 One low Kalmia glauca XXX before //  
4 any Rhodora thereabouts-- several Kalmias  
5 no doubt tomorrow. The rhodora there may be tomorrow  
6 elsewhere I find it (in Hub-- meadow) today X //  
7 The swamp is all alive with warblers  
8 about the hoary expanding buds of oaks  
9 maples &c & amid the pine & spruce-- They  
10 swarm like gnats now-- they fill the air  
11 with their little tshree tshree sprayey notes.  
12 I see close by hopping close up to the  
13 main stem of young white pines--what  
14 you would call a maryland yel throat(?) //  
15 but less chubby--yel throat--beneath--& vent  
16 & dark under tail--black side--but hear  
17 no note  
18 Also another clear pure white beneath--& vent  
19 & side head--black above finely marked with  
20 yellow--yellow bars on wings--& golden crown  
21 black bill & legs--with a clear sweet warble  
22 like tche tche tche, tchut tchutter we Can<sup>111</sup>  
23 it  
24 this be a Chestnut-sided<sup>112</sup> warbler & I not see ? //  
25 It is v 20th saw it also the 17th here  
26 the chestnut? ^ Hopping amid oak twigs.  
27 I think I hear a yel-throated vireo. ?  
28 Hear a tree toad. //  
29 Sailed back on Hubbard red-start path--  
30 & there saw a mud turtle draw in his head--  
31 of which I saw the half--about 8 rods off--  
32 Pushed to the spot where the water was  
33 about a foot deep--& at length

---

<sup>111</sup>"C" written over "c"  
<sup>112</sup>"C" written over "c"

1 detected him spread out on the  
2 his monstrous head & tail & legs outspread  
3 bottom--^prob. directly under where  
  
4 he had appeared-- It first I suspect I  
5 mistook him for a rock--for he was  
6 thickly covered with a short green moss-like  
7 conferva(??)-- A venerable object--a true  
8 son of the meadow--suggesting what vigor!  
9 what naturalness-- Perchance to make the  
10 moss grow on your back without in-  
11 juring your health! How many things  
12 can he sustain on his shell where the mosses  
13 grow. He looked like an antediluvian under  
14 that green shaggy shell--tougher than  
15 the rock you mistake it for-- No wonder  
16 the Indian revered him as a god. Think  
17 of the time when he was an infant. There  
18 is your native American<sup>113</sup>--who was before Co-  
19 lumbus perchance. Grown, not gray, but  
20 green with the lapse of ages. Living with  
21 the life of the meadow-- I took off my coat  
22 stripped up my shirt-sleeve & caught him  
23 by his great rough tail-- He snapped  
24 at me & my paddle--striking his snout  
25 against the side of the boat till he made  
26 of an hour & I could look straight down his monstrous gullet 10 inches--  
27 it bleed. ^<sup>114</sup> The only way to hold him  
28 & paddle too was to turn him on his  
29 back--then putting the end of a paddle  
30 under a seat slant it over his sternum  
31 & press my foot on the other end--  
32 <sup>115</sup>Though I held him down with an oar for a lever & my foot on it--he would sud-  
33 denly lift all together--or run out his head & knock the oar & my leg aside. He held  
34 up his head  
35 to me & with his mouth wide open hissed ~~like~~ in his breathing like a locomotive for  
36 a quarter

---

<sup>113</sup>"A" written over "a"

<sup>114</sup>caret connects to vertical written text, finished with interlined material above

<sup>115</sup>this text written vertically in left margin

1 He was 14 1/2 inches long x 12--at  
2 the broadest places--& weighed 25 lbs &  
3 3 ounces-- The claws were 1 1/4 inches long  
4 beyond the skin & very stout. You had to exert  
5 yourself to turn him over on a plane surface  
6 he held down so firmly with his claws, as  
7 if grown to it. He took my hand into his shell  
8 with his tail, & took the skin off it. The  
9 sternum is broadest forward-- This turtle  
10 was not roundish like the shell I have  
11 but--nearly an oblong square--nearly  
12 The usual number of scallops behind.  
13 as long as that but much less wide.

14 I know of a young lady who when riding  
15 came across one in the road--which not  
16 wishing to run over, she got out & tried  
17 to drive it out of the way with her whip--  
18 but it "screamed" at & terrified her.

19 A<sup>116</sup> caravan could not make him  
20 budge<sup>117</sup> under those circumstances.

21 E. Emerson finds half a dozen //  
22 yellow violets-- A hair birds nest building //  
23 I hear whipporwills about R. W. Es //

24 May 19th

25 Thick fog in the morning--which //  
26 lasted late into the forenoon--& left behind  
27 it rainy clouds for the afternoon--

28 P. m. to Cedar Swamp--  
29 Landed at Island neck--& saw a small  
30 striped snake in the act of swallowing a rana  
31 palustris within 3 feet of the water-- The snake

---

<sup>116</sup>"A" written over "Her"  
<sup>117</sup>"d" written over "g"

1 being frightened released his hold & the  
2 frog hopped off to the water. Hear &  
3 //see a yel. throated vireo which methinks  
4 I have heard before--going & coming he  
5 is in the top of the same swamp white  
6 oak--singing indolently--ullia--eelya  
7 varied to  
8 & sometimes ^ eelyee  
9 //The tanager is now heard plainly & frequently.  
10 I see running along the water's edge on  
11 the Island neck--amid the twigs a new  
12 bird slender & somewhat warbler like--but  
13 plainly a turdus--with a deep dark choco-  
14 late brown back (ap uniformly) ap-- cream-  
15 colored beneath handsomely & abundantly spotted  
16 with dark brown--vent white--light flesh  
17 colored legs--yellowish or cream colored line  
18 over eyes-- Methinks<sup>118</sup> it tetered or wagged  
19 its tail--flew soon & was quite shy. I think  
20 //it must have been the Turdus aquaticus  
21 from its dark choc. brown back--& running  
22 along the waters edge--feel pretty sure--yet  
23 that is said to have white (?) over eye. I lost  
24 it before I had examined fully-- Quite a discovery--  
25 V. gold. C. Thrush carefully.  
26 //Apple X some no doubt earlier. Night hawk's  
27 //  
28 //squeak-- Redwing's nest made--and  
29 it is a robin's  
30 //ap. a--~~king bird's~~ (?) on black willow 4 ft above water--  
31 without mud.  
32 As I sail up the reach of the Assabet  
33 above Dove Rock--with a fair wind--a  
34 traveller riding along the highway is watching

---

<sup>118</sup>"Methinks" written over "Methings"

1 my sail while he hums a tune-- How in-  
2 spiring & Elysian it is to hear when the  
3 traveller or the laborer--from a call to  
4 his horse or the murmur of ordinary con-  
5 versation rises into song!-- It paints the  
6 landscape suddenly as no agriculture--no  
7 flowery crop that can be raised-- It is at  
8 once another land, the abode of poetry--  
9 I am always thus affected when I hear in  
10 the fields any singing or instrumental music  
11 at the end of the day. It implies a different  
12 life & pursuits than the ordinary. As he looked  
13 at my sail, I listened to his singing. Per-  
14 chance they were equally poetic--& we repayed  
15 each other. Why will not men oftener adver-  
16 tise me of musical thoughts--?<sup>119</sup> The singer is  
17 in the attitude of one inviting the muse--  
18 aspiring.

19 The maryland yel-throat amid the alders  
20 sings--now whit we chee whit we chee  
21 whit we chee whit whit The last 2 fast  
22 or whit alone--or none.  
23 Wood-pewee-- -- -- -- -- -- --  
24 Woolly aphides on alder--  
25 The Smilacina Trifolia will ap bloom tomorrow or  
26 In house the 21st  
27 next day.^ Returning--stopped at Barrett's  
28 Saw mill while it rained a little. Was also  
29 attracted by the music of his saw-- He was  
30 sawing a white oak log--was about  
31 to saw a very ugly & knotty white oak

//  
//

---

<sup>119</sup> question mark written over dash

1 log into drag plank--making an angle--  
2 Said that about as many logs were brought  
3 to his mill as ten years ago--he did not per-  
4 ceive the difference--but they<sup>120</sup> were not so  
5 large--&<sup>121</sup> Perhaps they went further for them.  
6 I observed that he was not grind-- No, he said,  
7 it was the first day he had not had a grist  
8 --though he had plenty of water--prob-- because  
9 the farmers were busy planting.  
10 There white oak--pine--maple--&  
11 walnut logs waiting to be sawed.  
12 //A bull frog sluggish by my boat place--  
13 On the 13th ult I saw washed up to the  
14 edge of the meadow this side of Clam Shell  
15 portions of one or 2 large bluish white  
16 eggs--ap. a size larger than hen's eggs  
17 which may have been laid last year by  
18 some wild fowl in the meadow.  
19 If my friend would take a quarter  
20 part the pains to show me himself--that  
21 he does to show me a piece of roast beef  
22 I should feel myself irresistibly invited--  
23 He says Come & see  
24 Roast beef & me. I find the  
25 & well done  
26 beef fat, ^ but him rare.  
27 May 20th 56  
28 //Fir balsam (ours in grove) ap 2 or 3 days  
29 for it almost entirely effete--cones white 1 inch  
30 long nearly-- Was awaked & put into sounder

---

<sup>120</sup>"they" written over "there"  
<sup>121</sup>"&" poss inserted

1 sleep than ever early this morning by the  
2  
3 distant crashing of thunder & now  
4 Pm (to Beck-Stows)  
5 I hear it in mid-afternoon--muttering  
6 crashing in the muggy air in mid heaven  
7 a little south of the village as I go through  
8 it like the tumbling down of piles of boards  
9 --& get a few sprinkles in the sun.  
10 Nature has found her hoarse summer  
11 voice again--like the lowing of a cow  
12 let out to pasture. It is Nature's rutting  
13 season. Even as the birds sing tumultuously  
14 & glance by with fresh & brilliant plumage  
15 so now is nature's grandest voice heard--&  
16 her sharpest flashes seen. The air has resumed  
17 its voice--& the lightning like a yellow spring  
18 flower--illuminates the dark banks of clouds.  
19 All the pregnant earth is bursting into life--  
20 like a mildew--accompanied with noise &  
21 fire & tumult-- Some oestrus stings her  
22 that she dashes headlong against the  
23 steeples & bellows hollowly--making the  
24 earth tremble. She comes dropping rain  
25 like a cow with overflowing udder. The  
26 winds drive her--the dry fields milk her.  
27 It is the familiar note of a another warbler  
28 just arrived--echoing amid the roofs--  
29 I see on a locust in the locust bury-  
30 ing ground the Sylvia Striata or Black Poll  
31 warbler--busily picking about the locust

//

//

1 buds & twigs-- Black head & above with  
 2 olive (green) wings & 2 white bars white  
 3 all beneath with a very distinct black line  
 4 from throat to shoulders--flesh colored legs  
 5 --bill dark above light beneath-- Hear no note  
 6 --Saw it well. A Moore's swamp on Bed-  
 7 //ford road. Myriads of pollywogs 1/2 inch  
 8 long darken or blacken the shore--chiefly head  
 9 //as yet. Bank swallows are very lively  
 10 about the low sand bank just beyond in which  
 11 are 50 holes.  
 12 I now see distinctly the chestnut-sided warbler  
 13 (of the 18th<sup>122</sup> & 17)--by Beck Stow's It is very lively  
 14 on the maples birches &c over the edge the  
 15 swamp--sings eech eech eech/ wichy  
 16 wichy / tchea or itch itch itch / witty  
 17 witty / tchea Yet this note I represented on  
 18 the 18th by tche tche tche / tchut tchutter we  
 19 The Andromeda~~s~~ has apparently been out  
 20 // several days--but no Buck bean there  
 21 yet--nor will for a day or 2 (V 21)<sup>123</sup>  
 22 //See & hear a stake driver in the swamp--  
 23 It took one short pull at its pump & stopped--  
 24 ? 2 marsh hawks--male & female flew about  
 25 me a long time--screaming--the female  
 26 largest with ragged wings--as I stood on  
 27 the neck of the Peninsula-- This induced me to  
 28 climb 4 pines--but I tore my clothes (& } got  
 29 pitched all over--& found only squirrel--yet  
 30 they have no doubt a nest there abouts  
 31

---

<sup>122</sup>"8" written over "7"

<sup>123</sup>"(V 21)" probably "(V 2f)" [see 2 forward]

1 Haynes the carpenter calls that large  
2 glaucous puff that grows on the andromeda  
3 paniculata Swamp<sup>124</sup> apple--says he has  
4 eaten as much as 3 bushels! of them ~~& likes~~  
5 when he was a boy--& likes them. That  
6 is what he was raised on--

7 After I got him home<sup>125</sup> I observed a large  
8 leach on the upper shell of my great turtle  
9 --He stoutly resisted being turned over by sinking  
10 his claws into the ground--was aware that  
11 that was his weak side--& when turned would  
12 instantly run out his head to turn himself  
13 back. No wonder the orientals rested the  
14 world on such a broad back-- Such  
15 broad health & strength under lies Nature

16 Wednesday May 21 '56

17 Pm. to Saw Mill Brook--

18 Chelidonium X Rubus triflorus abundantly //  
19 out at the Saw<sup>126</sup> Mill Brook--how long? //

20 A robin's nest without mud on a young  
21 white oak in woods with 3 eggs-- //

22 Saw 2 splend rose breasted gross beaks //  
23 with females in the young wood in emerson's  
24 lot-- What strong-colored fellows  
25 black--white--& fiery rose-red breasts--  
26 Strong-natured too with their stout  
27 bills. A clear sweet singer--like a  
28 tanager but hoarse--somewhat--& not  
29 shy. The redstarts are inquisitive & hop near

---

<sup>124</sup>"S" written over "s"

<sup>125</sup>"home" written over "I"

<sup>126</sup>"S" written over "s"

1 //The Polygonatum pubescens there in shade  
2 almost out--perhaps elsewhere already--  
3 At the trough near turnpike near  
4 ? Hosmers spring--the perhaps Stellaria  
5 borealis of the 15th-- I am still in doubt  
6 whether it is a stellaria or cerastium--  
7 This is quite smooth--4 to 5 inches high  
8 spreading and forking with a single flower  
9 each fork on a long peduncle--square  
10 stemmed oblong lanceolate leaves slightly ciliate  
11 & connate--10 {stames} 5 long 5 short-- Aspect  
12 of a smooth cerastium--but this has 4 to  
13 7 styles oftenest perhaps 5--all apetalous  
14 except one petal shorter than the calyx--  
15 leaves 1 nerved--sepals 3 nerved! The  
16 base--& small plants are reddish stemmed.  
17 Can it be Stellaria Longipes?  
18 //The buck Bean in Everett's Pool abundantly  
19 out--say 4 or 5 days. It is earlier than at B. Stow's  
20 //Myosotis laxa by Turnpike near Hosmer spring  
21 may have been out several days. 2 or 3 at least  
22 May 22d  
23 Pm to Viola Muhlenbergii--which is abundantly  
24 //  
25 out how long-- A small pale blue flower growing  
26 in dense bunches--but in spots a little drier than  
27 the v. cucullata & blanda Veronica peregrina  
28 //  
29 //ap. several days. A yellow butterfly over the  
30 middle of the flooded meadows. Polygonatum  
31 //  
32 //pubescens at rock ap-- X Aralia nudicaul-  
33 lis ap. a day or 2 where heat is reflected from  
34 ? the rock on Island-- Choke cherry & Crataegus  
35 ? there in a day or 2-- The cornus Florida

1 does not bloom this year. Hemlock & creeping ?  
2 Juniper not quite yet-- The red & cream  
3 colored cone-shaped staminate buds of the  
4 black spruce will ap shed pollen in 1 to 3 days? //  
5 They are nearly 1/2 inch long. I see beds of  
6 anemonies amid or under clumps of hazels  
7 of this form {drawing} a mass of their pretty leaves  
8 & flowers 5 or 6 feet in diameter-- I see  
9 a common v. vacillans? with a leaf much like  
10 that of the V. Pennsylvanicum--also the common ?  
11 v. vacillans with more rounded glaucous leaves.  
12 I noticed a cobweb the other day between  
13 the thole pins of my boat which was perfectly  
14 black with those little fuzzy gnats which  
15 fly at that height--& take shelter from  
16 wind--in boats & the like.  
17 A little clammy hairy cerastium? (like  
18 a Cerastium viscosum slender & erect) about  
19 3 inches high will open in a day or 2 on the //  
20 rock near the bass. %v June 5th%  
21  
22 May 23  
23 Pm to Heywood Spring--  
24 ap  
25 Sorrel well open X on w side of RR. causeway against //  
26 H Wheeler's land. Noticed the earliest willow  
27 catkins turned to masses of cotton yesterday //  
28 also a little of the mouse ear down begins //  
29 to be loose Hear often & distinctly ap.  
30 from H. Wheeler's Black spruce woodlot  
31 the phe phee-ar of the new muscicappa //  
32 Red-eye--& Wood thrush--  
33  
34 /////

1     Houstonias whiten the fields--& looked  
2     //  
3     yesterday like snow, a sugaring of snow,  
4     on the side of Lee's Hill. Heard partridges  
5     //drum yesterday & today. Observed  
6     the pads yesterday just begun to spread out  
7     //  
8     on the surface with wrinkled edges & here  
9     & there a bullet like bud--the red white  
10    lily pads still more rare as yet--  
11    The stellaria at Heywood spring must  
12    //  
13    be the same with that near the E<sup>127</sup> Hosmer  
14    spring-- though the forme has commonly few-  
15    er styles--& rather slenderer leaves-- It  
16    appears to be the S. borealis though the  
17    leaves are narrowly lanceolate-- has 3 to 7  
18    styles a few petals (cleft almost to the bottom)  
19    or none--pods seem longer than the calyx  
20        %{At last} 2ce as long%  
21    & ap. 10 ribbed%^--petals now about the length  
22    of the sepals-- %keeps & grows & blossoms {in a tumbler}%<sup>128</sup>  
23    After sunset on river--  
24    //A warm summer-like night  
25    //A bull frog trumps once-- A large devil's  
26    needle goes by after sundown-- The ring of  
27    //toads is loud & incessant-- It seems more  
28    prolonged than it is-- I think it not more  
29    than 2 seconds in each case. At the same  
30    //time I hear a low stertorous dry but hard  
31    cored note from some frogs in the meadows  
32    & along the river side--often heard in past  
33    years but not accounted for-- Is it an  
34    //R. Palustris? Daw bugs hum in the  
35    yard--(& were heard against the windows

---

<sup>127</sup>"E" inserted

<sup>128</sup>checked against 1906 edition

1 some nights ago)-- The cat is springing into the  
2 air for them.

3 May 24th 56

4 Pratt gave me the wing of a sparrow(?) //  
5 hawk which he shot some months ago-- He  
6 was coming from his house to his shop early in the  
7 morning whe saw this small hawk which looked like  
8 over the common  
9 a pigeon fly past him ^ with a sparrow in his clutches  
10 and alight about 6 feet up the S<sup>129</sup> buttonwood  
11 in front of Tolman's-- Having a small maynard's  
12 revolver in his pocket loaded with a ball size of  
13 a pea--he followed--& standing 22 paces from  
14 the tree in the road aimed & brought down  
15 both hawk & sparrow--at a distance of about  
16 6 rods--cutting off the wing of the former  
17 with the ball. This he confessed he could not  
18 do again if he should try a hundred times.  
19 It must be a sparrow hawk--ac to Wilson  
20 & Nuttall for the inner vanes of the primaries  
21 & 2daries are thickly spotted with brownish white  
22 Humphrey Buttrick<sup>130</sup> says that he hears  
23 the note of the woodcock from the village--in  
24 April & early in May--(too late now) That there  
25 or singing  
26 were some this year breeding by the river side in front  
27 of Abel Heywoods. He says that that when  
28 you see one spring right up straight into  
29 the air, you may go to the spot & he will  
30 surely come down again after some minutes  
31 to within a few feet of the same spot & of you.

---

<sup>129</sup>"S" poss written over "E"

<sup>130</sup>"B" written over "b"

1 Has know a partridge to fly at once from  
2 1 to 2 miles after being wounded--(tracked  
3 them by the blood) without alighting.  
4 Says he has caught as many as a dozen  
5 partridges in his hands-- He lies right  
6 down on them & ~~then pa~~ or where he knows  
7 them to be--then passes his hands back  
8 & forth under his body till he feels them.  
9 You must not lift your body at all or  
10 they will surely squeeze out & when you  
11 feel one must be sure you get hold of their  
12 legs or heads--and not feathers merely.

13 To day is suddenly overpoweringly warm  
14 //  
15 Therm. at 1 Pm 94° in the shade! but  
16 ~~before~~ in the afternoon it suddenly fell  
17 to 56 & it continued cold the next 2  
18 days.

19 May 25th

20 10 Am To Fair H. Pond with Blake & Brown--

21 I found 5 arrowheads at Clam Shell  
22 Hill. Saw just before on the flat meadow  
23 on the right feeding on the edge of the  
24 meadow just left bare along with the peet  
25 //weets a--bird a size larger with--an  
26 ap. light brown back--a ring or crescent  
27 of black on its breast & side of neck & a black  
28 patch including the eye-- Can it be the Charadrius  
29 It looks like the latter in Wilson's larger plates  
30 Semipalmatus? or else Wilsonius? ^ It  
31 reminded me of the piping plover--but  
32 was not so white--and of the Kildeer

1 but was not so large  
2 Pyrus on side of F. H. hill yesterday at least //  
3 Huckleberry there yesterday also atleast--on  
4 the Cliffs--Orobancha--Veronica arvensis ////  
5 well out  
6 the little one on the rocks there^-- Also low //  
7 blackberry on the rocks a day or 2--Blackburnian //  
8 warbler--& Rose breasted gross beak-- //  
9 Lupines ap yesterday X Young phoebes in ////  
10 the Baker House. The bird flitted out as we  
11 entered I reached to an old shelf & felt the warm  
12 nudiflora  
13 yet callow young. Azalea ^ in garden X //  
14 Polygala fringed by path beyond Hub. grove how long //  
15 May 27th  
16 To Kalmia Swamp with Sanborn--  
17 F. melodia's nest in midst of swamp--with four //  
18 eggs made partly of usnea--2 stories i.e. upon  
19 an old nest elevated 1 foot above the water-- Eggs<sup>131</sup>  
20 with very dark blotches Kalmia in prime & //  
21 Rhodora--ap the oldest blossomed Kalmia<sup>132</sup> the //  
22 palest. Saw prob. a deer mouse {of} jumping //  
23 off--by the side of the swamp--short leaps of ap  
24 10 inches. The pyrus (smooth leaved) out ap //  
25 a day or 2. See men fishing 1 or 2--& //  
26 often perceive the meadow fragrance.  
27 My 3 kinds of birch sap have now become  
28 much more acid--especially the white &  
29 canoe birch. The black birch is milder & more  
30 agreeable--with sugar it is an agreeable  
31 drink-- I prefer it to Cream' o'tartar  
32 water. This is the real birch wine--  
33  
34 May 28  
35 Rainy //  
36 To Paint. Cup--meadow  
37 Potentilla argentea may be several days. //  
38 Trifolium pratense ap X-- A seringo or //

---

<sup>131</sup>"E" written over "e"  
<sup>132</sup>"K" written over "C"



1 To return to Paint-Cup meadow-- I do not per-  
2 ceive the rank odor of T. Cornuti expanding  
3 leaves today-- How more than fugacious it  
4 is! Evidently this odor is emitted only at  
5 particular times. a Cuckoo's note--loud //  
6 and hollow from a woodside-- Found a  
7 painted cup--with more yellow than  
8 usual in it-- & at length Edith found  
9 one perfectly yellow. What a flowery  
10 place--a vale of Enna is that meadow--  
11 --Paint Cup--Erigeron bellid{=)--Thalictrum  
12 dioicum--V Muhlenbergii--fringed polygala  
13 --Buck bean--Pedicularis--orobanche  
14 &c &c Where you find a rare flower ex-  
15 pect to find more rare ones. Saw sanicle //  
16 well flower budded. Cherry birds on //  
17 the apple trees. Blue-eyed grass prob. tomorrow-- //  
18 May 30 '56  
19 Pm to Linnaea Woodlot--  
20 ap-- This flower does not bloom then this year-- //  
21 %Yes--it did later--%  
22 The Ladies slipper in P. pine woodside //  
23 near J. Hosmer's desert--prob. about  
24 the 27th X That desert--small as it  
25 now is (for it is partly reclaimed by using  
26 pine boughs as a salve) is scored with  
27 circles {drawing}<sup>137</sup> (like that of Provincetown) made  
28 by the dry polyg. articulata blown about.  
29 It is but a lesser Sahara<sup>138</sup> & I  
30 cannot see it without being reminded

---

<sup>137</sup>possibly canceled drawing of "circles"  
<sup>138</sup>"S" written over "s"

1 that in some parts of the globe sands  
 2 prevails like an ocean. What are  
 3 those black masses of fibrous roots  
 4 mixed with smaller dark grey cone  
 5 like tubers?--on the sand--?  
 6 Return via Clam shell-- Yellow clover  
 7 //  
 8 abundantly out though the heads are  
 9 small yet-- are they quite open?  
 10 //Comandra umbellata ap a day or 2--  
 11 Frank Harding caught 5 good  
 12 //sized chivin this cold & windy day from  
 13 the new Stone bridge-- The biggest one was  
 14 or coppery  
 15 quite red^--the others but slightly except  
 16 the head-- Is it a peculiarity of age--?  
 17 May 31st 56  
 18 Pm to Clintonia swamp (Hubbard's ) Grove<sup>139</sup>  
 19 //A ground bird's nest (? Melodia or Gramminea?) with  
 20 6 of those oblong narrow gray speckled with much  
 21 brown at end-- when I looked again 1/2 hour  
 22 after 1 egg was hatched-- The bird would steal  
 23 out through the grass when I came within  
 24 a rod & then after running a rod or 2 take to  
 25 ?  
 26 wing-- Tied a string about a low pyrus  
 27 1 rod or so to right of entrance to Hub. Pyrus swamp  
 28 & 2 feet west of of a p pine stump--& pressed a twig of  
 29//// it. Clintonia X Nuphar advena first noticed  
 30 may have been out some time in some places but  
 31 2 or 3  
 32 // just out in river-- Pink com. wild may be ^ a days<sup>140</sup> x  
 33 for they are very abundant at Heywood peak on June 1st--some white  
 34 Sundown to Hill & Island--

---

<sup>139</sup>"G" written over "g"

<sup>140</sup>"days" written over "a day"

1 Have noticed within a week from time  
2 to time the water line on the bushes along  
3 the shore the water going down--unusually  
4 distinct--for while the exposed parts have  
5 leaved out the lower are quite bare & black.  
6 Hemlock--& creeping juniper where  
7 had not bloomed the 22nd ult are now en- ?  
8 tirely out of bloom on the hill. How short  
9 their flower lasts--  
10 Ranunculus Purshii<sup>141</sup> X prob earlier in some places  
11 but water high  
12 That little cerastium on the rock at the island  
13 ~~also~~ noticed the 22nd ult--which prob opened about  
14 that time--is now out of bloom-- It is about  
15 3 inches high and has long pods more than  
16 2ce the length of the calyx which turned up-  
17 ward. I have seen no petals. It seems to be the  
18 C. nutans? from size--erectness--& form of pods //  
19 & leaves-- It has viscid hairs or with glands at end--  
20 The red oak oak is so forward compared  
21 with the rest that it is more difficult  
22 to get a sprig in flower small enough (its leaves)  
23 to press-- As I return in the  
24 dusk many night hawks with their //  
25 great spotted wings are circling low  
26 over the river--as the swallows {were} when  
27 I went out. They skim within a rod of  
28 me-- After dusk these greater swallows  
29 come forth & circle and play about  
30 over the water like those lesser ones  
31 --or perhaps making a larger circuit

---

<sup>141</sup>"p" written over "p"

1 also uttering a louder note. It would  
2 not be safe for such great birds  
3 to fly so near & familiarly by day.  
4 It has been very cold for 2 or 3 days--  
5 //  
6 & to night a frost is feared-- The telegraph  
7 The hickory leaves are blackened by  
8 says it snowed in Bangor today blowing in the cold wind.  
9 to-morrow  
10 June 1st-- Horse radish in yard ^ X  
11 //  
12 Picked up an entire sternothaerus shell yesterday  
13 without scales In the upper shell there appear  
14 small  
15 to be 6 ^ segments of shell wholly dorsal-- 17  
16 wholly lateral (none in front) & 22 marginal  
17 45 in all{.} The ribs in this case spreading out  
18 & tight  
19 & uniting to form a sharp ^ roof suggest that  
20 ribs were the first rafters-- So we turn our  
21 The scales upon the shell answer to the shingles on the roof breaking joints  
22 backs to the storm & shelter ourselves under  
23 Saw the shell of another turtle ap. a young paint turtle--1 inch long  
24 this roof-- curiously wrinkled & turned up--like that found in Middleboro--  
25 This had been washed up into mead. some weeks ago. ap.  
26 Pm to Walden--  
27 // somewhat warmer at last after several very cold as well as windy  
28 & rainy days  
29 Was soothed & cheered--~~but~~ by I knew not what  
30 //at first--but soon detected the now more general  
31 //creak of crickets-- A striped yel. bug in fields  
32 Most of the leaves of the Polygonatum pubescens  
33 which I gathered yesterday at Island had been eaten  
34 up by some creature--  
35 S  
36 A chewink's nest 1 1/2 rods N of Walden road op. G. P.  
37 //  
38 path under a young<sup>142</sup> oak--covered by over {aching} dry sedge  
39 4 eggs pretty fresh-- I am pretty sure the bird uttered  
40 an unusual hoarse & distinct note while I was  
41 looking at them. Linaria canadensis  
42 //  
43 //on Emerson Cliff X Rock rose a day or 2 there XX  
44 //White weed by RR at pond tomorrow X  
45 //Cotton grass several days before the 29th may

---

<sup>142</sup>"young" written over "sp"

1 Heard a quail whistle May 30th //

2 about

3 The late crataegus on hill ^ May 31st

4 June 2nd

5 Carum i.e Caraway in garden X ✕ //

6 Saw most humming birds when cherries were //

7 in bloom--on them.

8 Pm with R. W. E to Perez Bloods

9 auction-- Telescope sold for 55 dolls--

10 See Camilla on rye--undulating //

11 cost 95 + 10 light & shade-- not 19th of April.

12 cerifera possibly

13 returned by bridle road-- Myrica ^ ~~ap~~ yesterday //

14 very few buds shed pollen yet--more prob. to-day X

15 XXXX.--^ leaves nearly an inch long--& shoot & all no //

16 more-- Eng. Hawthorn will open up in 2 days //

17 Aggassiz tells his class that the intestinal

18 worms in the mouse are not developed ~~till~~

19 ~~the~~ except in the stomach of the cat.

20 5 Pm to azalea nudiflora which is

21 in prime-- Ranunculus recurvatus //

22 the same--how long-- {Whit} maple //

23 key is conspicuous-- //

24

25

26 In the 1st vol of Brewster's life of Newton

27 I read that with one of the early telescopes

28 they could read the Philosophical<sup>143</sup> transactions

29 at 500 feet dist.

30 Tuesday June 3rd

31 Surveying for John Hosmer beyond Paill-

32 Factory-- Hosmer says that seedling

33 white birches do not grow larger than

34 your arm-- but cut them down & they

35 spring up again & grow larger.

---

<sup>143</sup>"p" written over "p"

1 While clearing a line through shrub-  
2 which put his eyes out  
3 oak ^ he asked what is shrub-oak made  
4 for? R Hoar? I believe, bought that  
5 (formerly) pine lot of Loring's which is now  
6 coming up shrub oak-- Hosmer--says  
7 that he will not see any decent wood  
8 there as long as he lives.  
9 <sup>144</sup>H. says he had a Lot of pine in Sudbury which  
10 being cut shrub oak came up-- He cut  
11 & burned & raised rye--& the next year (it  
12 being surrounded by pine woods on 3 sides)  
13 a dense growth of pine sprang up.  
14 As I have said before, it seems to me that  
15 the squirrels &c<sup>145</sup> disperse the acorns &c amid the  
16 pines--they being a covert for them to lurk {~~in~~} in,  
17 & when they<sup>146</sup> pines are cut the fuzzy shrub oaks  
18 &c have the start. If you cut the shrub oak  
19 <sup>maples</sup>  
20 soon prob. pines ~~will~~ or birches ^ or other trees which  
21 have light seeds will spring next--because  
22 squirrels &c will not be likely to carry acorns  
23 into open land. If the pine wood had been  
24 surrounded by white oak prob. that would  
25 have come up after the pine.  
26 While running a line in the woods close  
27 to the water on the S. W. side of Loring's  
28 Pond--I observed a chickadee sitting quietly  
29 within a few feet. Suspecting a nest--  
30 I looked & found it in a small hollow  
31 //  
32 maple stump which was about 5 inches

---

<sup>144</sup>vertical pencil line in left margin includes this and following paragraph

<sup>145</sup> "&c" inserted.

<sup>146</sup> "the" written over "they"

1 in diameter--& 2 feet high. I looked down  
2 about a foot & could just discern the eggs--  
3 Breaking off a little I managed to get my  
4 hand in & took out some eggs-- There were 7  
5 making by their number an unusual  
6 figure as they lay in the nest--a sort of egg-  
7 rosette--a circle around with one (or more) in  
8 the middle. In the mean while the bird  
9 sat silent though rather restless within  
10 3 feet. The nest was very thick and warm--  
11 of average depth--& made of the bluish slate  
12 rabbits (?) fur. The eggs were a perfect oval--5/8 inch long<sup>147</sup>  
13 white with small reddish brown or rusty spots especially  
14 partly developed  
15 about larger end^-- The bird sat on the  
16 remaining eggs next day. I called off the boy  
17 in another direction that he might not find  
18 Plucked a white lily pad with rounded sinus & lobes in //  
19 it. Loring's pond--a variety.  
20 Picked up a young wood tortoise about  
21 an inch & a half long--but very orbicular--  
22 Its scales very distinct & as usual very finely  
23 & distinctly sculptured--but there was no orange  
24 on it--only buff or leather color on the sides  
25 & size  
26 beneath-- So the one of similar rounded form ^  
27 & with distinct scales but faint yellow spots  
28 on back--must have been a young spot. turtle  
29 I think after all.  
30 June 4th  
31 Surveying for J. Hosmer  
32 Very warm //  
33 While running a line on the west edge of

---

<sup>147</sup>"5/8 inch long" added in margin

1 Loring's pond S of the brook--found  
2 open  
3 on a hummock in the ^ swamp in the midst  
4 of bushes at the foot of a p-pine a nest  
5 about 10 inches over made of dry sedge  
6 //& moss. I think it must have been a ducks  
7 nest. This pond & its islets half flooded and inaccessible affords excellent places  
8 Anthony Wright says that he used to get  
9 ? slippery elm bark from a place S-- W. of Wether-  
10 bee's Mill about 10 rods south of the brook.  
11 He says there was once a house at head  
12 of Hollow next beyond Clam Shell-- Pointed  
13 out the site of Perch Hosmer's house  
14 small  
15 in the ^ field S of road this side of Cousin's  
16 --all smooth now-- Dr Heywood worked  
17 over him a fortnight while the perch  
18 was dissolving in his throat-- He got  
19 little compassion generally--& the nickname  
20 Perch<sup>148</sup> into the bargain. Think of going to sleep  
21 for 14 nights with a perch--his fins set  
22 & his scales! dissolving in your throat!!  
23 What dreams! What waking thoughts!  
24 Also showed where one Shaw--whom he  
25 could just remember used to live in the low  
26 field N of Dennis' barn & also another  
27 family in another house by him--  
28 Eng-- hawthorn from poplar hill blossoms  
29 //  
30 in house X  
31 Thursday June 5th  
32 P. m to Ind. Ditch--

---

<sup>148</sup>"p" written over "p"

1 Achillea Millefolia ap X? Black cherry ap //
  
2 yesterday X. The M. Cooperi sings pe pe pé //
  
3 sitting on the top of a pine--& shows white
  
4 rump ? &c unlike king bird.
  
5 Return by J. Hosmer Desert-- Every where now
  
6 in dry p. pine woods--stand the red ladies slippers
  
7 over the red pine leaves on the forest floor--rejoicing
  
8 in June--with their 2 broad curving green leaves--
  
9 (some even in swamps--) Uphold their rich striped red
  
10 drooping sack. This while rye begins to wave
  
11 richly in the fields A brown thrasher's nest with //
  
12 4 eggs considerably developed--under a small
  
13 white pine on the old N edge of the desert lined
  
14 with root fibres. The bird utters its peculiar tchuck
  
15 Froth on p. pine-- -- -- -- //
  
16 near by P. pine out--the first noticed on low //
  
17 or 2
  
18 land maybe a day ^ X A blue-jay's nest on a //
  
19 white pine 8 feet from ground--next to the stem<sup>149</sup> of twigs
  
20 dark dull greenish with dusky spots equally distributed all over
  
21 lined with root fibres 3 fresh eggs^-- In Hosmer? pines
  
22 27 paces E of wall & 57 from Factory road by wall. jay
  
23 screams as usual. Sat till I got within 10 feet at first.
  
24 v 10th prox
  
25 A cuckoo's nest ^ with 3 ~~fresh~~ light bluish
  
26 partly developed //
  
27 green eggs^--short with rounded ends nearly of a size
  
28 In the thicket up RR this side high wood--in
  
29 black
  
30 a ^ cherry that had been lopped 3 feet from ground--amid
  
31 the thick sprouts--a nest of nearly average depth ?
  
32 of twigs lined with green leaves pine needles
  
33 &c & edged with some dry branchy weeds. The
  
34 bird stole off silently at first. 5 rods S of RR
  
35 I must call that cerastium of May 22nd

---

<sup>149</sup> "stem" written over text

1 // C. nutans??<sup>150</sup>, at least for the present  
2 Oakes in his Catalogue in T's Hist. of Vermont says it is not  
3 though I do not see grooves in stem--^ It  
4 found in N.E. out of that state. The pods of the common one also turn upward.  
5 is about 4 flowered--no petals--pods which  
6 have formed in tumbler, more than 2ce but not  
7 3ce as long as calyx--bent down nearly at rt  
8 angle with peduncles--& then curving upward  
9 The common cerastium is in tufts spreading--  
10 a darker green & much larger--hairy but not  
11 glutinous, pods but little longer than calyx  
12 I afterward see these curving upward like the  
13 (as yet) & upright. former--!  
14 June 6th '56  
15 Pm--to Andromeda Ponds--  
16 //Cold mizzzling weather. In the large cir-  
17 cular hole or cellar at the turn-table on  
18 the RR--which they are repairing--I see  
19 //a star-nosed mole endeavoring in vain to bury him-  
20 self in the sandy & gravelly bottom.<sup>151</sup> Some inhuman  
21 fellow has cut off his tail. It is blue black  
22 with much fur--a very thick plump animal  
23 ap. some 4 inches long--but he occasionally shortens  
24 himself 1/3 or more-- looks as fat as a fat  
25 hog-- His fore-feet are large & set sidewise  
26 or on their edges & with these he shovels  
27 the earth aside while his large<sup>152</sup> long starred  
28 snout is feeling the way & breaking ground  
29 I see deep indentations in his fur where  
30 his eyes are situated and once I saw dis-  
31 tinctly his eye open--a dull blue?-black  
32 head--not so very small--& he very plainly

---

<sup>150</sup>"??" added.

<sup>151</sup>"bottom." followed by stray mark or bleedthrough

<sup>152</sup>"large" written over "long"

1 noticed my movements 2 feet off-- ~~yet~~  
2 He was using his eye as plainly as any  
3 creature that I ever saw-- Yet Emmonds  
4 says it is a question whether their eyes are  
5 not merely rudimentary. I suppose this  
6 was the Condylura macroura--since that  
7 is most common--but only an inch of its tail  
8 was left--& that was quite stout. I carried  
9 him along to plowed ground where he buried  
10 himself in a minute or 2.  
11 Still see cherry-birds in flocks of 5 or 6. //  
12 A cat bird nest on shore of Andromeda Pond  
13 in shruboak. 3 feet high--twigs & ~~oak sh~~ //  
14 bark shreds lined with root fibres 3 ~~fresh~~ eggs--  
15 Those nests in the andromeda are blackbird's  
16 --Many sound the alarm while I am wading  
17 through the swamp-- Noticed one with 3 eggs ~~fresh~~ //  
18 That willow male & female op to  
19 Trillium Woods on the RR I find to be the  
20 S. rostrata or long-beaked willow--one of //  
21 (I had remarked the peculiar yellow of its {flower})  
22 (fulvae)  
23 the ochre-flowered ^ willows ^ of Baratt. It  
24 is now just beginning XXX to open its long beaks.  
25 The S. Cordata is another of the ochre flowered ones.  
26 How well suited the lining of a bird's  
27 nest--not only for the comfort of the  
28 young--but to keep the eggs from breaking--  
29 --fine elastic grass stems--or root fibres--  
30 pine needles or hair or the like.  
31 These tender & brittle things which you

1 can hardly carry in cotton, lie there  
2 without harm.  
3 J. Hosmer who is prosecuting Warner for flowing  
4 his land--says that the trees are not only  
5 broken off when young by weight of ice--  
6 but being rubbed & barked by it--become warty  
7 or bulge out there--

8 June 8th '56

9 We have had 6<sup>153</sup> days either rain--threatening  
10 or rainy--the last 2 somewhat rainy or  
11 mizzling--

12 Pm to Cedar swamp--

13 // Put strings on two little willow stems 2 or  
14 %close to present water edge%  
15 3 feet high %^%--which I will call the Stringed  
16 %3%  
17 Whiting--about ~~2~~ 1/2<sup>154</sup> rods from Hoars wall  
18 It ap. bloomed about with S cordata.  
19 female catkins--lateral, about 1 inch long  
20 --have flowered with 2 or 3 bracts at base--ovaries  
21 rather silky--on stalks 1/3 their length--with  
22 a little  
23 brown scales ^ longer than stalks rounded at  
24 apex & very hairy-- The leaves are delicate  
25 smoothish both sides glaucous beneath--  
26 serrulate--especially toward point--pointed  
27 at both ends, now 2 or more inches by  
28 1/2--with no noticeable stipules.

30 Pulled up a yellow lily root<sup>155</sup> 4 feet  
31 long & branching--2 1/2 inch diameter &  
32 about same size at each end where it had  
33 broken off--tree like-- Broken off it floats--

---

<sup>153</sup>"6" written over "3" or incomplete "5"  
<sup>154</sup>"2 2/1" cancelled in pencil  
<sup>155</sup>"root" written over "roots"

1 Great white rootlets<sup>156</sup> put out all along it.  
2 I find an andromeda racemosa in //  
3 flower--it is dead at top & slightly leafed  
4 below--was it the severe winter--or cutting off  
5 It grows 4 or 5 rods from knoll near a sawed stump bet two large red maple clumps  
6 the protecting evergreens?^ The 3 leaved sol  
7 ?  
8 seal has almost entirely done--while the 2  
9 leaved is quite abundant. Stellaria longifolia  
10 op. barbarea shore not yet out. It is obvi- //  
11 ously dif. from what I call S. borealis--much more  
12 tall (1 foot high) & upright with branches ascending  
13 the other grows in a dense mass at Corner Spring  
14 (not spreading^). leaves longer & more linear &  
15 not at all ciliate like the other--stems much sharper  
16 angled, almost winged--flower buds more long  
17 & slender--& grows in high grass--& is later  
18 I observe in a mass of damp shavings &  
19 leaves & sand there in the shade a little  
20 prostrate willow just coming into flower--  
21 (perhaps a black willow) pulling it up  
22 I find it to be a twig about 16 inches long  
23 2/3 buried in the damp mass-- This was probably  
24 broken off by the ice brought down washed  
25 up & buried like a layer there--& now--  
26 for 2/3 its length it has put out rootlets  
27 an inch or 2 long abundantly & leaves &  
28 catkins from the part above ground--  
29 So vivacious is the willow--availing  
30 itself of every accident to spread along  
31 the river bank. The ice that strips it--  
32 only disperses it the more widely. It never

---

<sup>156</sup>"rootlets" poss written over "roots"

1 says die--may I be as vivacious as a willow.  
2 -- Some species are so brittle at the base of  
3 the twigs that they break on the least  
4 they are as tough above as tender at base &  
5 touch--but ^ these twigs<sup>157</sup> are only thus shed like seeds  
6 which float away & plant themselves in  
7 the first bank on which they lodge--  
8 I commonly litter my boat with a shower of  
9 these black willow twigs whenever I run into  
10 //them. A king birds nest on a black  
11 {~~Comm~~}  
12 cherry--above barbarea shore--loosely con-  
13 structed with some long white rags dangling  
14 1. egg. At Cedar swamp saw the  
15 Pe-pe catching flies like a wood pewee  
16 --darting from its perch on a dead cedar  
17 twig from time to time & returning to it  
18 It appeared to have a black crown with some  
19 crest--yellowish (?) bill--gray brown back  
20 black tail--2 faint whitish bars on wings  
21 dirty  
22 a ^ cream white throat--& a gray or ash white  
23 breast & beneath--whitest in middle.  
24 I had noticed when coming up the  
25 river 2 or 3 dead suckers--one with  
26 a remarkable redness about the anal fins--  
27 & this reminded me of the ephemerae--  
28 It was the 2nd of June 54 that I ob-  
29 served them in such numbers. When  
30 I returned to my boat about 5--the  
31 weather being mizzling enough to require  
32 an umbrella--with an easterly wind--&

---

<sup>157</sup>"twigs" inserted

1 dark for the hour--my boat being by chance  
2 at the same place where it was in 54--I  
3 noticed a great flight of ephemerae //  
4 over the water--though not so great as  
5 that. The greater part were flying down  
6 stream against the wind--but if you watched  
7 one long enough you would see him suddenly  
8 turn at length & fly swiftly back up the  
9 stream. They advanced against the wind faster  
10 than I floated along. They were not coupled  
11 not coupling--(I only noticed 2 coupled)--  
12 but flew--most of them--with their bodies  
13 curved--thus {drawing} or more & from time  
14 to time each one descended to the water  
15 & touched it--or rested on it a second  
16 They were generally able to rise  
17 or 2-- sometimes several minutes--^but  
18 very often before it arose--or not being  
19 able to rise it was seized by a fish--  
20 they are met by  
21 While some are flying down ^others coming  
22 up. The water was dimpled with the  
23 leaping fish. They reach about 10 or 15 feet  
24 high over the water, & I also saw a  
25 stream of them about as thick over  
26 a narrow meadow a dozen rods from  
27 the water in the woods. The weather was  
28 evidently unfavorable--what with the  
29 wind & the rain--& they were more or  
30 less confined to the shore--hovering high  
31 over the bushes & trees, where the wind

1 was strong over the river. I had not  
2 noticed any on leaves-- At one place  
3 against Dodge's brook where they were  
4 driven back by a strong head wind at a  
5 bend--more than usual were wrecked  
6 on the water--& the fishes were leaping  
7 more numerously than elsewhere-- The  
8 river was quite alive with them & I had  
9 not thought there were so many in it--great  
10 black heads & tails continually thrust  
11 up on all sides of my boat--. You had  
12 only to keep your eye on a floating fly a minute  
13 to see some fishy monster rise and swallow  
14 it with more or less skill & plashing--  
15 Some skillfully seized their prey without  
16 much plashing rising in a low curve  
17 & just showing their backs {drawing}  
18 others rose aright up perpendicularly half  
19 their length out of water showing their  
20 black backs or white bellies or gleaming  
21 sides--others made a noisy rush  
22 at their prey & leaped entirely out of water  
23 ~~with~~ falling with a loud splash-- You  
24 saw 20 black points at once. They seemed  
25 to be suckers--large fish at any rate--  
26 & prob. various kinds. What a sudden  
27 surfeit the fishes must have!

28 They are of various sizes but generally their solid  
29 yellowish tinge transparent  
30 bodies about 3/4 of an inch long or less ^with rows

1 of brown spots--wings gauze like with a few  
2 3 which I brought home were dead the next morning.  
3 opaque brown spots. A shadfly on our window is rather smaller than the av. of the  
4 former--has but 2 streamers & no dark spots on wings.  
5 June 9th 56

6 Pm to Corner Spring--

7 Without an umbrella thinking the weather  
8 settled at last. There are some large  
9 cumuli with glowing downy cheeks floating  
10 about-- Now I notice when an elm is  
11 in the shadow of a cloud--the black elm //  
12 tops--& shadows of June. It is a dark  
13 eye-lash which suggests a flashing eye  
14 beneath. It suggests houses that lie under  
15 the shade-- The repose & siesta of summer  
16 noons--the thunder cloud--bathing &  
17 all that belongs to summer-- These veils  
18 are now spread here & there over the village.  
19 creak of crickets a June sound now fairly begun  
20 It suggests also the ^ sultry hum of insects.  
21 inducing contemplation & philosophic thoughts--  
22 A yel. birds nest in a poplar on Hub-  
23 bridge cause way 4 fresh eggs. 10 ft. high. 3 rods //  
24 beyond fence. Veronica scudellata how long ?  
25 compelled to squat under a bank  
26 at Corner spring-- I stand under a wood pile through a shower

27 6 1/2 Pm up Assabet--

28 Again about 7 the ephemerae came out  
29 in numbers as many as last night--now  
30 many of them coupled--even tripled--& the  
31 fishes snap leap as before--

32 A young robin abroad. //

33 June 10

34 8 Am Getting lily pads--op. Badgers.

1 Already the pads are much eaten  
2 before they are grown--& under neath  
3 on the under side of almost every one  
4 are the eggs of various species of insect--  
5 some so minute as to escape detection at  
6 first in close flat straight sided nests.  
7 // The yel. lily & Kalmiana are abundantly  
8 out-- The under sides of the pads--their  
9 stems--& the r. Purshii & other water<sup>158</sup> plants  
10 are thickly covered & defiled with the  
11 sloughs perhaps of those little fuzzy gnats (  
12 in their first state) which have so swarmed  
13 over the river-- It is quite difficult to clean  
14 your specimens of them.  
15 Pm to Dugan Desert--  
16 up RR  
17 // C. alternifolia a day or 2 ^ may--be longer elsewhere  
18 //Spergularia rubra by RR X it having been dug  
19 up last year and so delayed--  
20 The cuckoo of June 5 has deserted her nest  
21 & I find the fragments of egg shells in it--prob.  
22 because I found it.  
23 // Oxalis freshly out how long?--ap but 2 or 3 days  
24 // I find some linnaea well out after all  
25 within a rod of the top of the hill--ap 2 or  
26 3 days-- If it flowered more abundantly--prob.  
27 it would be earlier-- Chewinks nest  
28 //with 4 young in the dry sproutland of  
29 Lorings thick wood that was under a  
30 completely overarching tuft of dry sedge

---

<sup>158</sup>"w" altered from "p"

1 grass-- I hear the huckleberry bird now  
2 add to its usual strain a-tea tea tea  
3 tea tea-- A Painted tortoise laying her //  
4 eggs 10 feet from the wheel track on the  
5 Marlboro<sup>159</sup> road. She paused at first but I  
6 sat down within 2 feet & she soon resumed  
7 her work--had excavated a hollow about  
8 5 inches wide and 6 long in the moistened sand--  
9 & cautiously with long intervals she continued  
10 her--work--resting always on the same spot  
11 her fore feet--& never looking round, her eye  
12 shut all but a narrow slit. Whenever I moved  
13 perhaps to brush off a mosquito  
14 ^she paused. A wagon approached--rumbling  
15 afar off--& then there was a pause till it had  
16 passed & long long after--a tedious natur-  
17 langsam pause of the slow blooded creature  
18 --a sacrifice of time such as those animals  
19 are up to which slumber half a year--& live  
20 for centuries. It was 20 minutes before  
21 I discovered that she was not making the  
22 hole--but filling it up slowly--having laid  
23 her eggs-- She drew the moistened sand under  
24 herself--scraping it along from behind with  
25 both feet brought together--the claws turned in  
26 hard {drawing} In the long pauses the ants  
27 (as the mosquitoes me)  
28 troubled her ^by running over her eyes--which  
29 made her snap or dart out her head<sup>160</sup> suddenly  
30 striking the shell. She did not dance on  
31 the sand--nor finish covering the hollow  
32 quite as carefully as the one observed last

---

<sup>159</sup>"M" altered from "m"

<sup>160</sup>"head" reformed

1 suddenly (&  
2 year. It went off ^ quickly at<sup>161</sup> first) with a  
3 slow but sure instinct through the woods<sup>162</sup>  
4 toward the swamp  
  
5 The clustered black-berry of Dugan desert  
6 //  
7 not yet out--nor ap. for 2 or 3 days.  
8 at most  
9 Sweet viburnum ap. 2 or 3 days ^ by Warren  
10 //  
11 miles--nut meadow pond.  
  
12 In a hollow apple tree--hole 18 inch  
13 //deep--young pig. woodpeckers--large &  
14 well feathered--they utter their squeaking  
15 hiss whenever I cover the hole with my hand  
16 ap. taking it for the approach of the mother  
17 -- A strong rank fetid smell issues from  
18 the hole.  
19 // Ripe straw berries X even in a meadow on  
20 sand thrown out of a ditch, hard at first to detect  
21 amid the red radical leaves--  
22 The flower buds of late there have now that  
23 //rank smell. Lambkill out X at Clam shell  
24 //The C. crus galli is out of bloom. Arenaria Serpyll-  
25 Abundant there June 20  
26 ? lifolia is out of bloom at Clam shell--  
27 // Side flowering sand-wort abundantly out this side  
28 //of Dugan Spring. Solanum well out, by Wood's Bridge  
29 June 11th 56  
30 Pm To Flint's Pond--  
31 // The locust in graveyard shows but few blossoms  
32 //yet. It is very hot this Pm--& that peculiar  
33 stillness of summer noons--now reigns in the  
34 woods-- I observe & appreciate the shade--as it  
35 were the shadow of each particular leaf on

---

<sup>161</sup>"at": "a" written over both a dash and a closed parenthesis; "t" written over "&", suggesting two layers of revision: T first wrote "quickly--&"; then he cancelled the dash by writing the closed parenthesis over it; finally he wrote "at first" over the closed parenthesis and the ampersand.

<sup>162</sup>"woods" reformed

1 the ground. I think that this peculiar dark-  
2 ness of the shade--of the foliage--as seen  
3 between you and the sky, is not accounted for  
4 merely by saying that we have not yet  
5 got accustomed to clothed trees--but the  
6 leaves are rapidly acquiring a darker green--  
7 are more & more opaque--& beside the sky is  
8 lit with the intensest light. It reminds me  
9 of the thunder cloud--& the dark eye-lash--  
10 of Summer-- Great cumuli are slowly drifting  
11 in the intensely blue sky--with glowing white borders  
12 -- The reg-eye sings incessant & the more indo-  
13 lent yel.-throat vireo--& the creeper & perhaps  
14 the red start ? or else it is the particolored warbler--  
15 I perceive that scent from the young sweetfern  
16 shoots--& withered blossoms--which made the  
17 first settlers of Concord to faint--on their journey.  
18 Saw yesterday a great yellow butterfly with black //  
19 marks. See under an apple tree at entrance  
20 of Goose<sup>163</sup> Pond path from Walden road a  
21 8 or 9 inches high  
22 Great fungus with hollow white stem ^whose  
23 black funereal top has melted this morning  
24 --leaving a black center with thin white scales  
25 on it. All<sup>164</sup> the cistuses are shut now  
26 also  
27 that I see--& ^the veiny leaved hieracium //  
28 with one leaf on its stem--not long open.  
29 I notice no white lily pads near the bathing  
30 rock in Flint's Pond. See a breams nest  
31 2 1/4 feet diameter--laboriously scooped-out &

---

<sup>163</sup>"Goose" written over "goose"

<sup>164</sup>"All" reformed

1 the surrounding bottom for a diameter of  
2 8 feet!! comparatively white & clean--  
3 while all beyond is mud & leaves &c--  
4 & a very large green & cupreous bream  
5 with a red spot on the operculum is poised  
6 over the center--while half a dozen shiners  
7 are hovering about, ap. watching a chance to  
8 //steal the spawn-- A Partridge with young  
9 in the sawmill brook-path-- Could hardly tell  
10 what kind of creature it was at first, it made  
11 such a noise & fluttering amid the weeds &  
12 bushes-- Finally<sup>165</sup> ran off with its body flat &  
13 wings somewhat spread.  
14 // Utricularia vulgaris very abundant in Everett's  
15 //pool. A beautiful grass-green snake about  
16 15 inches long--light beneath with a yellow  
17 space under the eyes along the edge of the  
18 upper jaw--  
19 The R. Triflorus ap. out of bloom at Saw  
20 //  
21 mill before the high blackberry has begun.  
22 // Rice tells me he found a turtle doves  
23 nest on an apple tree near his barns in  
24 Sudbury 2 years ago--with white eggs--so thin  
25 a bottom you could see the eggs through.  
26 June 12th 56  
27 Pm to Conantum on foot  
28 Sophia has sent me in a letter from Worcester  
29 //part of an orchis in bloom ap. P. Hookeri?  
30 or smaller round leafed orchis from the Her-

---

<sup>165</sup>"F" written over "f"

1 mitage wood so called N. E. of the town--but  
2 the 2 leaves are elliptical. Utricularia vulgaris //  
3 was abundantly out yesterday in Everett's pool  
4 how--long? Side-saddle flow numerously out //  
5 now-- Ap. a small pewee nest on apple  
6 in Miles meadow bird on & not to be frightened off  
7 though I throw sticks & climb the tree to near her--

8 Friday June 13

9 To Worcester--

10 See the Common iris in meadow in Acton-- //

11 Brown shows me from his window the word guano  
12 written on the grass in a field near the hospital  
13 say 3/4 of a mile distant. It was one of the lions  
14 of Worcester last year & I can now read some of the  
15 letters distinctly so permanent are the effects of  
16 the guano. The letters may be 2 or more rods<sup>166</sup>  
17 long--& the green is darker and more luxuriant--(  
18 on the side of a hill)--

19 June 14th

20 Walk to Hermitage woods--with Sophia  
21 & aunts--Uvularia perfoliata very com- //  
22 mon there now out of bloom--Rham-  
23 nus Catharticus--(common buck-thorn) natural-  
24 ized in those woods--now going out of bloom.  
25 It is dioecious<sup>167</sup> 12 feet high. N side.  
26 Maple-leaved viburnum out a day or more //  
27 there ap-- Mallows abundantly out in street //  
28  
29 June 15  
30 Mrs Brown reads a letter from John Downs in

---

<sup>166</sup>"rods": r reformed

<sup>167</sup>Partly obscured by inkblot. Loudon ("Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum," vol. 2, p. 529) describes the plant as "dioecious."

1           to Mr Brown  
2 Philadelphia-- ^ in which he remembers his early  
3 youth in Shrewsbury--& the pout accompanied  
4 by her young. A Miss Martha Le Barron  
5 describes to me a phosphorescence on the  
6 beach at night in Narragansett Bay<sup>168</sup>  
7 -- They wrote their names with some minute creatures  
8 on the sand.  
9       Pm to some woods SW of Worcester  
10 The moist bass bark just stripped from a  
11           very           all 3 of {us} were struck by it  
12 sapling smells ~~just~~ like a cucumber^. A  
13 night flowering Cereus opens 3 or 4 times at  
14 a Mrs Newtons while I am there-- Once  
15 it opened at about 9 pm & closed & drooped  
16 & came to an end like a wet rag wrung<sup>169</sup> out  
17 at daylight-- Transient as my mushroom  
18 --was about a foot in diameter--  
19 but an ordinary stem like the turkey's  
20 //feet. Diervilla well out--  
21                   June 16  
22       Saw at the Nat. Hist. rooms a  
23 //shell labelled Haliotis splendens ap same  
24 with mine from Ricketson's son with holes &  
25 green reflections--  
26       To Purgatory in Sutton by RR ~~& line~~ to  
27 Wilkinson{-}ville in the NE corner of Sutton 30  
28 cts--& by buggy 4 or 5 miles to Purgatory in the  
29 S or SE part of the town some 12 miles from  
30 Worcester--the stream rising from the bottom of it  
31 must empty into the Blackstone perhaps through  
32 the Mumford river. Sutton is much

---

<sup>168</sup>"B" written over "b"

<sup>169</sup>"wrung" initial letter reformed

1 wooded-- The woman at the last house told  
2 an animal seen in the neighborhood last year  
3 --Well she "had no doubt that there had  
4 been a bad animal about--" a Mr. Somebody  
5 bet. there & Sutton center  
6 ~~who~~ who could be relied on ^ had been aroused by  
7 noised early one morning & looking out saw this  
8 animal near a wood pile in his yard--as big  
9 as a good sized dog. He soon made off  
10 making nothing of the walls & fences--before  
11 He & his sons got their guns ready-- They  
12 raised part of the town--a body of shoe-  
13 makers, & surrounded a swamp into which  
14 it was supposed to have entered--but  
15 they did not dare to go into it--. Also a strange  
16 large track was seen where it crossed the  
17 road-- Found at the very bottom of  
18 this Purgatory where it was dark & damp  
19 on the steep moss & fern covered side of a  
20 rock which had fallen into it--a wood-  
21 thrushes nest--scarcely a doubt of the bird  
22 though I saw not its breast fairly--heard  
23 the note around--& the eggs (one of which //  
24 I have) correspond. Nest of fine moss from  
25 the rock--(hypnum?) & ~~withim~~ lined with pine  
26 needles--3 eggs--fresh.  
27 Found in the Purgatory--the Pannicled elder //  
28 ribbed  
29 Sambucus pubens partly gone to ^seed but  
30 some in flower--new to me. Polygonum  
31 Clinoida  
32 ~~Dumetorum~~? not yet in flower. Moose //  
33 wood or striped maple--& also close by above

1 //Actaea alba out of bloom & a chestnut  
2 //oak common-- Cow wheat numerously out--  
3 Heard around from within the purgatory--not  
4 only Wilson's<sup>170</sup> thrush--but ev. forest note--tanager  
5 & saw chip-squirrels within it.

6 June 17th

7 Go to Blake's--  
8 // Indigo bird on his trees-- Am ride with  
9 him & Brown & sophia round a part of  
10 Quinsigamond pond into shrewsbury-- The  
11 southerly end of the pond covered for a great  
12 distance with pads of {yel.} & white lily--  
13 measured one of the last 9 7/8 inch long by 9 6/8  
14 with sharp lobes &c<sup>171</sup> & a reddish petiole. Small  
15 //  
16 primrose well out how long? The cedar  
17 swamp--source of Assabet must be partly in  
18 Grafton (as well as Westboro near R. R. ac  
19 to a farmer in Shrewsbury.  
20 P. m. Went to Rev. Horace James'  
21 Reptiles--(Orthodox) He had set up a  
22 barred owl without horns & a little less than  
23 the catowl-- Also a large lobe-footed bird  
24 which I think must have been a large grebe--killed  
25 in Fitchburg. He distinguished the R.<sup>172</sup> halecina in  
26 the alcohol by more squareish? spots--showed me  
27 the horned frog.? or toad? also alive in bottle  
28 with moss & water the violet colored salamander--  
29 S. venenosa with yellow spots (5 or 6 inch long)  
30 prob--same I found in stump at Walden

---

<sup>170</sup>"W" written over "w"

<sup>171</sup>"&c" inserted

<sup>172</sup>"R." written over "C."

1 & in spirits--smaller the S. erythronota with  
2 a conspicuous red-back-- What looked like  
3 mine--or the common one in springs here was  
4 triton niger--I think he said Holbrook made the  
5 water ones Tritons & land ones salamanders. Another  
6 small one all red--with spots. Another with  
7 a line of read spots on each side--and others.

8 He finds a var. of Emys guttata with stri-  
9 ated scales--(mentioned by Holbrook--& Storer.)  
10 com.  
11 Saw a ^box turtle shell with initials in ster-  
12 num-- One thought that what ever was  
13 cut in the scale was renewed in the new scale.

14 Saw in spirits the Heterodon platirhinos from  
15 Smithfield<sup>173</sup> R.I. flat snouted--some what like  
16 a striped snake--& a very small brown snake.

17 James gave me some of the spawn of a shell  
18 fish from a string of them a foot long.

19 At Nat Hist rooms a great cone from  
20 a southern pine--& a monstrous nut shell  
21 from the E Indies? seed of the Lodoicea  
22 Sechellarum Sechelles Islands<sup>174</sup> {drawing}

23 June 18

24 Hale says the tiarella grows here & showed  
25 it me pressed--also Kalmia glauca  
26 formerly--hobble bush still--& yellow  
27 ladies slipper near the Quarry.

28 June 19th

29 Looked at a collection of the rarer plants

---

<sup>173</sup>"S" written over "s"

<sup>174</sup>"Sechelles Islands" written over "sechelles islands"

1 made by Higginson & placed at the Nat. Hist.  
2 Rooms. Among which noticed  
3 Ranunculus Purshii--var  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$ . with no  
4 diff. apparent--unless in upper leaves being more or  
5 less divided.  
6 Ribes Lacustre or Swamp Gooseberry with a loose  
7 raceme such as I have not seen--from Wht mts.  
8 A circaea or Enchanter's nightshade with a very large  
9 raceme--with larger branchlets than I  
10 have seen methinks. %--no not larger%  
11 Calla Palutris very different, from the  
12 Peltandra virginicum.  
13 Cerastium arvense with linear leaves--quite new to me.  
14 Smilacina stellata from Dr Harris--very diff from  
15 the racemosa being simple.  
16 Sedum latifolium from Wht mts rather broader leafed  
17 than mine from Maine.  
18 Barbarea Sativa from Cambridge ap like my B.  
19 vulgaris.  
20 Is the Smilacina racemosa with such  
21 long lower branchlets--peculiar? there in Worcester<sup>175</sup>?  
22 I saw several in woods.  
23 in Lancaster  
24 // On way to Concord see Mt Laurel<sup>176</sup> out^--ap X  
25 had seen none out in Worcester.  
26 Friday June 20th  
27 Am to Baker Farm with Ricketson.  
28 // A very hot day  
29 //2 Sternothaerus odoratus by heap in Sanborn's garden  
30 one making a hole for its eggs--~~ap~~ the rear  
31 of its shell partly covered. See a great many  
32 of these out today on ground & in willows

---

<sup>175</sup>"W" possibly altered from "w"

<sup>176</sup>initial letter in "Laurel" reformed (but possibly "mt sorrel")

1 Swamp pink out ap 2 or 3 days at Clam shell //

2 ditch-- Late Thalictrum ap a day or 2 there //

3 Arch angelica ap 2 or 3 days

4 A phoebe nest 2d {time} with 4 cream white  
5 the 2d brood in the same nest  
6 eggs--got one^-- saw a snap turtle out //

7 Prob. the water was too warm for him  
8 in sun on tussock op. Bittern Cliff.^ They

9 had at Middlesex house yesterday--snuff flavored

10 with ground ~~or~~ or pulverized black birch bark.

11 Walking under an apple tree in the little Baker

12 farm peach orchard--heard an incessant shrill musical

13 twitter or peeping<sup>177</sup> as from young birds over my head

14 --~~and~~ & looking up saw a hole in an up right dead

15 bough some 15 feet from ground-- Climbed up

16 & finding that the shrill twitter came from it

17 --guessed it to be the nest of a downy woodpecker-- //

18 %V. July 19th%

19 which proved to be the case--for it reminded

20 me of the hissing squeak or squeaking hiss

21 of young Pig. woodpeckers--but this was

22 more musical or bird-like. The bough was

23 4 1/2

24 about 5 inches in diameter--& the hole

25 perfectly circular about 1 1/4 inch in diameter.

26 --Ap. nests had been in holes above now broken

27 out--higher up--when I put my fingers in it

28 the young breathed their shrill twitter louder

29 than ever. Anon the old appeared & came

30 quite near while I stood in the tree keeping

31 up an incessant loud & shrill scolding note

32 & also after I descending--not to be

33 relieved.-- Potentilla norvegica ap. X.

---

<sup>177</sup>"peeping" second e possibly corrected from "a"

1     ap petals blown away.     5 young phoebes  
2     //in a nest ap. upon--a swallow nest in Conant  
3     old house--just ready to fly-- Rudbeckia  
4     //hirta budded.  
5                     June 21  
6     Pm to Walden-- Much pine pollen  
7     //  
8     is washed up on the NW side of the pond--  
9     Must it not have come from pines at a distance?  
10    Very hot day--as was yesterday--98° at 2 Pm  
11    99° at 3 & 128° in sun. Night hawks  
12    numerously squeak at 5 pm--& boom. Saw  
13    them fly low & touch the water like swallows  
14    over walden-- Find a dozen of the hydropeltis  
15    //  
16    out--ap. several days. My canoe birch  
17    wine {with} smells & tastes like mead considerably.  
18    All my birch wines are now more acid--& very  
19                             Am surprised to see it effer-  
20   white  
21    good indeed with sugar.             vese & all white with ^ sugar only like  
22    a soda water  
23                       Sunday June 22d  
24    Pm to Walden--  
25    Ricketson says that they say at N-- Bedford--  
26    that the song-sparrow says--maids, maids,  
27    maids--hang on your tea-kettle--ettle  
28    ettle ettle ettle--  
29    R. W. E imitates the wood-thrush by  
30    He willy willy--ha willy willy--O  
31    willy O The woods still resound  
32    with the note of my tweezer bird  
33    --or S. Americana.



1           in Freetown  
2 the Brady Farm<sup>180</sup>-- ^ & there it occurred to  
3 me how to get clear water from a spring--  
4 when the surface is covered with dust or  
5 insects. Thrust your dipper down deep  
6 in the middle of the spring & lift it  
7  
8 up quickly straight & square--this will  
9 heap up the water in the middle so that  
10 the scum will run off--  
11 We were surrounded by white weed-- The week  
12 before I had seen it equally abundant  
13 (In many fields the flowers placed in one plane would more  
14 in Worcester--^& here as there--each flower  
15 than cover the surface)  
16 had a dark rink of small black insects on its disk--  
17 Think of the many dense white fields between here  
18 & there, aye and for a thousand miles around--& then  
19 calculate the amount of insect life of one obscure  
20 species!  
21 Went off to Nelson's Island (Now Brigg's)  
22                   very ~~to~~  
23 in Long Pond by a long ^ narrow bar (50  
24 rods as I paced it) in some places the  
25 water over shoes--& the sand commonly only  
26 3 or 4 feet wide. This is a noble  
27 island--maybe of 8 or 10 acres--some  
28 30 feet high and just enough wooded--  
29 with grass ground and grassy hollows  
30 There was a beech wood at the west  
31 end--where R's son Walton<sup>181</sup> found  
32 an arrowhead when they were here before  
33 & the hemlocks resounded with  
34 the note of the tweezer bird--S. americana

---

<sup>180</sup>"F" written over "f"

<sup>181</sup>"Walton" possibly corrected from "walton"

1 There were many ephemerae half dead  
2 on the bushes-- R. dreams of residing  
3 here.

4 June 25

5 An abundance of the handsome corn  
6 ap. in prime midst of //  
7 cockle--(Lychnis) in ^ a rye-field--together

8 with morning-glories by the Acushnet shore.

9 Black grass in bloom--partly done. //

10 A kind of rush? with terete leaves--& a long //  
11 spike of flowers 1 to 2 feet high somewhat like  
12 a loose plantain spike-- It inclines to grow  
13 in circles a foot or more in diameter.

14 Sea side plantain--& rosemary, not long //

15 out. Veronica arvensis 1 foot high! on the //

16 shore there-- Spergularia rubra var. marina //

17 P. m. Called at Thomas A<sup>182</sup> Greene's

18 in New Bedford--said to be best acquainted

19 with the botany of this vicinity-- (Also acquainted

20 with shells & somewhat with geology--)

21 In answer to my question--what were

22 the rare or peculiar plants thereabouts

23 he looked over his botany deliberately--&

24 named--the Aletris farinosa or star-

25 grass--the Hydrocotyle vulgaris [prob in

26 terrupta of Gray] which he thought was now

27 gone-- Proserpinaca pectinacea at the

28 shallow<sup>183</sup> pond in Westport where I went

29 last fall with Ricketson--Panax trifolium

30 That Chenopdium-like plant on

---

<sup>182</sup>"A" written over "a"

<sup>183</sup>"shallow" initial letters reformed

1 the saltmarsh shore--with hastate leaves  
2 //mealy under sides is atriplex patula--  
3 not yet out--  
4 Brewer in a communication to Audubon<sup>184</sup> (as  
5 I read in his 100? dollar edition) makes 2  
6 kinds of {song} sparrow--& says that Audu-  
7 bon has represented one--the most com-  
8 mon about houses, with a spot in the  
9 center of the breast, and Wilson the  
10 other more universally spotted on the  
11 breast. The latter's nest will be 2 feet  
12 high in a bush--& sometimes covered over  
13 & with an arched entrance--& with 6 eggs  
14 (while the other has not more than 5) larger  
15 & less pointed than the former's & ap. al-  
16 most wholly rusty brown.<sup>185</sup> This builds  
17 further from houses. %V June 23--60%

18 Thursday June 26th

19 In Loudon's Eyclopedia of Agriculture far  
20 (Of the Romans) is translated Ind. corn  
21 or Zea!  
22 the Fringilla passerina  
23 Ac. to Audubon's & Wilson's plates ^has a for  
24  
25 ? the most part clear yellowish white breast--  
26 & next page to this  
27 V. May 28th<sup>186</sup> But<sup>187</sup> the Savannah sparrow no  
28 conspicuous yellow on shoulder--a yellow brow--  
29 & white crown line.  
30 Rode to Sconticut Neck or point in  
31 Fair Haven 5 or 6 miles--& saw ap--  
32 the F. savannah--near their nests--(my seringo  
33 note) restlessly flitting about me from<sup>188</sup>

---

<sup>184</sup>"A" written over "a"

<sup>185</sup>"brown" initial letter reformed

<sup>186</sup>"V. May 28th" poss. inserted

<sup>187</sup>"B" written over "b"

<sup>188</sup>Drawing of Brady Farm laid in or waxed on this page. Caption in Ricketson's hand reads: June 24th 1856 / H. D. T / D. R / Brady Farm / Freetown Bristol Co / Mass

1 rock to rock within a rod. Distinctly yellow browed  
2 & spotted breast--not like plate of passerina  
3 -- Audubon says that the eggs of the  
4 Savannah sparrow "are of a pale bluish  
5 color, softly mottled with purplish brown." &  
6 those of the yellow winged sparrow are  
7 "of a dingy white, sprinkled with brown  
8 spots."-- The former is ap my seringo's egg  
9 Is not Nuttal mistaken when he describes the notes  
10 of may 28th of the Savannah sparrow in March in Georgia as "very long,  
11 piping, & elevated" and says that they sometimes have a note like a cricket. ~~Wilson &~~  
12 audubon refers to the last note only.  
13 Saw a farmer on the Neck<sup>189</sup> with one of  
14 Palmers patent wooden legs--he went  
15 but little lame--& said that he did his  
16 own mowing & most of his ordinary farm  
17 work--though ploughing in the present  
18 state of his limb, which had not yet healed,  
19 wrenched him some. He had lost a leg  
20 just below the knee--& was supported  
21 mainly on his thigh above the stump.  
22 The old(er) houses about N. Bedford  
23 --as on this neck--(& one a hundred  
24 years old is an old one) have commonly  
25 stone chimneys--which are agreeable  
26 to my eye--& built with more taste than  
27 brick ordinarily--i.e. more elaborately--  
28 Yet they are now pulled down--& brick  
29 subsitituted--or else concealed with  
30 a coat of mortar!  
31 This neck like the N. Bedford country  
32 generally--is very flat to my eye<sup>190</sup>

---

<sup>189</sup>"N" written over "n"

<sup>190</sup>Drawing of Martha Simons' house laid in or waxed on this page. Caption in Ricketson's hand reads: Martha Simons' house / Sconticut Neck / D. R. / June 26th 1856

1 even as far inland as Middleboro--  
2 Where R. decided to take another  
3 road home from the latter place be-  
4 cause it was less hilly--I said I  
5 had not observed a hill in all  
6 our ride. I found on the rocky &  
7 rather desolate extremity of this Point<sup>191</sup>  
8 the common oxalis stricta on the sea  
9 shore--abundant--going to seed--~~bea~~ ap--  
10 carrots? naturalized--atriplex not yet out  
11 An abundance  
12 beach pea still out and going to seed. of the small  
13 iris in the field near by.  
14 It was thick weather--after a drizzling  
15 fore-noon & we could just see across  
16 Buzzards Bay<sup>192</sup> from the point--to Falmouth--  
17 --Mattapoisett was the point next  
18 above on this side. I had been expecting  
19 to find the aletris about N. Bedford--  
20 & when taking our luncheon on this  
21 Neck--what should I see rising about  
22 the luncheon box between me & R but  
23 what I knew must be the aletris farinosa  
24 //not yet out--but one near by  
25 would open up in 2 or 3 days.  
26 I was struck by the number of quails  
27 thereabouts--& elsewhere in this vicinity--  
28 -- They keep up an incessant whistling--  
29 these days--as also about R's house.  
30 --within a stones throw of it--& I  
31 several times saw them in the  
32

---

<sup>191</sup>"p" altered from "p"

<sup>192</sup>"B" altered from "b"



1 small tract of Ind Land--now wholly hers--  
2 It was formerly exchanged by a white man  
3 for some better land then occupied by Ind.  
4 at Westport--which he wanted-- So said  
5 a Quaker Minister, her neighbor. The squaw  
6 was not at home when we first called-- It was  
7 a little hut not so big as mine-- V. sketch  
8 by R. with the bay not far behind it--  
9 No garden only some lettuce amid the  
10 (white)  
11 & a great ^ pile of clam & quahog shells one side  
12 thin grass in front.^ She ere long came in  
13 from the sea side--& we called again.  
14 We knocked & walked in--& she asked  
15 us to sit down-- She had half an acre  
16 of the real tawny Ind. face--broad with  
17 black eyes  
18 high cheek bones,^ & straight hair  
19 originally black--but now a little gray--  
20 parted in the middle. Her hands were  
21 several shades darker than her face--  
22 She had a peculiarly vacant expression--  
23 perhaps characteristic of the Indian--&  
24 answered our questions listlessly--without  
25 being interested or implicated--mostly in mono-  
26 syllables--as if hardly present there-- To  
27 judge from her physiognomy she might have  
28 been King Philip's own daughter--  
29 Yet she could not speak a word<sup>194</sup> of  
30 Indian and knew nothing of her race--  
31 said She had lived with the whites--gone  
32 out to service to them when 7 yrs old--

---

<sup>194</sup>"word" altered from "world"

1 Had lived part of her life at Squaw  
2 Betty's neck--Assawampsett Pond-- Did  
3 she know Sampson's-- She'd ought to--  
4 she'd done work enough there. She said  
5 she was sixty years old but was probably nearer  
6 seventy. She sat with her elbows on her  
7 knees & her face in her hands--& that  
8 peculiar vacant stare, perhaps looking out  
9 the window between us--not repelling us in the  
10 least but perfectly indifferent to our presence--  
11 She was born on that spot-- Her grand-  
12 father also lived on the same spot--though  
13 house  
14 not in the same ~~place~~-- He was the last  
15 of her race who could speak Indian. She  
16 had heard him pray in Ind. but could only  
17 understand "Jesus Christ" Her only com-  
18 panion was a miserable tortoise shell kitten  
19 which took no notice of us-- She had a  
20 stone chimney--a small cooking stove  
21 fore  
22 without ^legs--set up on bricks within it--&  
23 a bed covered with dirty bed clothes. Said  
24 she hired out her field as pasture--better  
25 for her than to cultivate it. There were 2  
26 young heifers in it. The question she  
27 answered with most interest--was--"What do  
28 you call that plant?", and I reached  
29 her the aletris from my hat--she took  
30 it, looked at it a moment--& said  
31 "That's husk root, It's good to put into

1     bitters for a weak stomach--" The last years  
2     light colored & withered leaves surround the present  
3     green star--like a husk-- This must be  
4     the origin of the name. The root is described as  
5     intensely bitter. I ought to have had my hat  
6     full of plants. <sup>195</sup>A conceited old  
7     Quaker minister her neighbor--told me  
8     with a sanctified air--"I think that the Indians  
9     were<sup>196</sup> human beings; dost thee not think so?"  
10    He only convinced me of his doubt & narrow-  
11    ness.

12                   June 27th

13    P. m Went with<sup>197</sup> R & his boys--in  
14    the steamer Eagle wing--with a crowd  
15    & band of music to the N. E. end of  
16    Naushon--"Woods Hole<sup>198</sup>"--some 15  
17    miles from New Bedford--about 2  
18    Talked with a Mr. Congdon cashier of a bank & a vegetarian.  
19    hours going.^ Saw all the Elizabeth  
20    Isles going & coming-- They are mostly  
21    bare except the E. end of Naushon--  
22    This island is some 7 miles long by 1 to 2  
23    wide. I had some 2 1/2 hours there--  
24    I was surprised to find such a noble  
25    primitive wood--chiefly--beech--such  
26    as the Eng. poets celebrate--. & oak--  
27    (black oak I think) large & spreading  
28    like pasture oaks with--us though in a  
29    wood-- The ground under the beeches  
30    was covered with the withered leaves--

---

<sup>195</sup>vertical pencil line begins here--with an "R" and goes through the end of the day's entry

<sup>196</sup>"w" added in margin; "ere" in thick ink, likely altered from "are"

<sup>197</sup>vertical pencil line begins here--with an "R" and goes through the end of the page

<sup>198</sup>"H" altered from "h"

1 & peculiarly free <sup>199</sup>from vegetation-- On the  
2 edge of a swamp I saw great tupelos  
3 running up particularly tall without  
4 lower branches--2 or 3 feet in diameter  
5 with a rough light colored bark. Noticed  
6 a thorn--perhaps--cockspur with an undi-  
7 vided leaf--gooseberries--staghorn sumac  
8 not in bloom-- Most of the passengers ex-  
9 pected to find strawberries. Saw a common  
10 wild grape vine running over a beech  
11 which was ap--flattened out by it  
12 --which vine measured at 6 feet from  
13 ground 23 inches in circumference--

14 It was large below, where it had already  
15 forked. At 6<sup>200</sup> feet from ground it divided  
16 into 3 great branches. It did not  
17 rise directly--but with a great half  
18 spiral sweep--or anguish. No sight  
19 could be more primeval. It was partly  
20 or chiefly dead. This was in the midst  
21 of the woods by a path side. Just  
22 beyond we started up 2 deer--

23 I suppose the white gull, I saw & heard  
24 (somewhat like the sound of the small mackerel  
25 gull of the cape) at Naushon--was the  
26 sterna hirundo or great tern with //  
27 long forked tail. A Mr Wall, artist  
28 at New Bedford, told me of a high pine  
29 wood or swamp some miles down Naushon

---

<sup>199</sup>vertical pencil line begins here with an "R" and ends at line beginning  
"beyond we..."

<sup>200</sup>"6" altered from "5"

1 //with "storks nests")! in the pines-- Were  
2 they Blue herons?  
3 Naushon is said to be part of the  
4 township of Chilmark--Martha's Vineyard--  
5 & to Belong to Mr. Swain of N. Bedford  
6 & Forbes of Boston--some say to Swain alone.  
7 Walton Ricketson went down in  
8 a schooner the next day again, &  
9 found the pond near Swains well stocked  
10 with pickerel of which he caught many  
11 in a few hours.  
12 Returning I caught sight of Gay head  
13 & its light house--with my glass between  
14 Pasque & Nashawena-- This light house  
15 ac. to Congdon, who says he measured  
16 it trigonometrically, is not more than  
17 150 feet above the sea. The passages between  
18 the islands are called "holes". Quick's  
19 is one. Cuttyhunk was very plain. Congdon  
20 said that he was there about 30 years  
21 ago--but could<sup>201</sup> see no traces of Gos-  
22 nold there--& does not believe there are  
23 any-- Capt. Slocum (of the day before)  
24 who has relations there, never saw any--  
25 Mr Wall--said that there was one  
26 old gentleman still alive a Mr  
27 Howland who went on there with  
28 Belknap--who could tell all about  
29 it. The island is cultivated.

---

<sup>201</sup>"could" first letter obscured by ink blot

1 June 28th

2 Lamium amplexicaule still out behind  
3  
4 R's shanty-- I picked up 2 arrow heads  
5 amid oyster & clamshells by a rock  
6 at the head of the creek opposite Rs.  
7 One was of peculiar form quite blunt  
8 & small--thus--{drawing} of quartz--  
9 ap to knock over small game without  
10 breaking the skin.

//

11 Pm I had paddled up the Acushnet--  
12 about 1 mile above the paper mill  
13 as far as the ruined mill--in Walton's<sup>202</sup>  
14 skiff with Arthur R. (Walton was named  
15 from I. Walton the angler--& Arthur  
16 from Danas hero in--"Sun not set yet &c"  
17 I never saw such an abundance of  
18 {pellan} peltandra as borders that  
19 sluggish & narrow stream--in bunches  
20 alternating with pickerel weed--leaves  
21 of very various forms & sizes.

//

23 Sunday June 29th

24 P. m. Bathed in the creek--which swarms  
25 with terrapins?--as the boys called them--  
26 I find no account of them in Storer.!!  
27 They put their heads out & floated  
28 about just like the E. picta--& often  
29 approached and played{?} with each other.  
30 Some were ap. 7 or 8 inches long & of a  
31 yellowish color-- A man by the river side

?

---

<sup>202</sup>"Walton's" initial letters reformed

1 told us that he had 2 young ducks  
2 which he let out to seek their food  
3 along the river side at low tide that  
4 morning. At length he noticed that  
5 one remained stationary<sup>203</sup> amid the grass or  
6 salt weeds--& something prevented its follow-  
7 ing the other. He went to its rescue--& found  
8 its foot shut tightly in a quahog's shell  
9 amid the grass which the tide had left  
10 He took up all together--carried to his  
11 house--& his wife opened the shell with  
12 a knife<sup>204</sup>--released the duck--& cooked  
13 the quahog. Bathed again near  
14 Dogfish bar--It was warm & dirty  
15 water--muddy bottom. I prob. found  
16 an Indian's bone at %(%Throgg's point%)%--%x%  
17 where their bodies have been dug up--  
18 %x Coggeshallo Point%<sup>205</sup>  
19 Monday June 30  
20 Am. to Middleboro' Ponds--in  
21 the new town of Lakeville--(some 3  
22 yrs old) what a miserable name!--<sup>206</sup>  
23 It should have been Assawampsett--  
24 or perchance Sanacus<sup>207</sup> if that was the  
25 name of the Christian Indian killed on  
26 the pond. By the road side Long Plain  
27 North Fair Haven observed a tupelo<sup>208</sup>  
28 7 feet high with a rounded top--shaped  
29 like an umbrella 8 feet diameter

---

<sup>203</sup>"stationary" corrected to "stationary" in pencil

<sup>204</sup>"I" in "knife" obscured by ink blot or bleed-through

<sup>205</sup>possibly not in T's hand

<sup>206</sup>exclamation mark written over dash

<sup>207</sup>"Sanacus" poss underlined in pencil

<sup>208</sup>"t" left uncrossed

1 spreading over the wall--& the main stem  
2 divided suddenly at 2 feet only below the  
3 top--where it was 6 inches in diameter!

4 On the right hand in the old Orchard  
5 near the Quitticus Ponds--heard & at  
6 last saw my tweezer bird--which is extremely  
7 restless flitting from bough to bough & apple  
8 tree to apple tree--Its note like AL--  
9 zre zre zre--zritter zritter zrit

10 S. Americana particolored warbler--with //  
11 golden green reflections on the back--2 white  
12 bars on wings--all beneath white-- Large  
13 orange mark on breast--bordered broadly  
14 with lemon yellow--& yellow throat--  
15 These were making the woods ring in

16 Concord when I left--& are very<sup>209</sup> common  
17 Saw a haymaker with his suspenders crossed before as well  
18 hereabouts. as behind. A valuable hint which I think I shall improve upon  
19 since I am much troubled by mine slipping off my shoulders.  
20 Borrowed Roberts' boat--shaped like

21 a pumpkin seed--for he wished to {padde}  
22 on Great Quittacus. Roberts is the mean  
23 Calvinist minister from England a dozen  
24 or more years since-- Ricketson was invited  
25 to dine there once-- There was a great parade  
26 and all the forms of hospitality--but the  
27 chief food was one pigeon--all of which  
28 was eaten by the ~~sang~~ son. On parting  
29 with him Roberts said the next time  
30 you come bring a joint of meat with  
31 you-- We landed & lunched on Haskell's

---

<sup>209</sup>"v" altered from "c"

1 Island--which contains some 25 or 30  
2 acres-- Just beyond this was Reed's Island  
3 which was formerly cultivated<sup>210</sup>--the cattle  
4 being swum across or taken over in a scow--  
5 A man praised the soil to me & said that  
6 rye enough had been raised on it to cover  
7 it 6 inches deep. At one end of  
8 Haskell's Island was ap. a piece of primi-  
9 tive wood--beech, hemlock &c--under  
10 the first I found some low dry brown  
11 //plants--perhaps--beech drops & the like  
12 2 species--but saw none of this year--  
13 One who formerly owned ~~this island~~ Reeds  
14 island said that a man once lived  
15 on Haskell's I. & had a henery there.  
16 The tweezer birds were lively in the hemlocks.  
17 old  
18 Rode on to the ^ Pond Meeting house--  
19 whence there is a fine view of Assawamp-  
20 sett-- It is probably the broadest lake  
21 in the state-- Uriah (?) Sampson told me  
22 it was about 8 or 10 feet deep in the  
23 middle but some what deeper about<sup>211</sup>  
24 of these ponds  
25 the sides-- The main outlet is ^ N. E  
26 by Taunton river--though there<sup>212</sup> is  
27 some connection with the Mattapoissett  
28 River--and Assonet R. drains the neigh-  
29 borhood of Long Pond on the west.  
30 2 men spoke of Loon's eggs on a  
31 rocky isle in Little quitticus-- I saw

---

<sup>210</sup>2nd "t" left uncrossed

<sup>211</sup>"about" reformed or corrected from "on"

<sup>212</sup>"there" poorly formed or corrected

1 the Lobelia Dortmanna in bloom in the last. //

2 A. S. W breeze springs up every after-  
3 noon at this season--comparatively cool  
4 & refreshing from the sea.

5 As we were returning a Mr. Sampson was  
6 catching perch at the outlet from Long  
7 Pond--where it emptied into Asawampsett with  
8 a swift current-- The surface of the rippling  
9 water there was all alive with yellow perch  
10 & white ones--whole schools showing their  
11 snouts or tails as they rose for the young  
12 alewives which appeared to be passing out  
13 of ~~Long Pond~~ the brook. These, some of  
14 which I have in spirits, were about //

15 1 1/2 inches long. Sampson fished with these  
16 for bait--trailing or jerking it along the  
17 surface exactly as for pickerel & the perch  
18 bit very fast. He showed me one ~~yellow~~<sup>213</sup>  
19 white perch. It was a broader fish than  
20 the yellow--but much softer scaled--&  
21 generally preferred. He said they would  
22 not take the hook after a certain  
23 season-- He swept out some young  
24 alewives (herring) with a stick onto the  
25 shore--& among them were young yellow //

26 perch also 1 1/2 inches long with the  
27 transverse bands perfectly distinct. I have  
28 some in spirit. The large ones were devouring  
29 these no doubt together with the alewives.

---

<sup>213</sup>"~~yellow~~" possibly underlined as well

1 Is not June the month when most of  
2 our freshwater fish are spawned?

3 July 1st

4 Pm Paddled on the Acushnet--passed  
5 through some schools of fishes--which  
6 were rippling the surface about us in  
7 midstream. The back %fins% very long & sharp  
8 projected 2 or 3 inches above water {drawing}  
9 {drawing}. Walton said afterward that they were  
10 Menhaden--

11 July 2nd

12 Return to Concord. Looked at the  
13 birds in the Nat. Hist. Rooms in Boston.  
14 Observed no white spots on the Sparrow hawks  
15 wing--nor on the Pig. or sharp-shinned hawks--  
16 Inded they were so closed that I could not  
17 have seen them. Am uncertain to which my  
18 ? wing belongs.

19 ? May I not have seen the White crowned sparrow  
20 in company with the white-throated? They are much  
21 alike. Yet Wilson says they rarely associate  
22 The Hemlock and Pine Warbler are much  
23 ? alike-- Is it possible I have confounded them?  
24 {One-fifth page blank}



1 The tortoises improve every rock--& willow  
2 slanting over the water--& every floating  
3 board & rail-- You will see one on  
4 the summit of a black willow stump several  
5 feet high--& 2 or more part way up--  
6 Some tumble from a height of 5<sup>214</sup> or 6  
7 feet into the water before you-- Even  
8 the great snap turtle puts his head out &  
9 climbs up a rock on the bank with the rest.

10 July 5th

11 Am to Loring's Pond.

12 Pink colored yarrow-- *Epilobium coloratum*

13 //a day or more--young partridges (with  
14 the old bird) as big as robins make haste  
15 into the woods from off the RR.

16 // Plucked some large luscious purple pyrus

17 //berries. *Lactuca* some days out.

18 Borrowed Witherells boat & paddled

19 //over Loring's Pond. A king-birds nest in  
20 fork of a button bush 5 feet high on  
21 shore--(not saddled on) 3 young just hatched  
22 & one egg.

23 Much of this Pond is now very shallow &

24 muddy & crowded with pads &c-- I

25 can hardly push through them. Yet

26 I can see no more white lily pads shaped

27 as that appears to have been which I found

28 here a few weeks since. Many pickerel

29 dart away from amidst the pads &

---

<sup>214</sup>"5" possibly altered from another number

1 in one place I see one or 2 great snap-  
2 turtles--  
3 I notice 2 vars? perhaps of Asclepias Cornuti  
4 now out--one in the RR meadow this side //  
5 the Brooks' Crossing--the other beyond the  
6 1st mile post above. The last has broader  
7 more decidedly  
8 leaves & blunter--& ^mucronate--& pedicels & peduncles  
9 quite downy {the} former little more than 2ce  
10 the length of the petals. The other has narrower  
11 & more pointed leaves--peduncles & pedicels  
12 but little downy comparatively--the latter more  
13 than 3 times the length of the petals--& not so  
14 numerous as in the other-- V. their pods, if  
15 spiny, by & by.

16 The spergularia rubra was not open in the  
17 morning when I passed up at 8 or 9 Am--  
18 but was open when I returned at noon--but  
19 closed again at 5 Pm.

20 The notes of barn swallows--perhaps with  
21 their young--are particularly loud now & almost  
22 metallic  
23 vibrating ^like that of a mackerel gull.

24 The large evening primrose--below the  
25 foot of our garden--does not open till sometime  
26 or sundown  
27 between 6 1/2 & 8 P. m<sup>215^</sup>. It was not open when I  
28 went to bathe--but partly out in the cool of  
29 the evening at sundown--as if enjoying the  
30 serenity of the hour.

31 July 6th

32 Pm to Assabett Bath.

---

<sup>215</sup>"P. m" "P" written over "a"

1 //Campanula aparinoides roadside opposite centau-  
2 several days  
3 //rea--~~how long~~--? Early low blueberries ripe--  
4       Crossed the river at Bath Place--on the sanday  
5 bank opposite saw a wood tortoise voraciously  
6 eating sorrel leaves--under my face--  
7       In A. Hosmers Ice bared meadow S of turn-  
8 pike ~~see~~ hear the distressed or anxious peep of  
9 a peetweet & see it hovering over its young  
10 //half grown which runs beneath--& suddenly  
11 hides securely in the grass when but few feet from  
12 //me. White avens--evidently Bigelows  
13 a good while  
14 G. allium ^(which Gray makes only a var  
15 of G. Virginianum) very rough & so much  
16 earlier than the G. virginianum--that only  
17 one flower remains X the heads have attained  
18 their full size with twisted tails to the awns--  
19 While the other will not open for some days.  
20 I think Big. must be right. Lysimachia lanceolata  
21 //a day or 2. Rhus Typhina in our  
22 //  
23 yard--how long? did not see it out in New-  
24 Beford 10 days ago. There is a young  
25 ? red mulberry in the lower hedge beneath the  
26 Celtis.  
27 ?       My clustered rubus is not long & running on  
28 the ground like the R. canadensis--but  
29 short and semi erect thus {drawing} & the  
30 blossoming branches are arrange like  
31 a raceme about last years stems-- Each  
32 little raceme is many flowered (10 more or  
33 less) with short (1/2 to 3/4 inch) spreading

1 pedicels--with long linear lanceolate bracts  
 2 while the Canadensis is few flowered (3 or 4), the  
 3 pedicels 2 or more inches long--& all upright  
 4 The former is much the least prickly--& the  
 5 green branchlets are quite smooth--while the  
 6 all the above out of bloom  
 7 other & the willows have recurved prickles^  
 8 (The 11th of July--see at end of Balls(?)<sup>216</sup> Hill near  
 9 ?  
 10 the wall a sort of var. of the clustered rubus  
 11 still in bloom--with weak bristles on the pe-  
 12 duncles & pedicels & old stems. Some of these  
 13 last in Press.  
 14 G. Emerson says the sweetbriar was doubtless  
 15 introduced--yet ac. to Bancroft Gosnold  
 16 Found it on the Elizabeth Isles-- ?  
 17 July 7-- I see a dif. now between the  
 18 alder leaves--near Island--& edge of meadow  
 19 westward--on hill--the former--slightly downy be-  
 20 neath--the latter<sup>217</sup> (ap. A serrulata) green  
 21 & smooth--but yet not pointed at base.  
 22 Do I not see a taller kind of wool grass ?  
 23 in that birch meadow E of Hill?  
 24 Pm. to Gowing's swamp.  
 25 The purple finch still sings over the street ?  
 26 The sagittaria large form is out--road side //  
 27 Moore's swamp. The vac. oxycoccus is //  
 28 almost entirely out of bloom & the berries are  
 29 or as the common cranberry on the 20th prox.<sup>218</sup>  
 30 as big as small huckleberries ^ (while the V. macro-  
 31 carpum is in full bloom & no berries appear on it.)  
 32 It must therefore have begun about the 1st of June  
 33 Saw the Kalmia glauca by the small cranberry

---

<sup>216</sup>"(?)" inserted

<sup>217</sup>"latter" first two letters heavily reformed or corrected

<sup>218</sup>a line connects interlined material to caret

1 ~~on the edge of~~ betrayed by its 2-edged twig.--  
2 The snake head arethusa is now abundant  
3 amid the cranberries there.

4 July 8th

5 3 Pm. to Baker Farm by boat--  
6 // River down to lower side of long rock--  
7 When I landed on Hosmer flat shore started  
8 //a large water adder ap. sunning on the bank--  
9 It ran at once into the river & was lost under  
10 //the pads. Ranunculus reptans is abundantly  
11 out at mouth of brook, Baker shore, Is that  
12 //small sparganium there, now abundantly out,  
13 about 18 inch high--with leaves narrow &  
14 convex below--concave above--the same species  
15 with the larger? some in press. %20%  
16 %Got the Downy woodpeckers nest some days empty V 19th%  
17 Find several large & coarse potentilla  
18 2 1/2 feet high & more  
19 //argutas ^at Bittern Cliff nearly out  
20 of bloom--Flowers in crowded corymbs--  
21 They are white, not yellow, as Gray calls them.  
22 In the side-hill woodlot (or Spring woodlot)  
23 behind--where the wood was out last winter--  
24 //Poke leaved milkweed--A. Phytolaccoides ap a  
25 some days  
26 //day or 2 & Circaea alpina--^{a} foot high  
27 with opaque leaves & bracts (in press) This  
28 I find to be the same with the ~~forme~~ small  
29 also bracted  
30 ^ one at Corner spring (whose leaves were<sup>219</sup> perhaps  
31 when  
32 more transparent ^in shade, but which now grows  
33 v 4 ps forward %& also July 24%  
34 larger in sun).

35 Sophia saw this P. m. 2 great snap--

---

<sup>219</sup>"were" written over "are"

1 turtles fighting near the new stone bridge--  
 2 making a great commotion in the river--& not  
 3 regarding the spectators she & another--& a  
 4 teamster who stopped his team to observe them.  
 5 Sam. Wheeler--who did not know there were  
 6 snap-turtles here--says he saw op. to his  
 7 boarding house on the side-walk in New York<sup>220</sup>  
 8 the other day--a green turtle which weighed  
 9 720 lbs which in a short time dropt  
 10 eggs enough to fill a vessel some feet  
 11 in diameter-- He partook of some of  
 12 the soup made of it--& there were  
 13 several eggs in it,--where were luscious.  
 14 After Jules Gerard the Lion  
 15 Killer had hunted lions for some time,  
 16 & run great risk of losing his life-- Though  
 17 he struck the lions in the right place  
 18 with several balls--(the lions steadily ad-  
 19 vancing upon him even though they had  
 20 got a death wound--) he discovered that  
 21 it was not enough to be brave & take good aim, that  
 22 ^his balls, which were of lead, lacked  
 23 penetration & were flattened against  
 24 the lions bones--and according he  
 25 %{sent to France & obtained}%<sup>221</sup>  
 26 %(%afterward used%)% balls which were  
 27 pointed with steel--& went through &  
 28 through both shoulder blades.  
 29 So I should say that the weapons  
 30 or--balls which the Republican<sup>222</sup> party  
 31 uses--lacked penetration--& their foe steadily

---

<sup>220</sup>"York" reformed

<sup>221</sup>read against 1906 edition

<sup>222</sup>"R" altered from "r"

1 advances nevertheless to tear them in pieces--with  
2 their well-aimed balls flattened on his fore-  
3 head. In Gerard's book I  
4 find ac to a Mohammedan tradition  
5 "When the lion roars, he says, 'Ya rabbi,  
6 ma teçallot mi â la ed-dâbèome,'  
7 which signifies 'Seignior, deliver to my  
8 power the wicked only, & let the good  
9 go free'."

10 July 10

11 // Yesterday a heavy rain  
12 A. m. to Laurel glen-- Chenopodium  
13 // //album X by RR. Succory a week or more  
14 //by RR. causeway-- Stachys aspera well out 2 or  
15 //3 days low ground-- Chimaphila umbellata  
16 //some days-- Pyrola elliptica how long?  
17 //P. Chlorantha done--near part of Cut woods  
18 //P. rotundifolia how long? Cut woods hollow  
19 of Bigelow  
20 //Galium triflorum ^(?) prostrate--from one center  
21 Laurelglen hill side. how long? (also G.  
22 //Circaezans gone to seed) but<sup>223</sup> the branches are  
23 not 3 flowered, but have 3 pedicels--& one 2  
24 or all of them (commonly {but} one) are subdivided  
25 //into 2. I have pressed ap. Galium lanceolatum.  
26 Seriocarpus  
27 //~~Aster~~ Conyzoides X<sup>224</sup> Deep cut path--  
28 // Asclepias obtusifolia, which was out well on  
29 the 5th ult, has a bloom & the curved horns  
30 are elevated above the flower.  
31 // See and hear young barn swallows about

---

<sup>223</sup>"but" a short vertical line extends from the phrase "how long?" in the line above to the phrase "but . . . into 2.", possibly indicating the placement of the latter phrase.

<sup>224</sup>"X" possibly inserted

1 5 P. m. up Assabet.  
2 As I was bathing under the swamp white  
3 oaks at 6 pm. heard a suppressed  
4 sound often repeated--like perhaps the work-  
5 ing of bees through a bung hole--which  
6 I already suspected to produced by owls-- I was  
7 uncertain whether it was far or near.  
8 Proceeding a dozen rods up stream on the  
9 S side toward where a cat bird was incessantly  
10 mewling. I found myself suddenly within  
11 gray  
12 a rod of a^ screech owl sitting on an  
13 alder bough with horns erect--turning its  
14 head from ~~right~~ side to side--& up & down  
15 & speering at me in that same ludicrously<sup>225</sup>  
16 solemn & complacent way that I had noticed  
17 also horned  
18 in one in captivity-- Another more red,^ repeats  
19 the same warning sound--or ap. call to  
20 its young about the same distance off in  
21 on an alder  
22 another direction.^ When they took to flight  
23 they made some noise with their wings.  
24 with their short tails & squat figures  
25 they looked very clumsy--all head & shoulders.  
26 Hearing a fluttering under the alder's  
27 I drew near and found a young owl  
28 a 3d smaller than the old, all gray  
29 without obvious horns--only 4 or 5 feet  
30 distant. It flitted along 2 rods & I  
31 followed it-- I saw at least 2 or more  
32 young. All this was close by that

---

<sup>225</sup>"lu" written over "sol"

1 thick hemlock grove--and they perched on  
2 alders & an apple tree in the thicket there.  
3 These birds kept opening their eyes when  
4 I moved as if to get clearer sight of me--  
5 The young were very quick to notice any motion of  
6 the old--& so betrayed their return--by looking  
7 in that direction--when they returned--though I  
8 had not heard it. Though they permitted me  
9 as if bereft of half their senses--  
10 to come so near with so much noise^--they  
11 at noticed the coming & going of the old  
12 birds--even when I did not. There were 4 or  
13 5 owls in all. I have heard a somewhat similar  
14 note further off & louder in the night.  
15 & it has been out some days  
16 <sup>226</sup>I find (July 14th) at Muhlenbergii Brook--  
17 //circaeas--which are distinctly branched & with large  
18 leaf like bracts--some nearly 2 feet high.  
19 Yet they are evidently the same species that  
20 I have found before & I think that there  
21 hereabouts  
22 is but one^-- Say C Alpina which however  
23 is poorly described by Gray & inadequately  
24 by Big-- It is from 4 or 5 (in shade) to  
25 as here, about 2 feet high--in sun.  
26 Is never pubescent. ~~has bra~~ but quite  
27 smooth round stemmed--swelling at the  
28 joints--more or less branched--in large  
29 specimens some times very much so (V pressed  
30 one--) with bracts quite small & slender  
31 in small ones & very large & leaf life  
32 (2 on a common axillary branch) in large plants.

---

<sup>226</sup>Brackets surround this paragraph. Open bracket at this part, close bracket at end of day's entry

1 Leaves opaque in open places--heartshaped  
2 rather slightly & distantly toothed--of the large  
3 specimens, at least, not shining.) %V 24th { }%  
4 July 11th  
5 AM. To Tarbell Swamp Hill--all day  
6 with W. E. C.  
7 Landed at Path end Great meadows-- No  
8 haying there yet-- In the now isolated  
9 ditches &c there thousands of little pouts //  
10 about 1 inch long more or less-- The water  
11 is muddy & I see no old ones-- They are  
12 rather difficult to catch (like minnows generally  
13 but less so) but I got two & have them in  
14 spirit-- I scare up several. ap.  
15 snipes? which go off with a crack-- They  
16 are rather heavy looking like wood cocks  
17 but have gray breasts. are probing the meadow.  
18 Quite numerous there. The Ludwigia //  
19 sphaerocarpa which had been out ap a  
20 week on the 6th of Aug. '55--shows hardly  
21 a sign of a flower yet--so it will hardly open  
22 before Aug 1st-- The grass on the islets  
23 in those pools is much flattened in  
24 many places by the turtles which lie out  
25 sunning on it-- They tumble in before  
26 me--& by the sound & marks of one  
27 I suspect it a snap-turtle. They are  
28 commonly E. picta.

1 Bathed & lunched under the oak. at  
2 Tarbell's first shore. It is about as cool  
3 a place as you can find--where you get  
4 the S. W. breeze from over the broad meadow  
5 --for it draws through the valley behind--  
6 While sitting there saw some 25 rods  
7 up stream amid the pads on the S side  
8 where we had passed--several ap. young  
9 //  
10 ducks--which soon disappeared again  
11 in the meadow grass. Saw them hereabouts  
12 Aug. 6th last year-- They regularly breed here-  
13 abouts--& the broad meadow affords lurking  
14 places. The meadow is so broad & level  
15 that you see shadows of clouds on it  
16 as on the sea. A great snap. turtle  
17 floated by us with his head out in mid stream--  
18 reconnoitering us. Rambled over the  
19 //hill at angle-- Allium out sometime  
20 on the shore-- I have only seen it here methinks  
21 & on the assabet shores.  
22 Hear now the link of bobolinks--& see  
23 // red wing  
24 quite a flock of^ black birds & young(?)  
25 milkweed  
26 //The water ~~ranunculus~~ or A. Pulcha--ap. X  
27 July 12  
28 P. m. Down Turnpike to red lily meadow--  
29 //Hear the plaintive note of young blue  
30 birds--a reviving and gleaming of their  
31 blue ray-- In moore's meadow by turnpike  
32 see the vetch in purple patches

1 weighing down the grass--as if a purple tinge  
2 were reflected there. White vervain ap. X //  
3 Smooth sumac ap yesterday XX Rhue is be- //  
4 ginning now to whiten the meadows on all  
5 hands. The Ranunculus aquatilis, //  
6 appears to be about done--though it  
7 may have been submerged by the rain of yesterday--  
8 I see hardly one freshly open & it quite moist  
9 & lowering yet. By the myosotis ditch  
10 there--is an abundance of Galium trifidum  
11 (ap. obtusum or latifolium--in press)  
12 quite  
13 it is densely massed &^ prickly--with 3 corolla  
14 lobes. As yet I think I have observed only 2 vars  
15 of G. trifidum--smooth & rough.  
16 Lactucca sanguinea some time--with //  
17 dark purple stem--widely branched--  
18 Pycnanthemum muticum & the narrowleaved //  
19 %several days at least% still wet  
20 not long.^ In the ^road on the hill  
21 just beyond Lincoln bound--a short-tailed shrew  
22 of Say  
23 Sorex brevicaudis^--dead after the rain. I have //  
24 found them thus 3 or 4 times before-- It  
25 is 4 1/2 inches long, tail 1+ head & snout 1+  
26 Roundish body somewhat  
27 ^Lead color above^, lighter beneath--with a long  
28 snout 3/8 inch beyond lower jaw--incisors black  
29 --delicate light colored (almost silvery) mustachioed  
30 bristles--& also from lower lip nose emarginate<sup>227</sup>  
31 {drawing}--nails long & slender.--a purple bar across  
32 each--ears white & concealed in the fur  
33 the nostrils plainly perforated--though

---

<sup>227</sup>"emarginate" followed by cancelled drawing

1 Emmonds says--that in the specimens  
2 of Sorex he had seen he could detect no  
3 perforations with a microscope. It has  
4 a peculiar, but not very strong muskiness.  
5 There was an insect wing in its mouth--  
6 Its numerous teeth distinct. Have I not  
7 commonly noticed them dead after rain?  
8 I am surprised to read in Emmonds--that it  
9 was first observed in Missouri & that  
10 he has "not been able to meet with it"  
11 & doubts its existence in the state--retains  
12 it on the authority of former catalogues  
13 %Baird%  
14 -- Says it nests on the surface--& is familiar  
15 %given to Agassiz for%  
16 with water. In spirits. %V. Oct 25th 56%  
17 // Red lilies in prime--single up right  
18 fiery flowers--their throats how splendidly  
19 hardly  
20 & variously spotted--~~not~~ 2 of quite the same  
21 hue--& not 2 spotted alike-- Leopard spotted.  
22  
23 averaging a foot or more in height.  
24 amid the huckleberry--& lambkill  
25 &c--in the moist--meadowy pasture.  
26 //ap.<sup>228</sup> A blue bird's?<sup>229</sup> egg--in a wood peckers  
27 hole--in an apple tree--2d brood--just  
28 laid. in Collection. Parsnip at  
29 //  
30 Bents orchard how long? also on July 5th  
31 //almost out. Agrimony well out.  
32 // Chestnut in prime.  
33 See Lysimachia Quadrifolia with from 3 to  
34 5 (or 6?)<sup>230</sup> leaves in a whorl  
35 // Iberis umbellata Candy-tuft road side

---

<sup>228</sup>"ap." possibly added

<sup>229</sup>"?" inserted

<sup>230</sup>"5 (or 6?)" possibly written over from T's initial number "6"

1 Tuttlles naturalized--how long? New plant.  
2 July 13th  
3 Pm to Corner Spring.  
4 Orchis lacera ap several days. lower part of //  
5 spike--willow row Hubbard side op. Wheildon's land.  
6 large  
7 See quite a^ flock of chattering redwings--  
8 the flight of 1st broods. Thimble berries are //  
9 now fairly ripe & abundant along walls--  
10 to be strung on herd's grass--but not much  
11 flavor to them--honest & wholesome--see  
12 where the mowers have plucked them. Gather  
13 the large black & blackening ones-- No  
14 drought has shrivelled them this year  
15 Heard yesterday--a sharp & loud Ker-  
16 surprised  
17 pheet--I think from a^ woodchuck--amid  
18 bushes--the Siffleur. Reminds one somewhat  
19 of a peet-weet--& also of the squeak of  
20 a rabbit--but much louder & sharper--&  
21 all is still.  
22 Hub meadow--(or I will call it early meadow)  
23 aster some days--now rather slender--& //  
24 small bushed-- Drosera longifolia & //  
25 also rotundifolia some time. Polyg sanguinea //  
26 some time--Hub mead path--say meadow paths //  
27 & heard  
28 & banks. Saw ^2 or 3 red starts at //  
29 red start woods where they prob. have  
30 nests-- Have noticed bright red Geranium  
31 & pyrus leaves a week or more. //  
32  
33 In Hubbards Euphorbia pasture Cow b. birds  
34 resting & //  
35 about cows. At first the cows were ^rumi-

1 nating in the shade & no birds were  
2 seen. Then one after another got up  
3 & went to feeding--stragglng into the  
4 midst of the field. With a chattering  
5 appeared a cow-bird & with a long slanting  
6 flight lit close to a cow's nose within  
7 the shadow of it--& watched for insects--  
8 the cow still eating along & almost hitting  
9 it--taking no notice of it-- Soon it  
10 is joined by 2 or 3 more birds.

11 An abundance of spurrey. in the  
12 //  
13 half-grown oats adjoining ap. some time  
14 //out. Yel. lily how long?  
15 // Am surprised to see an Aster laevis out a day  
16 or 2 in road on sandy bank.  
17 // Gold finches twitter over-- Hydrocotyle some time

18 July 14

19 Pm to Muhlenbergii Brook.<sup>231</sup>

20 // Anthony Wright found a larks nest with  
21 fresh eggs on the 12 ult--in E. Hub's  
22 meadow by Ash Tree--2 nests--prob--one  
23 //a 2d brood. Nasturtium hispidum? ap  
24 3 or 4 days-- See & hear martins twittering  
25 //on the elms by river. side Bass out  
26 about 2 days at Island.

27 ? There is a pyrus 20 feet high with small  
28 fruit at Assabet spring.  
29  
30 // Noli me tangere already springs at  
31 Muhlenbergii brook--some days--

---

<sup>231</sup>"B" altered from "b"

1 Saw ap. my little ruby? crested wren?<sup>232</sup>--on the ?  
2 weeds there-- Senecio long gone to seed //  
3 & dispersed. Canada thistle some time on //  
4 Huckle berry Pasture side beyond. Ceratophyllum //  
5 dense //  
6 with a^ whorl of 12 little oval red dotted  
7 ap. flower buds (?) in an axil.  
8 While drinking at Assabet spring in  
9 woods--noticed a cherry stone on the  
10 bottom. A bird that came to drink must  
11 have brought it--half a mile--So the  
12 tree gets planted!  
13 July 15  
14 P. m. to Hub's Close & Walden--  
15 Carrots by RR--how long? I notice //  
16 the froth concealing a grub, not only on //  
17 trees & bushes but on Potentilla Norvegica,  
18 Pyenanthemum muticum--even lobelia inflata--red clover--aster puniceus  
19 great fruited  
20 Lechea--{~~minor~~}, &c &c--^ This spots my clothes  
21 also aug 1st or sweet-gale & Roman wormwood--  
22 when going through bushes Both small  
23 hypericums. Canadense<sup>233</sup> & mulilum ap-- //  
24 some days at least by Stows<sup>234</sup> ditch. Bobolinks  
25 are heard--their link link above & amid  
26 the tall rhue which now whitens the meadows.  
27 Checkerberry a day or 2 //  
28 Spiranthes gracilis well out--in dry--slender //  
29 grass by roadside. I do not notice the  
30 Krigia out in my afternoon walks-- ?  
31 & so it is not know by many--but  
32 in the morning its disk is very commonly  
33 seen-- When I crossed the entranced<sup>235</sup>

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<sup>232</sup>"?" possibly inserted

<sup>233</sup>"Can" written over "mul"

<sup>234</sup>"S" altered from "s"

<sup>235</sup>possibly "entrance" with "d" cancelled

1 to the Pond meadow on a stick--  
2 a pout ran ashore & was lodged so  
3 in the grass  
4 that I caught--it ^ap. frightened.--  
5 While I held it, I noticed another, very  
6 large one approach the shore very  
7 boldly within a few feet of me. Going  
8 in to bathe I caught a pout on  
9 the bottom within a couple of rods  
10 of the shore-- It seemed sick--then  
11 wading into the shallow entrance of  
12 the meadow I saw a school of  
13 a thousand little pouts about 3/4  
14 inch long without any attending pout--  
15 & now have no--doubt that the pout  
16 I had caught (but let go again) was  
17 tending them--& the large one was the  
18 father ap. further off. The mother had  
19 perhaps gone into deep water--to recruit after  
20 her air-bath. The young were pretty  
21 shy--kept in shallow water--& were  
22 taking pretty good care of themselves.  
23 If the water should suddenly fall, they  
24 might be caught in the meadow.  
25 // Ludwigia alternifolia not quite. in a day or 2  
26 // Amid the high grass or rushes by that  
27 meadow side started a water adder--  
28 It was about 3 feet long--but  
29 large round in proportion--with about<sup>236</sup>  
30 140 abdominal plates--& a long slender tail.

---

<sup>236</sup>"about" partially obscured by ink blot

1 It was black above with indistinct transverse  
2 brown bands. Under its head white--1st half  
3 of belly white with triangular or conical  
4 front<sup>237</sup>  
5 {drawing} dark brown-red marks on sides--the  
6 rear<sup>238</sup> white gradually becomes more narrow  
7 & yellowish for the latter half of the abdomen,  
8 bordered by more numer & still darker reddish  
9 marks--becoming confluent & alternating  
10 with silvery {ones}--giving a handsome regularly  
11 mottled or spotted look. The silvery  
12 thus across the belly {drawing} The barred front  
13 dark reddish.-- Under the tail  
14 was reddish.

15 Corylus rostrata differs from common--in the  
16 twig being smooth--& not glandular hairy.

17 Scutellaria galericulata same time. //

18 Polygonum sagittatum almost. //

19 That green sponge plant gathered  
20 yesterday is remarkably slow to dry though  
21 it has been many hours exposed to the sun--  
22 & wiped with many papers--& has been a  
23 whole day exposed to the air--it is far from  
24 dry yet. It is more pungent & strong  
25 scented than ever--& sickens me to stay in the  
26 room with a little of it.

27 July 16

28 Sium out not long. I see many young //  
29 %prob. minnows%  
30 shiners? (they have the longitudinal bar) //

31 1 to 2 1/2 inches long--& young breams

32 2 or 3 inch long & quite broad--

---

<sup>237</sup>"front" caption for drawing  
<sup>238</sup>"rear" caption for drawing

1 // Geum virginianum ap 2 or 3 days.  
2 See several bull frogs lying fully  
3 out on pads at 5 pm. They trump  
4 It is remarkable how a copious rain  
5 well these nights. raising the river--a little flattens down the  
6 //heart leaf & other weeds at bathing places--  
7 July 17  
8 Found a great many insects in white lilies  
9 which opened in pan this Am which had  
10 never opened before-- What regular &  
11 handsome petals--regularly concave  
12 toward the inside--& calyx hooked at  
13 tip.  
14 Pm. To Water dock meadow & Linnaea  
15 Hillside.  
16 Hear a new note from Bank swallows  
17 when going over the Hosmer<sup>239</sup> pastures--a  
18 sort of screep screep shrill & like what I  
19 have referred to the barn swallow. They are  
20 prob. out with young.  
21 // // Ludwigia palustris & Ilysanthes have been  
22 out ap. some time on the flat Hosmer  
23 shore or meadow--where the surface has  
24 been laid bare by the ice. There too the H.  
25 sarothra has pushed up abundantly.  
26 I see many young toads hopping about  
27 //  
28 on that bared ground amid the thin weeds  
29 --not more than 5/8 to 3/4 inch long--also  
30 //young frogs a little larger. Horsemint  
31 out at Clam Shell ap 2 or 3 days.  
32 Bathed at Clam Shells--see great

---

<sup>239</sup>"H" altered from "h"

1 schools of minnows--ap. shiners hovering in  
2 the clear shallow next the shore. They  
3 seem to choose such places for security.  
4 They take pretty good care of themselves--&  
5 are harder to catch with the hands than  
6 you expect--darting out of the way at  
7 last quite swiftly. Caught 3 however be-  
8 tween my hands. They have brighter golden  
9 irides--all the abdomen conspicuously  
10 pale golden--the back and half down the  
11 sides pale brown--a broad {distint} black  
12 band along sides (which methinks marks  
13 the shiner) & comparatively transparent  
14 beneath behind vent. When the<sup>240</sup> water is  
15 gone I am surprised to see how they can skip  
16 or spring from side to side in my  
17 cup shaped 2 hands--for a long time  
18 -- This to enable them to get off floating  
19 planks or pads or the shore when  
20 in fright they may have leaped on to them--  
21 But they are very tender & the sun & air  
22 soon kill them. If there is any water in  
23 your hand they will pass out through  
24 the smallest crack between your  
25 fingers. They are about 3/4 of an {ch}  
26 long--generally though of various sizes.  
27 Half a dozen big bream came  
28 quite up to one as I stand in the  
29 water-- They are not easily scared in such a  
30 case.

---

<sup>240</sup>"the" written over "they"

1     The large skunk cab. fruit looks quite  
2     //  
3     black now where the haymakers have  
4     passed. Stooping to drink at the  
5     Hosmer spring-- I saw a hundred cadis  
6     cases of light colored pebbles at the  
7     bottom--& a dozen or 20 crowded half  
8     way up the side of the tub--ap. on their  
9     way out--to become perfect insects.

10    Cows in their pasture going to--  
11    water or else, make a track 4 or  
12    5 inches deep & frequently not more  
13    that 10 inches wide.

14    The Great water dock has been out  
15    //  
16    some days at least-- Its valves are  
17    quite small at first but lower  
18    leaves pointed. I hear in the meadow  
19    //their a faint incessant z-ing sound  
20    as if small locusts in the meadow  
21    grass. Under the oak in Brown's  
22    moraine pasture by water dock meadow--  
23    a great arum more than 3 feet  
24    high--like a tropical plant in open  
25    land with leafets<sup>241</sup> more than a foot long.  
26    //There is rich-weed there. ap. not quite out  
27    Going up the hill side--between J. P.  
28    Browns & rough cast House am surprised  
29    //to see great plump ripe low blackberries.

---

<sup>241</sup>"leafets" altered from "leaves"

1 How important their acid (as well as  
2 currants) this warm weather. It is  
3 5 Pm. The wood thrush begins to sing //  
4 A very warm Pm.<sup>242</sup> Thermometer at 97+°  
5 at the Hosmer desert-- I hear the  
6 early locust. I have come to collect //  
7 bird's nests. The thrashers is ap. made  
8 partly beneath the surface--some dirt making  
9 its sides. I find the nests by withered twigs  
10 & leaves broken off in the spring.--but  
11 commonly nearly concealed by the recent growth.  
12 The jay's nest had been filled with white  
13 oak leaves--not one could have been  
14 blown into it. On Linnaea hill  
15 many thimble-berries & ~~blue~~ some rasp-  
16 berries.  
17 Evening by river to Ed. Hosmers-- Hear  
18 at distance the hum of bees from the bass  
19 with its drooping flowers at the Island--  
20 It sounds like the rumbling of a distant train of cars.  
21 a few minutes only before sunset. Returning  
22 after ten by moonlight--see the bull frogs  
23 lying out at full lengths on the pads where  
24 they trump.  
25 July 18  
26 Pm to Wheeler meadow to look at willows  
27 What I have called the stringed //  
28 Whiting's is ap. the S alba--without  
29 serrations at tip. %or rather is what I have called%  
30 %the S. lucida (?) N Wheeler mead &c%  
31 Can that be S gr sericea (or what is it--?)  
32 //  
33 about Wheeler's White maple?--as big as my

1 head-- In the Wheeler Meadow I notice  
2 perhaps 3 kinds of willow prevailing--  
3 2. ap-- discolores-- The one with rather  
4 broad leaves & conspicuous stipules--the  
5 other smaller leaves & no stipules.  
6 The 3d (in press) S nigra like but  
7 ? without stipules--low--V. clump 2  
8 rods west of rock in S. W. part of meadow.  
9 Notice large broad wrinkled (pellucid  
10 ? more or less) rad. leaves with short petioles  
11 They are similar to those of Kalmiana but more  
12 of yel. lilies--^& ~~even of heartleaf~~ no  
13 generally decayed now  
14 ? Again scare up a wood cock--ap nested or  
15 sheltered  
16 ^in shadow of ferns in the meadow or the  
17 cool mud in the hot Pm.  
18 //R. Carolina some time at edge of Wheeler meadow near Island neck.  
19 You see almost every where on the mud-  
20 dy river bottom--rising toward the surface  
21 1st The coarse {multiple} leaves of the R. Purshii  
22 now much the worse for the wear--  
23 2nd perhaps in coarseness--the ceratophyllum  
24 standing up right--3d perhaps the B. Beckii  
25 with its leaflets at top--then the Utric--  
26 vulgaris with its black or green bladders  
27 the 2  
28 & ~~many~~ lesser Utricularias in many places--  
29 July 19th  
30 P. m. Marlboro Road via RR--& Dugan  
31 woodlot.  
32 // A box tortoise killed a good while on the  
33 RR. at Dogwood swamp--quite dry now

1 This the 4th I have ever found-- First  
2 one alive in Truro--2d one dead on shore of  
3 Long Pond Lakeville--3d one alive under-  
4 Fair Haven Hill--& 4th this.  
5 This appeared to have been run over--but both  
6 upper and under shells were broken into several  
7 pieces each--in no case on the line of the  
8 serrations or of the edges of the scales--(proving  
9 that they are as strong one way as the  
10 other) but at various angles across them.  
11 which I think proves it to have been broken while the animal was alive  
12 or fresh--& the shell not dry  
13 ^I picked up only the after half or 2/3ds & 1 foot  
14 The upper shell was at the widest place  
15 4 3/8 inches-- It was broken irregularly across  
16 the back from about the mid of the 2d lateral<sup>243</sup>  
17 scale from the front on the left--to the mid of the  
18 3d lateral on the right and was at the angle of  
19 the marginal scales about 16/40 to 17/40 of an inch  
20 thick measured horizontally-- The sides  
21 under the lateral scales & half the dorsal were  
22 from 4 to 5/40 inch thick-- The thinnest part  
23 was about 3/8 of an inch from mid of back  
24 or between  
25 on each side--directly ~~under~~ ^ the spring of the  
26 {sides} where it was but little more than 2/40 thick.  
27 So nature makes an arch.  
28 I have ~~the~~ about 1/2 half the sternum  
29 --the rear of it at one point reaching to the  
30 hinge. It is thickest vertically just at the  
31 side hinge where it is 1/4 thick--thinnest  
32 3/8 from this each side where it is 1/8 thick  
33 & thence thickens to the mid of the

---

<sup>243</sup>"la" written over "sc" or possibly "lateral" written over "scale"

1 sternum where it 7 1/2/40 thick.  
2 The upper shell in this case (V may 17 '56)  
3 is neither pointed not notched behind--but quite  
4 straight. The sternum & the lower parts of  
5 the marginal ~~p+~~ scales are chiefly dark brown.  
6 The marking above is sufficiently like that  
7 of the Cape Cod specimen--with a still greater  
8 proportion of yellow--now faded to a ~~pale~~ yellowish  
9 brown--  
10 // On Linnaea-hills--sarsaparilla berries. X  
11 // Lobelia inflata perhaps several days X<sup>244</sup> little--  
12 white glands (?) on the edges of the leaves.  
13 On the underside of a Lobelia spicata  
14 leaf--a sort of loose spun coccoon about  
15 //5/8 inch long--of golden-brown silk beneath  
16 which silky mist a hundred young spiders  
17 swarm.  
18 Examined Paint-tortoise eggs of June 10th  
19 one of those great spider (?) holes made  
20 there since then close to the ggs. The eggs  
21 are large & ~~methinks~~ rather pointed, methinks  
22 //at the larger end. The young are half developed.  
23 // Fleets of yellow butterflies on road.  
24 Small white (~~sof~~) rough coated puff balls (?)  
25 //  
26 in pastures. Appear not to have 2 coats like that  
27 of Potters path. q.v.  
28 As I came by the apple tree on J. P. B's  
29 land--where I heard the young woodpeckers  
30 hiss<sup>245</sup> a month or so ago--I now see  
31 that they have flown for there is a

---

<sup>244</sup>"X" written over dash  
<sup>245</sup>"hiss" reformed

1 cobweb over the hole.

2 Plucked a handful of gooseberries at //  
3 prob. ripe some time  
4 J. P. B's bush--^it is of fair size red-purple  
5 & greenish to ap. like the first in garden--except  
6 it is not slightly bristly like that, nor has<sup>246</sup> so  
7 much flavor & agreeable {tartness}-- Also the  
8 stalk is not so prickly, but for the  
9  
10 most part has one small prickle where  
11 ~~that~~ has 3 stout ones. Our 2nd goose-  
12 ours  
13 berry is more purple (or dark-purple  
14 with bloom) & the twig less prickly than  
15 the wild. Its flower is insipid & in taste like  
16 the wild.

17 It is the H. ellipticum & canadense (linear leaved)  
18 whose red ~~capsules~~ pods are noticed now.

19 On the sand thrown out by the money  
20 diggers I found the first ripe black berries  
21 there abouts-- The heat {reflecte} from the  
22 sand had ~~reflect~~ ripened them earlier than  
23 elsewhere. It did not at first occur to me  
24 what sand it was, nor that I was  
25 indebted to the money diggers--or their  
26 moll-pitcher who sent them hither for  
27 those blackberries-- I am probably the  
28 only one who has got any fruit out  
29 of that hole. It's an ill wind that  
30 blows nobody any good-- Looking up  
31 I observed that that they had  
32 dug another hole a rod higher up

---

<sup>246</sup>"h" written over "s"

1 the hill last spring--(for the  
2 black berries had not yet spread over  
3 partly filled  
4 it--) & had ~~not covered~~ it up again.

5 So the result of some idler's folly  
6 & some spiritualist's nonsense--is that  
7 I get my blackberries a few days the earlier.

8 The Downy woodpeckers nest which  
9 I got July 8th--was in a ~~a~~dead<sup>247</sup> & partly  
10 & upright  
11 rotten ^apple bough 4 3/4 inch diameter--

12 Hole perfectly elliptical (or oval) 1 2/16 x 1 5/16  
13 inch--whole depth below it 8 inches. It  
14 is excavated directly inward about 3 1/2 inches  
15 with a conical roof {drawing} also arching at  
16 back {drawing} with a recess in one side on  
17 level with the hole, where the bird turns.

18 Judging<sup>248</sup> from an old hole in the same  
19 bough, directly above, it enlarges directly  
20 to a diameter of 2 1/4 to 2 1/2 inches  
21 not in this case descending exactly in the  
22 middle of the bough--but leaving one  
23 side not a quarter of an inch thick.

24 At the hole it is left one inch thick.

25 At the nest it is about 2 3/8 inch  
26 ~~at~~ first  
27 diameter--(I find nothing in them<sup>249</sup> but bits  
28 of rotten wood, remains of insects &c when I  
29 tip it up. for I cannot see the bottom-- Yet in the  
30 old one there is also quite a nest of pine stubble (?)  
31 bark shred (?) &c mixed with the bits of rotten wood.

---

<sup>247</sup>initial "a" cancelled

<sup>248</sup>"J" poss written over "j"

<sup>249</sup>"m" cancelled



1                    %{sepals }%  
 2   the same length with the %^%narrow {purple} pod  
 3   --corolla about 3/8 inch diameter    %V. 25 prox.%  
 4   The small hypericums are open only in the  
 5   forenoon-- Pursley also in our garden  
 6   opens now not till 8 am & shuts up before  
 7   12 M.  
 8   The flat Euphorbia is now in prime on  
 9   //  
 10  the sandy path beyond potters desert--5 finger  
 11  fungus path., Plucked a handful  
 12  //  
 13  //of huckleberries from one bush! The V.  
 14  vacillans thick enough to go picking & prob-  
 15  for a day or 2 in some places. Low<sup>252</sup> blackberries  
 16  thick enough to pick in some places 3 or 4 days--  
 17  Thimble berries about the 12 ult &  
 18  V. Penn.sylvanicum<sup>253</sup> much longer.  
 19  These hot afternoons I go panting through  
 20  the close sproutlands<sup>254</sup> & copses--as now from  
 21  Cliff Brook<sup>255</sup> to Wheeler Meadow--& occasionally  
 22  come to sandy places a few feet in diameter  
 23  where the partridges have dusted themselves--.  
 24  Gerard the Lion Killer of Algiers speaks  
 25  of seeing similar spots when ~~patien~~ tracking  
 26  & his truth in this particular is a confirmation of the rest of his story  
 27  or patiently waiting the lion--there^-- It is inter-  
 28  But his pursuit dwarfs this fact & makes it seem trivial. Shall not my pursuit  
 29  also  
 30  esting to find that the same phenomena, however  
 31  contrast with the trivialness of the partridge's dusting?  
 32  simple, occur in different parts of the globe.  
 33  I have found an arrow head or 2 in such  
 34  places even. Far in warm sandy woods  
 35  in hot weather--when not a breath  
 36  of air is stirring-- I come upon these  
 37  still sandier and warmer spots where  
 38  the partridges have dusted themselves--&  
 39  now all still a deserted  
 40  ^am not relieved--yet pleased to find

---

<sup>252</sup>"Low" reformed

<sup>253</sup>"sylvanicum" poss inserted

<sup>254</sup>"t" left uncrossed

<sup>255</sup>"B" written over "b"

1 that I have been preceded by any creature.  
2 Grapes ready to stew-- //  
3 Gathered grape leaves from under the rocks  
4 at Wheeler meadow & also from the path side  
5 a little higher up--omitting the V. labrusca or  
6 downy stemmed ones--. another at Bittern Cliff wood & also Black-  
7 berry hill side beyond Elms--  
8 The<sup>256</sup> vine by the path--<sup>^257</sup>appears to be the V. sinuata //  
9 of Pursh--(made a var of aestivalis in Big--)  
10 Its leaves are almost all 3 to 7 lobed in a peculiar  
11 manner--almost rayed about center--with  
12 rhomboidal sinuses--(& a few somewhat simpler  
13 leaves--) slightly {st} ciliate on the margin--  
14 teeth hardly mucronate--cobwebby beneath  
15 only on the ribs &c--smooth between them.  
16 The recent shoots, petioles tendrils &c purple<sup>258</sup>  
17 on one side & smooth--or some times  
18 with a few short hairs or bristles. V pressed  
19 under this  
20 ones--though some ^are from another smooth  
21 vine close to it--with many more single leaves--  
22 yet ap the same species.  
23 (more of this or of the very last (if they are not one) at Bittern Cliff wood  
24 & Black berry hill side  
25 & between //  
26 Another^ smooth vine under the rocks  
27 also a peculiar ivy shaped one over the barberry bush by wall at  
28 edge of meadow--perhaps the same species-- hill side  
29 has some of those long clusters of very small  
30 opposite a leaf  
31 grapes slightly branched ^above^--leaves more  
32 only 3 lobed a few of them  
33 simple--<sup>^259</sup>form {than} the very first one, more  
34 cobwebby & rusty beneath, the young leaves  
35 reddish above above--all mucronate  
36 pointed--with rounded sinuses--twigs petioles  
37 &c like the last-- Is it V. aestivalis? Yet  
38 I think the fruit not edible. V. pressed

---

<sup>256</sup>possibly "One"

<sup>257</sup>"^" caret written below dash

<sup>258</sup>"purple": "e" possibly corrected from "ish"

<sup>259</sup>"^" caret written beneath dash

1 ? Is that S. lucida stringed on whiting's  
 2 shore {--} very common on Wheeler meadow--one  
 3 clump e.g. 2 rods w of a rock-- ~~v. pressed~~  
 4 shining above  
 5 stringed Whiting--&c. It is^ glaucous beneath at  
 6 recent shoots yellow{--}slender uprightish  
 7 present. The very minute stipules falling very early--so it appears to have none  
 8 some of these leaves falcate  
 9 Mr Russell wrote me today that he  
 10 visited the locality of the Magnolia glauca  
 11 the 18th ult  
 12 ~~yesterday~~--on Cape Ann & saw lingering still  
 13 a few flowers & flower buds-- It is quite  
 14 open & rising above the bushes--  
 15 The brook cress, might be called  
 16 river cress, for it is very abundant rising  
 17 above the surface in all the shallower parts  
 18 of the river.  
 19 // Verbena hastata ap. several days  
 20 // Sonchus some time.  
 21 This has been a peculiarly fine afternoon--  
 22 When I looked about casually was surprised  
 23 at the fairness of the landscape-- ~~Not~~  
 24 ~~only the~~ Though warm, it is clean & fresh,  
 25 & the air {im}parts<sup>260</sup> to all surfaces a peculiar  
 26 without mistiness  
 27 fine glaucous color full of light,^ like  
 28 leaves  
 29 the underside of the S. lucida (?) at present.  
 30 Not only the under sides of the leaves  
 31 but the very ~~end~~ afternoon landscape  
 32 has become glaucous.<sup>261</sup> Now when the  
 33 Nahant  
 34 fashionable world goes to Saratoga^  
 35 & New port--we frequent our oldest  
 36 haunts with new love & reverence--  
 37 & sail into new ports with each fresh

---

<sup>260</sup>"{im}parts" poss. altered from "is"

<sup>261</sup>"G" altered from "g"

1 varnish of the air.

2 July 23d

3 9 Am up river for N. Kalmiana's

4 with Russell--

5 Pasture thistle not long-- Hypericum sarothra //

6 not long--perhaps some days.

7 Antennaria margaritacea ap X //

8 Scutellaria lateriflora ap some days //

9 R. says that my five finger fungus

10 is the {Lycoperda} (?) stellata & can be found now ?

11 I find it in some places

12 (It is different from the white rough coated

13 puff ball now found) It was exhibited late-

14 ly in Boston as the "resurrection plant!!" to

15 compete with the one imported from Palestine.

16 that what I have called fresh water

17 sponge is such--Spongea fluviatilis & ?

18 like the marine is uncertain whether vegetable

19 or animal. When burned it leaves a mass

20 of white spicula which have been mistaken

21 for infusoria! Thinks the dry brown last

22 years plant I brought from Haskell's Island

23 Lakeville the Epiphegus-- That ?

24 the Rubus Canadensis, low blackberry, is ?

25 not found far west of us. That there

26 is described, he thinks in Hooker's English

27 Flora<sup>262</sup>--a certain massing up of a conferva

28 similar to that of my eriocaulon balls ?

29 Has seen a mexcan species (allied to the

30 potatoe)--cultivated hereabouts--which

31 became {a} weed--would not become larger

---

<sup>262</sup>"F" poss altered from "f"

1 than a walnut. Speaks of the young  
2 ? pouts--with their bladders attached ac-  
3 companied by the old.--That the berries of  
4 ? the celtis are pleasant to taste--those  
5 of the sassafras abominable.  
6 ?        Showed me the Dulichium spathaceum  
7 --leaves in 3 ranks. so common along river--  
8 now in bloom also the Carex lupulina (?)  
9 ? or retrorsa (?) hopsedge<sup>263</sup>--with the inflated  
10 perigynia-- Said thats those reddish  
11 ? clusters of buds on a rush or carex were  
12 enlarged by disease--{drawing}  
13 ? That the 2 white cottony masses  
14 (Eriophorum)--were prob but one species  
15 ? taller & shorter-- also the 2 wool grasses  
16 Trichophorum  
17 Scirpus--^were prob but one species the tall  
18 ? & short-- That there was an account  
19 of the Lecheas by Tuckerman in Silliman's  
20 Journal. ~~A young st~~  
21 Pm to Walden for Hydropeltis.  
22 //A young sternothaerus which R. picked  
23 up recently dead on the shore of the pond--was 1 1/16  
24 inches long the upper shell--prob therefore a  
25 last years one--or not yet one year old.  
26 Very high & sharp back--but broader than  
27 old. No hook to upper bill.  
28 That fern-leaf on my coal (?) is prob. the Neuropteris  
29 as figured in Richardson's botany.  
30 Saw at Hydropeltis mead a small bull  
31 frog--in the act of swallowing a young--  
32 but pretty sizeable ap. v. palustris such

---

<sup>263</sup>"hopsedge" poss. "hop-sedge" or "hop sedge"

1           1 1/2 inches long  
2   as now hop about-- He took it down head fore-  
3 most--{—} as the legs were slowly taken in--  
4 stuffing himself--for the legs were often straight-  
5 end out-- I wondered what satisfaction  
6 it could be to the larger to have that cold  
7 slimy fellow entire lying head to tail  
8 within him! I sprang to make him dis-  
9 gorge--but it was too late to save him--though<sup>264</sup>  
10    I  
11 ~~was~~ tossed the bull frog out of the water--  
12 the palustris was entombed-- So little while  
13 had he been in the light when he fell into  
14 that recess! Bathing in Walden  
15 I find the water considerably colder  
16 at the bottom--while I stand up to  
17 my chin--but the sandy bottom much  
18    to my feet  
19 warmer^ than the water-- The heat  
20 passes through the water with being absorbed  
21           The hydropeltis leaves so crowded they cannot lie  
22           flat--but their edges show (a good part the underside)  
23 by it much.           as if blown up by wind.  
24    The water adder killed on the 15th ult  
25 I left hanging on a twig--has decayed  
26 wonderfully--I perceive no odor--& it is  
27 It is already mere skin and skeleton--as empty as flute-- I can count  
28 already falling to pieces-- I can see most  
29 the bones ribs & it inoffensive to the smell  
30 of its ribs & through & through &  
31 many directions--!!  
32    See ap young goldfinches about--very  
33 freshly bright golden & black.  
34    The small Potamogeton--Heterophyllum<sup>265</sup> (?)<sup>266</sup>                               //  
35 or Hybridum (?) out some time  
36 Ludwigia aternifolia 5 or 6 days X   //

---

<sup>264</sup>"though" altered from "he"  
<sup>265</sup>"H" poss. altered from "h"  
<sup>266</sup>"(?)" poss. inserted



1 but the yellow ones are still very abundant  
2 in the meadows.

3 The Ranunculus Purshii is now very hard to //  
4 meet with-- Saw one double flower with 16  
5 petals (at least) in 2 rows. Time to get seeds  
6 of it. Hard hack well out how long? //

7 The small purple fringed orchis ap 3 or 4 days //  
8 at least-- The fall has already  
9 come to skunk cabbage & hellebore. //

10 Their yellow & black decaying leaves<sup>268</sup> and stems  
11 now cover the floor of the swamp which  
12 they recently clothed in early green.

13 The Lobelia Dortmania--(still)--but //  
14 %ap%  
15 no full spikes-- It is %^%the worse for the wear.

16 The oldest stems of it are covered here &  
17 there with ap. the red ova of some insect.

18 Some gnaphalium uliginosum going to //  
19 seed--how long?  
20

21 The Circaea at Sawmill Brook is NB  
22 the same with that at Muhlenbergii Br. It  
23 differs from Gray's C. Lutetiana in  
24 the stem not being mostly pubescent (but  
25 some not to say stipules  
26 the latter  
27 conspic. smooth)--there being^ bracts, ^some-  
28 times very large--the hair of the fruit  
29 Yes it is rather so Aug. 26th  
30 not being bristly^

31 From his Alpina in not being low &  
32 weak  
33 ~~small & humble plant.~~ (one is 37+ inches  
34 some are low and not branched  
35 shining  
36 high^)--the leaves not ~~being very distinctly~~  
37 ~~heart-shaped.~~ now coarsely toothed, but  
38 remotely & slightly.

---

<sup>268</sup>"leaves" altered from "st"

1 It differs from Bigelows Lutetiana  
 2 in leaves not being pubescent (except  
 3 under a glass)--petals not being reddish  
 4 white--  
 5 From B's Alpina in not being a  
 6 particularly small & humble plant, &  
 7 the leaves not being very distinctly heart  
 8 //shaped. %Call it Circaea simply V Aug 13th 56%  
 9  
 10 Friday July 25  
 11 %8% Am up river to see Hypericums out--  
 12 // Lycopus Virginicus with its runners perhaps  
 13 some days--in Hosmer Flat<sup>269</sup> meadow--  
 14 Whorled utricularia very abundantly out ap.  
 15 in its prime. Lysimachia ciliata some days--  
 16 //  
 17 The Hieracium canadense--grows by the  
 18 road ~~side~~ fence in Potters hydrocotyle field  
 19 some 7 or 8 inches high in dense tufts!  
 20  
 21 The hay makers getting in the hay  
 22 from Hubbards meadow--tell me the  
 23 cock~~er~~ says we are going to have a  
 24 ? long spell of dry weather or else very wet.  
 25 Well, there's some difference between them  
 26 I answer--how do you know it-- I just  
 27 heard a cock crow at noon--& that is  
 28 a sure sign it will either be very dry or  
 29 very wet.  
 30 The Hypericum Perforatum--corymbosum  
 31 & ellipticum are not open this forenoon--  
 32 But the angulosum--canadense--  
 33 mytilum--& sarothra--are partly curled  
 34 up (their petals) even by 9 Am.

---

<sup>269</sup>"F" altered from "f"

1 perhaps because it is very warm--for  
2 day before yesterday methinks I saw the  
3 ~~last~~ 2 mytilum & sarothra open later.  
4 The street is now strewn with bark //  
5 under the buttonwood at the Brick House.  
6 Has not the hot weather taken the bark off?  
7 The air begins to be thick & almost  
8 smoky--  
9 Sat 26th  
10 5 Am--Up Assabet--  
11 The sun's disk is seen round & red //  
12 for a long distance above the horizon  
13 but cloudless  
14 through the thick ^atmosphere--threatening  
15 heat--hot dry weather--  
16 At 5 the lilies had not opened, but //  
17 began about 5 1/4 & were abundantly  
18 out at 6.  
19 Arranged the hypericums in bottles this  
20 morning & watched their opening.  
21 The H. angulosum(?) has a pod 1 celled //  
22 (with 3 parietal placentae) conical oblong  
23 acute at length longer than the sepals  
24 purple (--The Canadense has from 3 to 5! placentae  
25 & the mytilum 3 to 4! as I find, notwithstanding  
26 Gray) Styles 3 short distinct & spreading  
27 stamens 20 more or less obscurely clustered  
28 Petals oblong-- (Do not see the single  
29 lateral tooth mentioned by Eaton) Corolla 12 to  
30 14/40 of an inch in diameter. It is strict

1 slender 10 to 20 inches high; stem sharply  
2 4 angled, like Canadense & cyme as naked  
3 The large ones make a singularly compact (flat-topped) corymb--of many  
4 or more so--^ Leaves oblong lanceolate  
5 narrow pods at last  
6 or linear lanceolate--commonly blunt--but  
7 gradually  
8 often ^tapering & acute, broadest near the  
9 base & clasping 1 to 1 1/2 inches long X 1/8  
10 to 3/8 wide, black dotted beneath. Ground  
11 neither very dry nor very moist.  
12 It differs from Canadense, which it resembles, in  
13 being a larger plant every way--narrower in prop. to  
14 height--having more stamens--& in the  
15 form of its leaves.  
16 Corolla of mytilum 9 to 11/40 inch in diameter--  
17 Canadense 12 to 13/40 corymbosum 18/40  
18 The Corymbosum in chamber shut up at night--  
19 which may not be advanced enough  
20 All but sarothra ^ (I have no elodea) opened  
21 by 5 Am--corymbosum & angulosum very  
22 fairly--but mytilum--canadense &  
23 angulosum curled & shut up by 9Am!!  
24 -- The Corymbosum shut up in Pm. The  
25 Perforatum & Ellipticum alone were open  
26 all day. The 4 lesser ones are very  
27 shy to open & remain open very little while--  
28 this weather at least. I suspect that  
29 in the field also they are<sup>270</sup> open only very early or on  
30 H. canadense & mytilum are often 15 inches high  
31 cloudy days  
32  
33 The largest & most conspic. purple pods  
34 are those of the ellipticum. Those of the  
35 are smaller & more pointed &  
36 angulosum & canadense^ are also purple--  
37 & the mytilum perhaps duller purple &  
38 less conspicuous  
39 The pod of the Ellipticum when cut smells like  
40 a bee--the united styles arm it like a beak--

---

<sup>270</sup>inserted

1 or spine. This appears to be the most nearly  
2 out of bloom of all. I am surprised that  
3 Gray says it is somewhat 4 angled. It is  
4 distinctly 2 angle & round between.  
5 %v. Aug 21 '54%  
6 The Hub. aster may be the A. Tradescanti?  
7 The large Potamogeton off Dodd's seems to //  
8 be. the Natans from size of nutlets &c--  
9 Then there is the 2d off Clam Shell //  
10 a long time out %observed yesterday v. Aug 3d%  
11 & The 3d--Heterophyllum?<sup>271</sup> or what //  
12 I have called Hybridum also long out.  
13 Drank up the last of my  
14 birch wine-- It is an exceedingly  
15 grateful drink now. especially the  
16 aromatic mead like--ap. checker-  
17 berry flavored one which on the whole  
18 I think must be the Black birch.  
19 It is a surprisingly high flavored drink  
20 thus easily obtained--& considering that  
21 it had so little taste at first. Per-  
22 haps it would have continued to im-  
23 prove.  
24 Pm  
25 To Poor House Pasture--  
26 Nettle some time. Ambrosia botrys ////  
27 ap. a few days-- X A. radula ditch by Pasture //  
28 several days ap. Lycopus sinuatus sometime  
29 I see young larks fly pretty well before //  
30 me. Smaller burr-reed s. Americanum  
31 judging from form of stigma ovate & oblique--yet  
32 the leaves are almost entirely concave! Stow's ditch--

---

<sup>271</sup>"t" poss written over "c" in pencil

1 Is this the same with that in river? How long?  
2 // It is very still & sultry this Pm--at 6 Pm  
3 even. I cannot even sit down in the pasture  
4 for want of air--but must keep up & moving  
5 else I should suffocate--Thermometer 97 & 8  
6 today-- The pig pants & melts in his pen--  
7 & water must be cast on him.  
8 Aggassiz says he has discovered that the  
9 Haddock a deep sea fish is viviparous.

10 July 27th '56

11 Lobelia cardinalis 3 or 4 days X with  
12 //  
13 similar white glands (?) on edges of leaves  
14 as in L. spicata. Why is not this noticed?  
15 //Cornus sericea about done-- As I was  
16 paddling by Dodges Brook<sup>272</sup> a great  
17 Devils needle lit on my paddle between  
18 my hands-- It was about 3 inch long  
19 & 3 1/2 in spread of wings (without spots)  
20 black & yellow--with green eyes (?)-- It  
21 keeps its place within a few inches  
22 of my eyes while I was {paddling} some  
23 25 rods against a strong wind--cling-  
24 ing closely. Perhaps it chose that  
25 place for coolness this hot day.  
26 more  
27 To day as yesterday it is ~~(more)~~ comfortable  
28 to be walking or paddling  
29 ^at 2 & 3<sup>273</sup> Pm<sup>274</sup> when there is wind--but at  
30 5 the wind goes down & it is very still  
31 & suffocating.<sup>275</sup>

---

<sup>272</sup>"B" written over "b"

<sup>273</sup>"& 3" inserted

<sup>274</sup>"Pm" followed by what looks like a sideways caret, poss. a stray mark

<sup>275</sup>"To day . . . suffocating" Two curvy lines, looking like large parentheses written sideways, enclose some of this material: the top mark extends from "to" of "to be" to "To" of "To day"; the lower mark extends from the last ampersand to the second f of "suffocating"

1 I afterward saw other great devil's needles  
2 the forward part of their bodies light  
3 blue & very stout.

4 The stellaria longifolia is out of //  
5 bloom & drying up--v. some of this  
6 date pressed.

7  
8 At Bath Place above many yel-lily  
9 pads are left high & dry for a long  
10 time--in the Zizania hollow--a foot  
11 or more above the dry sand--yet with  
12 very firm & healthy green leaves al-  
13 most the only ones not eaten by in-  
14 sects now-- This river is quite  
15 low--the<sup>276</sup> yel, lilies stand up 7 or  
16 8 inches above the water--& op to Mer-  
17 riam's the rocks show their brown  
18 backs very thick--(though some are  
19 concealed) like sheep & oxen lying down  
20 & chewing the cud in a meadow. I  
21 frequently run onto one--(glad when it's  
22 the smooth side--& am tilted up  
23 this way or that--or spin round as  
24 on a central pivot-- They bear  
25 the the red or blue paint from many  
26 a boat--& here their moss has been  
27 rubbed off--

28 Ceratophyllum is now ap in bloom //  
29 commonly  
30 ^with its crimson dotted involucre.

---

<sup>276</sup>"the" altered from "&"

1 ? I am surprised to find Kalmiana  
2 lilies scattered thinly all along the  
3 commonly reddish  
4 Assabet--a few small ^pads in  
5 middle of river--but I see no  
6 ? flowers-- It is their great bluish  
7 (some green)  
8 waved ^radical leaves which I had  
9 mistaken for those of the heartleaf--  
10 These and vallisneria washed up some time  
11 the {floating} leaves being so small--^  
12 ? The rad.-leaves of the heart leaf  
13 are very small & ~~trian~~ rather  
14 triangular. I see on a rock  
15 in mid stream a peetweet within  
16 a foot of a turtle--both eyeing me  
17 anxiously within 2 rods--but not  
18 minding each other.  
19 Examined--&<sup>277</sup> preserved in paper (v. drawer)  
20 sometimes  
21 ? the seeds--& pressed what I have called  
22 v. Aug. 1st  
23 potamogeton hybridus--^but it cannot  
24 be that for the submerged leaves are not  
25 capillary. I will called it the Smallest<sup>278</sup>  
26 dense--  
27 with ^grass-like immersed leaves & has been out a long time--many nutlets beneath  
28 //floating P.^ It is 1 to 3 feet long  
29 stem above 1 1/2/40 to 2/40 inch diameter smaller & branched below.  
30 --Floating leaves (sometimes wanting)  
31 opposite 7/8 to 1 inch long by 2/8 to 3/8 inch  
32 wide elliptic oblong slightly tapering  
33 at base--regularly 6 to 12 nerved--petiole  
34 flat about the length of the leaf or  
35 a little less--conspicuous inverting bracts  
36 or stipules inverting the petioles for 1/2 their

---

<sup>277</sup>"&" inserted

<sup>278</sup>"S" poss altered from "s"

1 above ap. free from petioles  
2 length above. ^The immersed leaves are  
3 ap. 1 nerved  
4 very numerous--grassy linea entire ^1 1/4 long<sup>279</sup>  
5 wide  
6 by 1 1/2/40 ~~inches long~~ blunt with clasping base at  
7 {pointing} axles--or else with a shething  
8 base--opposite or solitary.  
9 Upper emersed spike cylindrical 1/4 of an  
10 inch long x 2 1/2/40 broad with rather flat pe-  
11 duncles large as stem 1/4 to 7/8 of an inch  
12 long--the shortest somewhat clubshaped.  
13 all  
14 The lowest immersed spikes (now ^ in fruit)  
15 almost sessile, ovate, with a dozen nutlets,  
16 or {whorled} with only 3 or 4--nutlets lenticular  
17 with blunt edge ap--becoming concave on sides  
18 2/40 inch diameter. Fruiting abundantly  
19 the whole length of the stem.<sup>280</sup>  
20 Next the prevailing one on assabet  
21 Yes just below boat & elsewhere  
22 and prob. common enough on main stream^--  
23 Rather long flat petioled floating //  
24 which I will call for present the Simple  
25 now done blooming  
26 Leafed<sup>281</sup> ^4 to 6 feet long, stem ap  
27 simple 2 to 3/40 inch diameter, leaves  
28 no, there are a few grassy linear 6 or more inch long on branches immersed  
29 flat but thick & petiole like!  
30 all coriaceous %^%& long petioled ^ (have lower  
31 leaves vanished?)--alternate, & sometimes opposite,  
32 oblong ovate, rounded or a little heart-  
33 shaped at base--sometimes narrower &  
34 more pointed--2 3/4 (1 1/2 to 3 1/2) inches  
35 inch  
36 long x 5/8 to 10/8 wide--Indistinctly 15 to  
37 20 nerved-- Petioles flattish 3 to 12 inches  
38 stipules 2 or more inches long sheathing the stem--  
39 long^--spikes 1 to 2 inch long

---

<sup>279</sup>"long" written over "by"

<sup>280</sup>A long horizontal line separates this line and the line below.

<sup>281</sup>"Simple Leafed" poss cancelled in pencil

1 narrow--loose flowered--whorls 1/8 inch  
 2 apart-- Peduncles 3 to 5 inch long larger  
 3 than the stem, or 3 to 4/40 inch<sup>282</sup> diameter. Nutlets  
 4 semicircular (the largest) 1/8 of inch long--some-  
 5 what pointed--rounded on back. V. some  
 6 in bottle.<sup>283</sup>  
 7 %prob. no 3 { } floating leaves%  
 8 What is that %^(these at least--i.e.  
 9 //  
 10 op. Dakins field) all pellucid & mem-  
 11 branous leafed are 4 to 6 feet long  
 12 floating at top but not flat--stem  
 13 3 to 3 1/2 /40 diameter--often branching--leaves  
 14 say  
 15 numerous linear lanceolate (--or linear  
 16 & acute) sessile 3 to 4 inches long x 1/4  
 17 inch wide tapers both ways--acute--  
 18 wavy<sup>284</sup> edged with about 5 nerves &  
 19 veiny netted beside!?!? %V. July 30th%  
 20 & Aug. 3d  
 21 //Zizania scarce out some days at least  
 22 July 28  
 23 // At 1 1/2 a thunder shower--which was  
 24 much needed--the corn having rolled  
 25 & trees suffered--  
 26 3 1/2 Pm to Climbing Fern--  
 27 // Virgins Bower--ap 2 or 3 days. Nabalus  
 28 //albus a day or 2 X  
 29 // Sand cherry ripe X The fruit droops in umbell  
 30 peduncles  
 31 like clusters 2 to 4^ together on each side the axil  
 32 of a branchlet or a leaf-- Gray & Emerson<sup>285</sup>  
 33 call it dark red-- It is black when  
 34 & {~~the~~} Gray & Big  
 35 ripe-- Emerson--speaks of it as rare in

---

<sup>282</sup>"inch" poss. altered

<sup>283</sup>Horizontal line/lines separates this line from the line below

<sup>284</sup>"wavy" altered from waved

<sup>285</sup>"Gray &" marked for transposition with "Emerson"

1 this state! It is common enough here.  
 2 I have seen it as abundant as any where  
 3 %was it not choke berry?%  
 4 on Weir (or Ware)%?? Hill%?? in Sudbury Big's own  
 5 town. Cherry 3/8 inch diameter--peduncle 7/16  
 6 long. Emerson calls it eatable! On Linnaea  
 7 Hill-- By Factory<sup>286</sup> road clearing--the small  
 8 rough sunflower 2 or 3 days X Gerardia /////  
 9 flava ap several days--Cicuta bulbosa //  
 10 several days. Rich-weed at Brown's oak several //  
 11 days (since 16th say 22nd--  
 12 July 29  
 13 Rhexia X-- Prob. would be earlier if not //  
 14 mowed down. What I have called H. Gronovii ?  
 15 with 3 cauline leaves & without veins--has achenia  
 16 like H. venosum so I will give it up. Its rad<sup>287</sup>  
 17 leaves are very hairy beneath especially along  
 18 mid-rib. Another smart rain--with //  
 19 Lightning //  
 20 Pratt gave me a chimney swallows nest //  
 21 which he says fell down Wesson's chim  
 22 with young in it 2 or 3 days ago. As it comes  
 23 to me it is in the form of the segment of the  
 24 circumference of a sphere whose diameter is  
 25 3 1/2 inches--the segment being 2 + wide one  
 26 (It bears a little soot on the inner side)  
 27 side of course longer than the other^-- It  
 28 may have been placed against a slanting  
 29 part of the chimney--or perhaps some of  
 30 the outer edge is broken off. It is  
 31 composed wholly of stout twigs 1 to 2  
 32 inches long 1/16 to 1/8 inch diameter piled<sup>288</sup>

---

<sup>286</sup>"F" written over "f"

<sup>287</sup>"rad" written over "lower"

<sup>288</sup>"held" in 1906 edition

1 quasi cob fashion {drawing} so as to  
2 form a sort of basketwork<sup>289</sup> 1/3 to 1/2 inch  
3 thick without any lining--at least in  
4 this--but very open to the air-- These  
5 twigs which are quite knobby--seem to be  
6 of the apple clan & the like & are <sup>firmly</sup> ^fastened  
7 together by a very conspicuous whitish semi-  
8 transparent glue which is laid on pretty  
9 copiously--sometimes extending continuously one  
10 inch-- It reminds me of the edible nests  
11 of the Chinese swallow--who knows but their  
12 edibility is due to a<sup>290</sup> similar glue secreted  
13 by the bird & used still more profusely in  
14 building its nests. The chimney swallow is  
15 said to break off the twigs as they fly.  
16  
17 Pratt says he one day walked out  
18 with Wesson with their rifles--as far as  
19 Hunt's<sup>291</sup> bridge-- Looking down stream he saw  
20 a swallow sitting on a bush very far off--  
21 at which he took aim & fired with ball.  
22 He was surprised to see that he had  
23 touched the swallow for it flew directly  
24 across the river toward Simon Brown's  
25 barn--always descending toward the  
26 earth or water--not being able to main-  
27 tain itself--but what surprised  
28 him most was to see a 2nd swallow  
29 come flying behind & repeated  
30  
31

---

<sup>289</sup>"basketwork" altered from "basket"; "work" inserted

<sup>290</sup>"a" written over "to"

<sup>291</sup>"H" written over "h"

1 strike the other with all his force beneath  
2 so as to toss him up as often as he  
3 approached the ground & enable  
4 him to continue his flight--& thus he  
5 continued to do till they were out of sight.  
6 Pratt said he resolved that he would  
7 never fire at a swallow again.

8 Looked at a sharpe's rifle--a  
9 colts revolver--a maynards & a Thurbers  
10 revolver-- The<sup>292</sup> last fires fastest (by a  
11 steady pull) but not so smartly, & is  
12 not much esteemed.

13 July 30th

14 PM to Rudbeckia laciniata via  
15 Assabet.

16 Amaranthus Hybridus & albus both some  
17 days at least--1st ap longest

////

//

18 This is a perfect dog day-- The atmosphere  
19 thick--mildewy--cloudy-- It is difficult  
20 to dry anything-- The sun is obscured--yet  
21 we expect no rain-- Bad hay weather--  
22 The streams are raised by the showers  
23 of yesterday & day before--& I see the  
24 farmers turning<sup>293</sup> their black looking  
25 hay in the flooded meadows with  
26 a fork-- The water is suddenly  
27 clear--as if clarified by the white  
28 of an egg or lime-- I think it  
29 must be because the light is re-

//

---

<sup>292</sup>"The" altered from "the"

<sup>293</sup>"turning" altered from "turned"

1     flected downward from the over arching  
2     dog-day sky-- It assists me  
3     very much as I go looking for the  
4     ceratophyllum--potamogetons &c  
5     All the secrets of the river bottom are  
6     revealed-- I look down into sunny depths  
7     which before were dark--the wonder-  
8     ful clearness of the water--enabling  
9     you to explore the river bottom &  
10    many of its--secrets now--exactly as if  
11    the water had been clarified. This is  
12    our compensation for a heaven concealed--  
13    -- The air is close--& still-- Some days  
14    ago--before this weather--I saw  
15         dressed  
16    haymakers at work ^ simply in a straw  
17    hat--boots--shirt & pantaloons--the<sup>294</sup>  
18    shirt worn like a frock over their pants--  
19    -- The laborer cannot endure the con-  
20    tact with his clothes--  
21    Beside the 2 (or 3) Potamogetons of  
22    July 27 (q.v.) there is of course what I  
23    //will call the Great P off Dodds--  
24    at rock above boat--off Merricks &c &c--  
25    Perhaps it is P. Natans of same-- It is  
26    3 ft long more or less--stems 1/8 inch diam.  
27    simple below-- Floating<sup>295</sup> leaves ~~2-1/4~~ 2  
28    to 4 inch long x 1 1/4 to 2 1/2 broad ovate  
29    oblong or elliptical--rounded or slightly  
30    heartshaped at base--the other end more

---

<sup>294</sup>"the" poss. altered from "&"  
<sup>295</sup>"F" altered from "f"

1 pointed--principal nerves 10 or 12--all together  
 2 30 or more-- Petioles 2 to 4 or 5 inches long  
 3 flat or channelled on one side--convex the  
 4 other--alternate & opposite--stipules 2<sup>296</sup> or<sup>297</sup> 3  
 5 inches long-- Immersed leaves pellucid  
 6 --5 or 6 inches long--ovate lanceolate acute  
 7 & tapering (?) curled (& waved on the edges)  
 8 with 20 or more distinct nerves--alternate  
 9 short-petioled 1 inch or ~~p~~<sup>298</sup> more (or perhaps lower  
 10 sessile?)--but ~~commonly~~ evanescent by decay  
 11 sometimes putting forth little fresh pellucid leaflets in the axils of  
 12 the decayed ones along stem--  
 13 & commonly wanting^-- -- Spikes 1 to 3 inches  
 14 long--dense, cylindrical, peduncle larger  
 15 than stem--3 to 6 inch long sometimes 1/5  
 16 inch diameter-- Nutlets, when one prevails,  
 17 7/40 of an inch long x 4 to 5/40--pointed  
 18 --rounded on the back--(not keeled {drawing})  
 19 --else 1/3 or 1/4 as large & longer in proportion.  
 20 of floating leaved Ps 1st (about done  
 21 There is then observed this year^ the Great Pot.  
 22  
 23 2d the Long flat petioled--floating--with  
 24 %v.6 ps forward)% quite done in river<sup>299</sup>  
 25 a few grassy linear petiole-like submerged--^  
 26 Elliptic leaved a long time--still out aug 3d  
 27 3d v aug 3d<sup>300</sup> The clam shell^ one %with long & {broad} grass like  
 28 submerged leaves%  
 29 (commonly)  
 30 4th What I have ^called Hybridus (?)  
 31 in prime or a little more  
 32 called it smallest floating.  
 33 with grass-like immersed leaves  
 34 Perhaps to these are to be added  
 35 P. Claytoni (?) of Jennies Brook '54 aug 16  
 36 " out at E. {guttata} ditch July 7 '54  
 37 " Small one at F. Pond & another at Walden (Heterophyllus  
 38 " A nar-leaved one at Hub. bath--June 12  
 39 %v. Aug. 1st%

---

<sup>296</sup>"2" poss. reformed  
<sup>297</sup>"o" poss. written over "to"  
<sup>298</sup>cancelled  
<sup>299</sup>a line extends from "river" to the caret following "submerged--" to indicate placement  
<sup>300</sup>"v aug 3d" inserted

1 //Frontrank Polyg. ap X  
2 A. S. Stricta (?) just out on Island  
3 rays  
4 --has commonly 7 or 8 ~~petal~~--some 12!  
5 stem commonly strict--heads either a one side  
6 pyramid {drawing} or sheaf like {drawing} or erect  
7 {drawing} & more wand like on one side like nemoralis  
8 Leaves spreading & recurved {drawing}  
9 Many abortive rad. leaves about.  
10 Is there not a dif. one also I may call  
11 %yes first ap s. virgata {var juncea}%  
12 ? the meadow stricta--more wandlike--  
13 & strict with upright somewhat appressed leaves  
14 upper<sup>301</sup> more entire ~~above~~ & stem yellowish--just  
15 opening? up RR. &c  
16 I am struck with the splendid crimson red  
17 under sides of the white lily pads where my  
18 boat has traversed them at my bath  
19 place near the Hemlocks-- For these pads  
20 (i.e. the white ones) are but little eaten yet.  
21 //Rudbeckia laciniata perhaps a week--  
22 When I have just rowed about the Island  
23 //a green bittern crosses fin<sup>302</sup> in my rear  
24 with heavy flapping flight its legs  
25 dangling not observing me-- It looks  
26 deep slate blue above--yellow legs--  
27 --whitish streak along throat & breast,  
28 slowly  
29 &^ plows the air with its prominent  
30 breast bone {drawing} like the stakedriver--

---

<sup>301</sup>"up" poss. altered from "ab"

<sup>302</sup>cancelled "f" possibly cancelled open paren

1 I think that I distinguish 4 if not //

2 5 kinds of Lecheas--

3 1st The great villous broad leafed<sup>303</sup>

4 2d The appressed hairy--broad linear sometimes ob-

5 lanceolate (or narrow elliptic) leafed Per

6 haps a var. of the 1st

7 3rd The Large fruited--(As on Linnaea Hill)

8 & near Hemlocks

9 4 The Smaller densely branched--hoary tipped

10 F. H. Hill side-- stems tufted or

11 (or peduncled) linear leaved--crowded and

12 assurgent

13 bushy

14 5 The fine<sup>304</sup> Spreading^ = with ~~a few~~ minute linear leaves

15 are some early falling? near Peter's

16 Bedford Road Field--& Hemlock Plain

17 Entrance to Thrush alley stems tufted or crowded together

18 The 1st is very villous with spreading hairs

19 broad elliptic mucronate pointed leaves--becoming

20 red--as does the stem--fruit small & crowded

21 1 foot to 18+ inches high very short pedicels

22 appressed hairs lighter green

23 The 2nd has^ much narrower leaves^ less mucronate,

24 more whorled & longer

25 ~~& ap. not becoming red~~ --branches^ with many small

26 but in less crowded flat-topped clusters about same

27 very narrow leaves--& fruit &c<sup>305</sup> like last^ --height as last

28 Ap. early losing leaves--

29 The 3rd is still less hairy than last--linear

30 lanceolate acute leaves--panicle very thin

31 & open--fruit larger than any of the others

32 & longer peduncled-- Not quite so tall

33 as the 1st

34 The 4th is about as hairy as the 2d (appressed)

35 --leaves linear--most hairy on mid rib beneath--

36 very densely branched--branches commonly 4 whorled

37 --pedicels & fruit &c<sup>306</sup> hoary--fruit about same size

38 with first plant 8 to 10 inches high or more

39 is nearly smooth--slender stem

40 The 5th ^has very few minute linear leaves

41 1/4 inch long--& is very bushy & spreading--often

---

<sup>303</sup>"leafed" a short line, poss. ink, crosses letters "l", "e", and "f"

<sup>304</sup>"fine" inserted

<sup>305</sup>"&c" inserted

<sup>306</sup>"&c" inserted

1 as wide as high--the branches making a more  
2 obtuse angle with the stem--& much longer than  
3 those of any of the others--& further from being  
4 opposite than the 1st 2nd 3rd & 5th small panicles  
5 simple racemelets 3/4 inch long & one sided while the 4th is in  
6 less crowded--more elongated & naked--^than those  
7 clusters of 4 or 5 along the branch  
8 of the 1st 2nd 3d & 5th. Whole aspect very fine  
9 dense & bushy--spreading. v. pressed specimens.  
10 Thursday Pm<sup>307</sup> July 31st  
11 to Decodon Pond.  
12 // // Erigeron canadense some time-- Alisma  
13 //mostly gone to seed-- Thoroughwort several days  
14 //Penthorum a good while-- Trichostema  
15 has now for some time been springing up  
16 in the fields--giving out its aromatic scent  
17 //when bruised & I see one ready to open--  
18 For a morning or 2 I have noticed  
19 dense crowds of little tender whitish parasol  
20 //toad stools 1 inch or more in diameter, &  
21 2 inches high or more--with simple plaited  
22 wheels--about the Pump platform; first  
23 fruit of this dog day weather--  
24 Measured a Rudbeckia hirta flower more  
25 than 3 inches & 3/8 in diameter--  
26 As I am going across To<sup>308</sup> Bear Garden Hill  
27 ? I see much white polygala sanguinea  
28 with the red--in A. Wheelers meadow--  
29 (next to Potters--) Also much of  
30 //the Bartonia tenella which has been out  
31 some days at least 5 rods from ditch  
32 & 3 from Potter's fence-- Near head  
33 //of Boundary ditch close by a new Potamo

---

<sup>307</sup>"p" written over "A"

<sup>308</sup>"To" written over "from"





1 within gunshot & utters its angry scream.  
2 -- This a sound of the season when  
3 the prob are taking their first (?) flights  
4 see yel-Bethlehem star still. //

5 As I look out through the woods  
6 westward there I see sleeping & gleaming  
7 through the stagnant misty glaucous //  
8 dog day air the smooth silvery surface  
9 of F. H. Pond. There is a singular  
10 charm about it in this setting. The  
11 surface has a dull gleaming polish on it  
12 though draped in this glaucous mist.

13 The S. gigantea (?) 3 ribbed--out a long //  
14 time--at Walden shore by RR. more perfectly  
15 out than any S I have seen-- I will call this  
16 S. Gigantea-- Yet it has a yellowish green ?  
17 stem--slightly pubescent above--& leaves slightly  
18 rough to touch above--rays small about 15--  
19 V Aug 2nd  
20 Mine must be the A. radula (if any) of ?  
21  
22 Gray--yet the scales of the involucre are not  
23 appressed--but rather sub-squamosa--nor  
24 or the Radula  
25 is it rare. Pursh--describes it as white flowered  
26 --& mention several closely allied species.

27 Waded through the Northernmost androme  
28 da pond-- Decodon not nearly out there. //  
29 Did I not see some kind of sparrow about the shore  
30 with yellow beneath? That pond is very ?  
31 low now & I found often left high & dry--a //  
32 just done?  
33 small form of Potamogeton--ap. of No 2 6 ps  
34 back--in all respects--except that is only

1 about a foot long as that is the depth  
 2 of the water--with smaller & in proportion--  
 3 broader leaves 1 to 2 inch long x 4 to 10 /8 wide  
 4 also the spikes are not loose flowered 1/2  
 5 to 1 inch long x 1/2 inch broad, or more, in fruit--  
 6 Nutlets the same form & size except  
 7 that there are many great brown  
 8 globular ones, ap abortive 1/4 of an inch  
 9 in diameter--v. in drawer-- Call it as  
 10 //yet The Big-seeded var of no 2<sup>312</sup>.  
 11 Mt cranberries ap. full grown, many at least,  
 12 Aug 1st to Ludwigia<sup>313</sup> sphaerocarpa  
 13 // Burdock several days at least.  
 14 // Erecthites ap 2 or 3 days X<sup>314</sup>--by Peters path end  
 15 of Cemetery--the middle flowers first.  
 16 // Crotalaria<sup>315</sup> in fine lechea field how long--still  
 17 //out & some pods fully grown-- Liatris will  
 18 //ap open in a day or 2-- Dip. umbellatus X  
 19 some time  
 20 //at Peters well-- Desmod. Canadence<sup>^</sup>--several  
 21 great stems 5 feet high a little spreading.  
 22 In the ditch behind Peters--(& in pools  
 23 //in Great Meadow) the ap. true Potamogeton  
 24 in prime 5  
 25 NBhybridus--^ The 6th<sup>316</sup> kind of Floating P. seen this year--  
 26 This then I must call the Smallest<sup>317</sup> Floating  
 27  
 28 P. with immersed capillary leaves--stem about  
 29 1 foot long X 1/25 of an inch diameter, branching  
 30 below-- Floating leaves sharp elliptic--but  
 31 inclining to be broadest at base--smaller ones  
 32 lanceolate acute 5 to 7 /8 inch long x 7 to 16 /40  
 33 wide very distinctly 7 <sup>318</sup> (5 omitting those next edge)  
 34 nerved beneath--ap. all opposite--

---

<sup>312</sup>"2" poss. altered from "3" or "5"

<sup>313</sup>"d" written over "g"

<sup>314</sup>"X" poss. inserted

<sup>315</sup>"t" left uncrossed

<sup>316</sup>"6" cancelled

<sup>317</sup>"S" altered from "s"

<sup>318</sup>open paren written over cancelled "n"

1 Petioles 2 to 12 /8 long flattish-- -- Immersed  
2 1/80 inch diam.  
3 leaves capillary but flat under a lense^ alternate  
4 2 to 3 inch long--on short branches-- -- --Flowering  
5 --  
6 spikes cylindrical 1/4 inch long immersed & fruited  
7 ones more globular with fewer nutlets--which  
8 are circular 1/20 of an inch diam. minute pointed flattened  
9 on sides keeled on back-- Peduncles clubshaped  
10 as large as the stem, 2 to 5 /8 inch long-- I will  
11 call this P. Hybridus for present, though  
12 the spike is not globular, nor the petioles  
13 commonly less than the leaves.

14 Since July 30th inclusive we have had perfect //  
15 Dog days--with interruption-- The earth  
16 has suddenly invested with a thick musty  
17 mist-- The sky has become a mere fungus  
18 A thick blue musty veil of mist is drawn  
19 before the sun-- The sun has not been  
20 visible--except for a moment or 2 once  
21 or 2ce a day--all this time nor the  
22 stars by night. Moisture reigns-- You  
23 cannot dry a napkin at the window--  
24 nor press flowers without their mildewing.  
25 You imbibe so much moisture from  
26 the atmosphere that you are  
27 not so thirsty nor is bathing so  
28 grateful as a week ago-- The burning<sup>319</sup>  
29 heat is tempered--but as you lose sight  
30 of the sky & imbibe the musty misty air  
31 you exist as a vegetable or fungus.

---

<sup>319</sup>"burning" inserted

1 Unfortunate those who have not got  
2 their hay-- I see them wading in over-  
3 flowed meadows & pitching the black--  
4 & mouldy swathes about in vain that  
5 they may dry-- In the meanwhile vege-  
6 tation is becoming rank--vines of all  
7 kinds are rampant-- Squashes & melons  
8 are said to grow a foot in a night--  
9 {But} weeds grow as fast-- The corn  
10 unrolls-- Berries abound and attain  
11 their full size. Once or twice in the  
12 day there is an imperfect glow of yellow  
13 sunlight for a moment through some  
14 thinner part of the veil--reminding us  
15 that we have not seen the sun so long--  
16 but no blue sky is revealed. The  
17 earth is completely invested with cloud-  
18 yet fear no rain and need no veil  
19 like wreathes of vapor^--beneath which  
20 hollowly & torment  
21 flies buzz ^& mosquitoes hum & sting ~~more~~  
22 ~~busily than ever~~--as if they were born of such  
23 an air-- The drooping spirits of mosquitoes  
24 revive & they whet their stings anew--legions  
25 of buzzing flies blacken the furniture--  
26 //(For a week at least have heard that snapping  
27 %& of course a great while%  
28 sound under pads) We have a dense fog  
29 //every night--which lifts itself but a short  
30 distance during the day. At sundown I see  
31 it it curling up from the sun--& meadows--  
32 However I love this moisture in its season--  
33 I believe it it good to breathe--wholesome  
34 as a vapor bath.-- Toad stools shoot

1 up in the yards & paths  
2 The Great meadows being a little wet--  
3 hardly as much as usual--I took off  
4 my shoes & went barefoot some 2  
5 miles through the cut grass--from  
6 Peters to Sphaerocarpa pools & backward  
7 by river-- Very little grass cut yet there. //

8 The cut grass is bad for tender feet--& you  
9 must be careful not to let it draw through  
10 your hands--for it will cut like a fine  
11 saw. I was surprised to see dense beds of //

12 rhexia in full bloom there--ap on  
13 1 rod diam.  
14 hummocks ^left by the ice--or in long  
15 ridges--mixed with ferns & some lysimachia  
16 lanceolata--arrowhead &c They make a  
17 splendid show--these brilliant rose colored  
18 patches--especially in the neighborhood  
19 of Copan-- It is about the richest color  
20 to be seen now-- Yet few ever see them  
21 in this perfection--unless the hay maker  
22 who levels them--or the birds that  
23 broad  
24 fly over the meadow-- Far in the ^wet  
25 meadows--on the hummocks & ridges  
26 these bright beds of rhexia turn their  
27 faces to<sup>320</sup> the heavens--seen only by the  
28 bitterns & other meadow birds that  
29 fly over-- We dwelling & walking in  
30 the dry upland do not suspect their  
31 their existence-- How obvious & gay to

---

<sup>320</sup>"to" poss. altered from "on"

1 those creatures that<sup>321</sup> fly over the meadow--  
2 seen only by birds & mowers. These gay  
3 standards otherwise unfurled in vain.  
4 Snake head arethusa still in the meadow there  
5 //  
6 Ludwigia sphaerocarpa ap a week out 1 1/2  
7 //  
8 to 2 feet high.  
9 entire &  
10 What is that short^ glaucous leaved  
11 willow so common on the great meadows  
12 %yes%  
13 ? 2 or 3 feet high?--possibly S. pedicellaris%^ of Gray  
14 or Erioccephala. v np--  
15 Aug 2nd Pm to Hill.  
16 // A Green bittern comes noiselessly flapping  
17 with stealthy & inquisitive looking to this  
18 side the stream & then that 30 feet above  
19 the water. This antediluvian bird--creature  
20 of the night--is a fit emblem of a dead  
21 stream like this musketicook-- This<sup>322</sup> especially  
22 is the bird of the river-- There is a sympa-  
23 thy between its sluggish flight & the sluggish  
24 flow of the stream--its slowly lapsing flight  
25 even like the rills of musketicook & my own  
26 pulse sometimes  
27 Very common now as the few green emerald  
28 //leafets of the B Beckii which will ere long  
29 yellow the shallow parts--  
30 // Acalypha ap.<sup>323</sup> not long-- Dodder not long  
31 // of July  
32 (not out 27th ~~uit~~^ at RR Bridge) say 4 or 5 days--  
33 // A 3 ribbed G. rod by small apple by wall  
34 at foot E side of Hill (S. gigantea?<sup>324</sup> or one of  
35 the 2 preceeding) not nearly out.--it differs  
36 from my Gigantea ap. only in the leaves being  
37 perfectly smooth above--& the stem smooth & pink  
38 glaucous (excepting a little pubescence near the top)  
39 Very tall. v it by & by.  
40

---

<sup>321</sup>"that" poss. altered from "w"

<sup>322</sup>"This" poss. altered from "There"

<sup>323</sup>"ap." inserted

<sup>324</sup>"?" poss. inserted



1 Landing at Flat shore-- The sium & sarothra  
2 //ap. now in prime-- The central umbel of the  
3 sium going or gone to seed--  
4 // The whorled utricularia is open all day--  
5 // The Hypericum ellipticum is ap out of bloom--there  
6 from July 30th inclusive  
7 at least-- At length ^the cloudlike wreathes  
8 //of mist--of these dog-days lift somewhat  
9 & the sun shines out more or less a short  
10 time at 3 Pm.  
11 The Elliptic Leaved Potamogeton off  
12 Clam shell also just above RR Bridge<sup>325</sup>--is  
13 //still out  
14 The stem is perhaps 5 feet long  
15 branching below--3 to 4 /40 inch diam.  
16 Floating leaves--{few}--opposite--narrow elliptic--  
17 inclined to taper at base 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inch long  
18 x 4 to 5+ /8 wide--distinctly about 7 nerved,  
19 indistinctly 15 or more 1 1/2 inches (or 1 to 2 1/4)  
20 long--broad flat (or slightly channelled) on  
21 one side & convex on the other--  
22 Immersed leaves brown or green pellucid--opposite  
23 linear  
24 sessile ^3 to 6 inches long x 1/8 to 1/4 inch wide  
25 distinctly 3, indistinctly 5, nerved, & veined beside  
26 ? (handsome under a lense with their cells contain-  
27 ing globules)-- Upper immersed leaves becoming  
28 lanceolate 1/2 inch wide curved & waved  
29 Spikes dense cylindrical 1 to<sup>326</sup> 1 1/4 inches  
30 long--nutlets circular 4/40 diam.  
31 sharply keeled on back--peduncles size of  
32 stem 1 to 2 inches long.

---

<sup>325</sup>"B" written over "b"  
<sup>326</sup>"to" poss. altered

1 It stands as follows with the Floating //

2 Potamogetons at present. I think I distinguish 5

3 kinds arranged thus in the order of their size--

4 1st The Great--v. July 30

5 2nd The Long<sup>327</sup> Flat Petioled--with immersed thread {forme} leaves

6 (v. July 27)--with perhaps a var in Andromeda Ponds (v July 21st)

7 Perhaps a narrow pointed leaf variety in Walden v. aug 6th

8 3d The Elliptic Leaved (off Clamshell & above RR) with a

9 smaller var in Potters ditch--(v July 31st & aug 3d)

10 4th The small Floating with Flat-grassy immersed leaves--

11 v. July 27 everywhere in River

12 5th The Smallest<sup>328</sup> (P. Hybridus (?)) with capillary immersed leaves--

13 Stains the paper Great mead pools & ditches v. aug 1st

14 bright yellow in press Hydropeltis Pond--

15 I should say this had been the order of their blooming

16 to judge from present appearances-- //

17 2d done a week or 2

18 1st done a week

19 3d Lingered still

20 4th not uncommon now

21 5 common--

22 The sun coming out when I am off Clam

23 abundant

24 Shell--the^ small dragon flies of different

25 colors--bright blue & lighter looped along

26 the floating valisneria make a very lively

27 & gay appearance. I fancy these bright

28 loops adorn or set forth the river like triumphal

29 arches for my procession--stretching from

30 side to side--

31 The floating valisneria is very thick at //

32 the shallow bends-- I see many of its narrow

33 erect spear shaped tops--%<sup>329</sup>also %prob. pickerel weed%

---

<sup>327</sup>"Long" altered from "& l"

<sup>328</sup>"The Smallest" inserted

<sup>329</sup>pencil line from caret to "prob pickerel weed"

1 //Polyg. hydropiperoides ap X or a day or 2--  
2 //C. alternifolia berries ripe X--as I go  
3 from Holden Swamp shore to Miles swamp--  
4 They are in open cymes<sup>330</sup> dull blue somewhat  
5 depressed globular ~~with~~ tipped with the persis-  
6 tant styles-- ~~--but has~~ yet already as  
7 usual mostly fallen-- But handsomer far--  
8 are the pretty (bare) red peduncles & pedicels like  
9 fairy fingers spread-- They make a show  
10 at a distance of a dozen rods even-- Some-  
11 thing light & open about this tree--but  
12 a sort of witches'<sup>331</sup> tree nevertheless--  
13 // The purple utricularia abundant--but  
14 I did not chance to notice it July 25th--  
15 At Bittern Cliff--again lucky enough to find  
16 //Polygonum tenue ap out but a short time  
17 say 1 week--at most. have marked the  
18 spot by a stone from the wall further N<sup>332</sup>  
19 than formerly.  
20 Selaginella rupestris (?) shows yellow fruit  
21 //  
22 now at Bittern Cliff.  
23 Gerardia Quercifolia 3 to 4 feet high  
24 //  
25 out there ap 2 or 3 days. Yet none of  
26 the leaves I have are 2ce pinnatifid.  
27 //Penny royal there ap some days  
28 ///Dip. Cornifolius some time-- Desmod. acumi-  
29 natum a long time out--& also gone to seed.  
30 //Lespedeza hirta Blackberry steep how long?  
31 //High blackberries beginning a few ripe--  
32 // Parietaria a foot high some time under  
33 the slip. elm.

---

<sup>330</sup>"c" written over "s"

<sup>331</sup>"witches'" altered from "witchs'"

<sup>332</sup>"N" poss. "W"

1 What is that tall (4 feet) long bearded<sup>333</sup>  
2 grass now nearly ripe under this end of Lee's Cliff?  
3 Ap. Galium pilosum? (a var of it) //  
4 not long out--midway Lee's Cliff 1 rod off--  
5 (Perhaps rather as described by Pursh??) leaves  
6 Yes I see fine grain glandular dots  
7 not dotted^ It is somewhat circaezans like--  
8 (4 leaved)  
9 but smaller leaves^, scarcely 3-nerved,--with dull  
10 purple flowers--(some 3 petalled) ~~4-lea~~ Flowering  
11 also some very small plants  
12 portion large & much branched^ But it is not  
13 not more so than G. Circaezans  
14 particularly hairy! The fruit is ~~either~~ bristly.  
15 I see blackened hay cocks on the meadows--  
16 Think what the farmer gets with his hay--  
17 what his river meadow hay consists of--  
18 & sweet gale  
19 how much--of fern--& osier ^ --& P hydropiper-  
20 & Lysimachia  
21 oides--& rhexia &c &c (I trust the cattle  
22 love the scent of it as well as I--) and  
23 rhue--& sium--& cicuta-- In a meadow  
24 now being mown I see that the ferns  
25 & small osiers are ~~about~~ as thick as the  
26 grass--. If modern farmers do not collect  
27 elm & other leaves for their cattle--they  
28 do thus mow & cure the willow &c &c--  
29 to a considerable extent--so that they  
30 come to large bushes or trees only on the  
31 edge of the meadow.  
32 2 small ducks (prob wood ducks) //  
33 flying S. Already grown--& at least  
34 looking S.!! It reminds me of the swift  
35 revolution of the seasons.

---

<sup>333</sup>"ed" poss. added

1 Our river is so sluggish & smooth--  
 2 that sometimes I can trace a boat  
 3 ~~a mile~~ that has passed half an hour  
 4 before by the bubbles on its surface which  
 5 have not burst-- I have known thus  
 6 which stream another party had gone  
 7 up--long before. A swift stream soon  
 8 blots out such traces.

9 // Cirsium lanceolatum at Lee's Cliff ap  
 10 long pointed &  
 11 some days--its leaves are^ a much darker  
 12 green than those of the Pasture thistle.

13 On the under sides of its leaves I noticed  
 14 very large ants--attending a peculiar large dark-  
 15 //colored aphides--for their milch cows.

16 // The prevailing willow off Holden Swamp  
 17 is sericea-like but the leaf is narrower  
 18 more shining above--& merely glaucous beneath--  
 19 longer petioled--the serratures not so much  
 20 bent toward the point. The twigs not  
 21 nearly so brittle at the base, but bringing  
 22 away strings of bark. stipules prob. fallen  
 23 or inconspicuous-- Can it be S. petiolaris?--  
 24 & is it the same with that above Hemlocks  
 25 no  
 26 N side?<sup>334</sup> (or is it S. lucida??^ ) v. in press  
 27 Edge of grass<sup>335</sup> field next Bittern Cliff wood  
 28 common spurge & with it--ap the same--half  
 29 ? ascendant & covered or spotted with a minute  
 30 fungus.

---

<sup>334</sup>"?" possibly altered from period

<sup>335</sup>"grass" possibly altered from "grain"



1 bunches or clusters of V. vacillans of  
2 various varieties firm & sweet solid food  
3 & rising above these large blue & also  
4 shining black huckleberries Gaylusacia<sup>337</sup>  
5 resinosum--of various flavors & qualities--  
6 & over all runs rampant the  
7 low Blackberry rubus Canadensis--  
8 weighing down the thicket with its  
9 Also here & there the high blackberry just beginning towers over all  
10 wreathes of black fruit.^ You go daintily  
11 wading through this thicket--picking perchance  
12 only the biggest of the blackberries--as big as  
13 your thumb--& clutching here & there  
14 a handful of huckleberries or<sup>338</sup> blueberries  
15 but never perchance suspecting the de-  
16 licious cool blue-bloomed ones under all.  
17 This favorable moist weather has expanded  
18 some of the huckleberries to the size of bullets.  
19 Each patch--each bush seems fuller  
20 & blacker than the last. Such a pro-  
21 fusion--yet you see neither birds nor beasts  
22 unless ants & the huckleberry bug!!  
23 eating them!^ I carried my hands full  
24 of bushes to the boat--& returning the  
25 2 ladies picked fully 3 pints from these  
26 along--casting the bare bushes into the stream.  
27 The Frontrank Polygonum  
28 //may be described thus  
29 Stem (simple?) assurgent (at least on land)  
30 20 inch high 1/12 inch diameter or 1/6  
31 inch diameter at joints which are about

---

<sup>337</sup>"G" altered from "g"

<sup>338</sup>"or" altered from "&"

1 1 1/2 inches apart--very slightly appressed hispid  
2 Leaves narrow lanceolate tapering (also tapering  
3 at base or slightly rounded) 2 3/4 to 3 1/2 inches  
4 long x 6 to 8 /16 inch wide--entire, very frequently  
5 with a distinct dark spot, slightly brown  
6 roughish (when stroked backward) above--(or hispid)  
7 & the same on the mid-rib beneath. Scabrous  
8 on edge--on very short petioles 1/16 inch or less  
9 below--not acrid. Sheathes 1/2 inch long  
10 -- a<sup>339</sup> little brown hairy--upper half of the  
11 lower ones rusty-colored--fringed with appressed  
12 bristles 1/8 inch long--<sup>340</sup> Spikes erect  
13 Commonly 2 on pretty long naked peduncles † perhaps "pedunculo elongato distachyo"  
14 as  
15 slender  
16 loose^-- scarcely linear 3/4 to 1 1/4 inches X 3/16  
17 P. says of The P.<sup>341</sup> hirsutum--  
18 wide. Flowers white tinged with rose--(bright  
19 rose red in the bud.) Calyx 5 parted--styles  
20 3 spreading--united midway, stamens 8--anthers  
21 red--or white--calyx not dotted--Achenia triangular  
22 & sparsely dotted  
23 shining & very<sup>342</sup> minutely<sup>343</sup> bristly<sup>344</sup> (?) when ripe--  
24 It is, perhaps, the P. mite of Pursh--"P. floribus  
25 8-andris semi-3-gynis, foliis anguste lanceolatis subhirsutis,  
26 ochreis [stipules ie sheathes?] hirsutis promise ciliatis, spicis  
27 (I do not understand the last 3 words]  
28 linearibus, bracteis ciliatis subimbricatis."^ He refers  
29 it to Persoon--considers it the P.<sup>345</sup> hydropiperoides of  
30 Mich. says it grows "in inundated places, along  
31 ditches & ponds,"--"Flowers pale purple; leaves not  
32 acrid."-- It is perhaps also the P. mite  
33 not  
34 of Beck & Eaton (though hardly (a crowded) a crowded  
35 spike) & Eaton--for all call the  
36 leaves narrow lanceolate  
37 Gray<sup>346</sup> appears to omit this--but to describe

---

<sup>339</sup>preceded by cancelled false start

<sup>340</sup>what's transcribed as dash here is a long line in MS

<sup>341</sup>"P." inserted

<sup>342</sup>"shining & very" written in margin

<sup>343</sup>"ly added" pos. in pencil

<sup>344</sup>"bristly" altered from "bristles"

<sup>345</sup>"P." inserted

<sup>346</sup>"G" altered from "g"

1 the larger plant which resembles the hydropiper  
2 as well as general aspect  
3 in its spike^--& might hence be call hydro-  
4 calling that the {mite} of Persoon  
5 piperoides--^(If<sup>347</sup> you regarded the general aspect  
6 also  
7 of my<sup>348</sup> plant this ^might often be called hydro-  
8 piperoides.) Yet Gray says that the calyx of his  
9 is not dotted--!!<sup>349</sup> but my hydropiperoides is  
10 Aug 5th  
11 Am On river-- mikania a day or 2  
12 //  
13 //Polyg. amphibium--in water--slightly hairy well out.  
14 //Polyg. Orientale how long?  
15 \_\_\_\_\_ Pm to House leek<sup>350</sup>  
16 via Assabet bath--  
17 // Trichostema--may be several days in some places  
18 //Night-shade berries how long?  
19  
20 When I crossed the new Stone Bridge a  
21 //great water adder lay on it full 5 feet  
22 long--& nearly as big round as my arm.  
23 It turned & ran along with a coarse  
24 grating rustle to the end of the railing  
25 head foremost  
26 & then dropped deliberately ^from the last  
27 abutment--full 9 feet to the gravelly  
28 ground--amid the osiers making a  
29 loud sound when he struck--at once  
30 took to the water & showed his head amid  
31 the pads-- I also saw another similar  
32 one at house leek rock.  
33 // Centaurea well out how long?  
34 // A. dumosus ap a day or 2 with its large  
35 conspicuous flower buds at the end of the branchlets  
36 & linear spatulate involucral scales--

---

<sup>347</sup>"I" written over cancelled "f"  
<sup>348</sup>"my" written over "the"  
<sup>349</sup>exclamation marks written over dash  
<sup>350</sup>"l" corrected



1 tip is a broad raceme (?) about 8 inches  
 2 wide & 2/3 as long of 11 long spreading  
 3 ~~slightly~~ & recurved branches lined with flowers  
 4 on the upper side only-- These consist of 12  
 5 lanceolate  
 6 to 13 ^calyx segments--& as many still longer  
 7 about <sup>%pistils%</sup>  
 8 dull purple petals & ^20 ~~or more st~~ stamens<sup>355</sup>  
 9 %& short {stamens} {around} them%  
 10 within.%^% It is a strange--but rather  
 11 stately cactus-like plant--  
 12 The children call the pretty clusters of rad-leaves--hen & chickens--  
 13 In this case the rad. leaves are withered & a  
 14 fusiform root sustains the flower--  
 15 bare  
 16 This one is not<sup>356</sup> on the ^rock but lower amid  
 17 the huckleberry bushes--  
 18 At the Assabet Stone bridge--ap. freshly  
 19 //  
 20 in flower--(though it may have been out nearly  
 21 as long as the Androsaenifolium) ap. the  
 22 Apocynum androsaemi Cannabinum--var  
 23 hypericifolium?-- The tallest is 4 feet high  
 24 The flowers very small (hardly more than 1/8  
 25 inch diameter) The segments of the corolla not  
 26 revolute but nearly erect. There are 20 to 30  
 27 flowers at end of a branch-- The divisions  
 28 of the calyx are longer than in the common--long  
 29 ovate-- Yet<sup>357</sup> it differs from Grays hyper-  
 30 rose  
 31 ? icifolia in having flowers {~~rosate~~} streaked within  
 32 like the common--the cymes ~~ap~~ not shorter  
 33 than the leaves--& the tube of the corolla  
 34 rather longer than the divisions of the  
 35 calyx. The leaves are hardly more downy or  
 36 heart shaped below than the common--  
 37 ? Hypericifolium is a separate species in Pursh--  
 38 & some others--  
 39 {And} the branches are less ascending than the common  
 40 making an angle of about 62° with the stem (the  
 41 4 lower) while 3 of the lower of a com. one made an ang of 44°

---

<sup>355</sup>"stamens" poss. canceled in pencil

<sup>356</sup>"not" written over "on"

<sup>357</sup>Bleedthrough preceding "Yet"



1 country cousins--go a-berrying--with them  
2 they are sure to return covered with blue-  
3 berry bumps at least-- They exhaust all  
4 the lotions of the country apothecary for  
5 a week after-- Unnameable poisons  
6 infect the air--as if they were pursued by  
7 imps. I have {known} those who forbade  
8 their children going into the woods at  
9 all.

10 In Walden--at my meadow entrance  
11 //  
12 %a% Potamogeton (see no fruit) (perhaps  
13 a var of Long Flat-petioled with Thread-<sup>358</sup>  
14 formed Immersed<sup>359</sup> leaves) Call it for present  
15 var  
16 ~~also~~ Narrow-pointed-leafed ^P. In the  
17 shallow water there 6 inch long-stem 3/40  
18 diam. Floating<sup>360</sup> leaves lanceolate 2 1/2 inch X  
19 3/4 wide--the larger rounded at base &  
20 acute at point--about 5 principal nerves  
21 & 12 in all-- -- Petioles small flat  
22 or channelled on one side convex the other 1 to 1 1/2 /40  
23 3 to 4  
24 inch wide, ~~3/4~~ inches<sup>361</sup> long-- There seemed  
25 to be a very few small thread like immersed  
26 leaves--as if petioles not come to surface.

27 Aug 7th

28 // Hemp perhaps a week.

29 Heard this Am what I thought at  
30 first to be children playing on pumpkin stems<sup>362</sup> in<sup>363</sup>  
31 the next yard--but it turned out to be  
32 the new new steam-whistle-music--what  
33 the call the Calliope! in the next town  
34 It sounded still more like the pumpkin stem

---

<sup>358</sup>"T" written over "t"

<sup>359</sup>"I" altered from "i"

<sup>360</sup>"Floating" poss. altered from "Float"

<sup>361</sup>"inches" written over "inch"

<sup>362</sup>"stems" poss. written over "in"

<sup>363</sup>"in" inserted

1 near at hand only a good deal louder-- Again--  
 2 I mistook it for an instrument in the house or  
 3 at the door--when it was 1/4 of a mile off--  
 4 from habit locating it by its loudness--at  
 5 Acton 6 miles off--it sounded like some  
 6 new seraphim in the next house with the  
 7 blinds closed-- All<sup>364</sup> the milkmen & their  
 8 horses stood still to hear it. The horses  
 9 stood it remarkably well-- It was not  
 10 so musical as the ordinary whistle.  
 11 Pm-- With a berry party ride--  
 12 to Conantum  
 13 At Blackberry steep ap an early broad, leafed //  
 14 var of Desmodium Paniculatum 2<sup>365</sup> or 3 days  
 15 -- This & similar plants are common there  
 16 & may almost name the place. The D. Rotun-  
 17 difolia is there abundant--also, beside,  
 18 & capitata.  
 19 Lespedeza hirta^-- The elliptic-oblong L. violacea  
 20 & the angustata &  
 21 ^ as also at Heywood Peak--all these plants  
 22 Are rarely upright, but spreading wand-like  
 23 seem to love a dry open hill side a steep one^.  
 24 //  
 25 A. Patens a day or more-- Inula sometime //  
 26 //  
 27 Mulgedium perhaps a fortnight--  
 28 Eupat sessilifolium ap. about Aug. 5th X //  
 29 I suspect that I see but one {species} of  
 30 smooth stemmed grape as yet  
 31 I must contrast the G. circaezans & Pilosum ?  
 32 more carefully--v. if the 1st ever has purple flowers ?  
 33 The only dif perhaps that I yet notice is  
 34 that the leaves of the latter are scarcely 3 nerved

---

<sup>364</sup>"All" poss. underlined, or stray mark  
<sup>365</sup>"2" written over "a"

1 & are more rounded or ob-ovate & it is a later  
2 plant  
3 I see that common gall in goldenrods {drawing} now  
4 //  
5 on an S. caesia  
6 The river has been raised by the rain & water  
7 stands still in low grass ground--  
8 The leaves in low land, as of the mulge<sup>366</sup>-  
9 dium are white with mildew--owing  
10 the continued dampness of dog days-- One  
11 Mulgedium at Corner Spring is at least  
12 10 feet high & hollow all the way.  
13 Those who have weak eyes complain  
14 of the darkness of the late dog days--  
15 Aug 8th '56  
16 Rain, lightning & thunder all day long  
17 //  
18 in torrents-- The ground was already saturated  
19 on the night of the 5th & now it fills all  
20 gutters & low grounds-- No sooner has  
21 one thunder shower swept over & the sky  
22 begun to light up a little--than another  
23 darkens the west. We were told that  
24 lightning cleared the air & so {clered} itself--  
25 but now we lose our faith in that  
26 theory--for we have thunder after  
27 thunder shower & lightning is become  
28 a drug-- Nature finds it just as  
29 easy to lighten the last time as

---

<sup>366</sup>"l" poss inserted in pencil

1 at first, & we cannot believe that  
2 the air was so very impure.  
3 3 1/2 Pm  
4 When I came forth--thinking to  
5 empty my boat & go a-meditating  
6 along the river--for the full ditches  
7 & drenched grass forbade other routes--  
8 %except the high way%  
9 %^%(& this is one advantage of a boat)  
10 I learned to my chagrin that  
11 Fathers pig was gone-- He had leaped  
12 out of the pen sometime since his break-  
13 fast--but his dinner was untouched--  
14 Here was an ugly duty not to be  
15 shirked--a wild shoat that weighed  
16 but 90 to be tracked caught & penned--  
17 an afternoon's work at least (If I  
18 were lucky enough to accomplish it  
19 so soon--)<sup>367</sup> prepared for me--quite  
20 different from what I had an-  
21 ticipated-- I felt chagrined it is true--  
22 but I could not ignore the fact--  
23 nor shirk the duty that lay so near  
24 %Do the duty that lies nearest thee%<sup>368</sup>  
25 to me--%^% I proposed to Father to sell  
26 the pig as he was running %(%some-  
27 where<sup>369</sup>%)%--to a neighbor who had talked  
28 of buying him--making a consider-  
29 able reduction-- But my suggestion  
30 was not acted on--& the responsibilities  
31 of the case all devolved on me--

---

<sup>367</sup>closed paren written over dash

<sup>368</sup>Thomas Carlyle quote

<sup>369</sup>second "e" in "where" poss. inserted in pencil

1        %{for} I could run faster than father%  
2    %^%Father looked to me, & I ceased to look  
3        to the river-- Well let us see if we  
4        can track him. Yes--this is the  
5        corner where he got out--making  
6        a step of his empty<sup>370</sup> trough--thanks  
7        to the rain his tracks are quite dis-  
8        tinct--here he went along the edge  
9        of the garden over the water & musk-  
10       melons--then through the beans  
11       & potatoes--and even along the  
12       front yard walk I detect the  
13       print of his divided hoof--his  
14                %ungulae%  
15       2 sharp toes %^%-- It's a wonder we  
16                %How%<sup>371</sup>  
17       did not see him<sup>372</sup>--& here he passed out  
18                                %How naked he must%  
19       under the gate--across the road--%^%  
20       %have felt!%  
21       into a grassy ditch & whither next--  
22       Is it of any use to go hunting him up  
23       unless you have devised some mode of  
24       catching him when you have found?--<sup>373</sup> Of  
25       what avail to know where he has been  
26       even where he is? He was so shy the  
27       little while we had him--of course  
28       he will never come back--he cannot  
29       be tempted by a swill-pail-- Who knows  
30       how many miles off he is--perhaps  
31       he has taken the back track & gone  
32                %{or Ohio!}%<sup>374</sup>  
33       to Brighton%^%--at most probably  
34       we shall only have the satisfaction

---

<sup>370</sup>"empty" cancelled in pencil

<sup>371</sup>possibly cancelled in pencil

<sup>372</sup>"him" inserted

<sup>373</sup>question mark written over dash, poss. added

<sup>374</sup>read against 1906 edition of Journal



1     2ce before it seems--he knows the road--  
2     see what work he has made in his  
3     flower-garden! He must be fond of  
4     bulbs-- Our neighbor picks up one  
5     tall flower with its bulb attached--holds  
6     it out at arms length--he is excited  
7     about the pig-- --it is a subject he  
8     is interested in. But where is gone now  
9     The last glimpse I had of him was as  
10    he went through the cow yard--here  
11    are his tracks again in this cornfield--  
12    but they are lost in the grass-- We  
13    lose him--we beat the bushes in vain--  
14    he may be far away-- But hark I heard  
15    a grunt-- Nevertheless for half an hour  
16    I do not see him that grunted-- At  
17    last I find fresh tracks along the river--  
18    & again lose them-- <sup>377</sup>Once more he  
19    <sup>1st</sup>  
20  2 crosses our<sup>378</sup> neighbors garden--& is said to  
21 be in the road-- Each neighbor whose garden  
22 I traverse tells me some anecdote of  
23 1 losing pigs--or the attempt to drive them  
24 by which I am not encouraged--  
25        But I am not there yet--it is a good  
26 way off-- At length my eyes rest  
27 on him again after 3/4 of an hour's  
28 separation--there he trots with the  
29 whole road to himself--& now again

---

<sup>377</sup>"once . . . road" marked for transposition with "Each . . . encouraged"; a large open parenthesis in the left margin (with "2" to the left) joins "crosses" and "be in the road". Also, a line (with numeral "1" to the left) encloses "I traverse", "losing pigs", and "by which."  
<sup>378</sup>"our" written over "my"

1 drops on his belly in a puddle-- Now he starts  
2 again--seeing me 20 rods deliberates--considers  
3 which way I want him to go--& goes the other  
4 ~~At one place a sm~~ There was some chance  
5 of driving him along the side walk--or  
6 letting him go rather--till he slipped  
7 under our gate again--but of what  
8 avail would that be-- How corner &  
9 catch him who keeps 20 rods off--

10 He never lets the open side of the triangle  
11 be less than half a dozen rods wide--  
12 There was one place where a narrower  
13 street turned off at right angles with  
14 the main one just this side our yard--  
15 but I could not drive him past that  
16 2ce he ran up the narrow street--  
17 he knew  
18 for ^I did not wish it--but though  
19 this main street was broad & open & no  
20 traveller in street--when I tried to drive  
21 him past this opening he invariably  
22 his piggish head toward me  
23 turned ^dodged from side to side & finally  
24 ran up the narrow street or down the main  
25 one as if there were a high barrier  
26 erected before him. But really he is no  
27 more obstinate than I--I cannot  
28 but respect his tactics & his independence.  
29 He will be he--& I may be I--~~my reasons~~  
30 He is not unreasonable because he  
31 thwarts me--but only the more

1 reasonable. He has a strong will--  
2 --he stands upon his idea--there  
3 % {not where a man bars the way--but where}%<sup>379</sup>  
4 is a wall across the path{:}%^% he is resolved  
5 not to travel-- Is he not superior to man  
6 therein--?<sup>380</sup> Once more he glides down  
7 the narrow street--deliberates at a  
8 corner--chooses wisely for him & disappears  
9 through an open work fence--Eastward--  
10 he has gon to fresh gardens & pastures  
11 new-- Other neighbors stand in the  
12 door ways but half sympathizing--  
13 --Only observing--"ugly thing to catch"  
14 You have a job--on your hands--  
15 I lose sight of him--but hear that  
16 field  
17 he's far ahead {in} a large enclosure--  
18 & there we try to let him alone awhile  
19 giving him a wide berth--  
20 At this stage an Irishman was engaged  
21 to assist--"I can catch him" says he  
22 with Buonapartean confidence-- He thinks  
23 him a family Irish pig-- His wife is  
24 with him bare headed--& his little  
25 fliberty jibbet of a boy 7 yrs old-- Here  
26 johnny do you run right off there  
27 (at the broadest possible angle with his own course--)  
28 ~~(&)~~ Oh but he can't {don any thing--  
29 --Oh but I only want him to tell  
30 me where he is--to keep sight of him--{.}  
31 Michael soon discovers that he is  
32 not an Irish pig--& his wife & Johnny's

---

<sup>379</sup>line read against 1906 edition

<sup>380</sup>question mark written over dash

1 occupation are soon gone. 10 minutes after  
2 ward I am patiently tracking him step by  
3 a near sighted man helping me  
4 step through a cornfield--^{--}& then into  
5 garden after garden far eastward--& finally  
6 into the highway--at the graveyard--  
7 --but hear & see nothing-- One suggests  
8 a dog to track him-- Father is meanwhile  
9 selling him to the blacksmith--who also  
10 is trying to get sight of him-- After  
11 15 minutes since he disappeared eastward  
12 I hear that he has been to the river 2ce  
13 far in the north--through the 1st neigh-  
14 bors premises-- I wend that way-- He  
15 crosses the street far ahead Michael  
16 behind--he dodges up an avenue-- --<sup>381</sup> I stand  
17 in the gap there Michael--at the  
18 other end--& now he tries to corner him--  
19 But<sup>382</sup> it is a vain hope to corner him in  
20 a yard-- I see a carriage manufactory  
21 door open--let him go in there Flannery--  
22 For once the pig & I are of one mind--he  
23 bolts in & the door is closed-- Now for  
24 a rope. It is a large barn crowded  
25 with carriages-- A<sup>383</sup> rope is at length ob-  
26 tained--the windows are barred with carriages  
27 lest he bolt through. He is resting  
28 quietly on his belly in the further corner  
29 thinking unutterable things.

---

<sup>381</sup>second dash poss. false start or bleedthrough

<sup>382</sup>"B" written over "I"

<sup>383</sup>"A" written over "a"

1           Now the course recommences within  
2 narrower limits--bump bump bump he  
3 goes--against wheels & shafts--we  
4 get no hold yet-- He is all ear  
5 & eye-- small boys are sent under  
6 the carriages to drive him out he  
7 froths at the mouth--& deters them.  
8 At length he is stuck for an instant  
9 between the spoke of a wheel & I am  
10 securely attached to his hind leg. He  
11 squeals deafeningly--& is silent. The  
12 rope is attached to a hind leg--the door  
13 is opened & the driving commences-- Roll  
14 an egg as well-- You may drag him but you  
15 cannot drive him. But he is in the road--  
16 & now another thunder shower greets us--  
17 I leave Michael with the rope in one hand  
18 & a switch in the other--& go home--he  
19 seems to be gaining a little westward-- But  
20 after long delay--I look out & find that  
21 he makes but doubtful progress-- A boy  
22           with a stick  
23 is made to face him ^& it is only when  
24 the pig springs at him savagely that progress  
25 is made homeward-- He will be killed before  
26 he is driven home-- I get a wheel barrow  
27 & go to the rescue-- Michael is alarmed  
28 the pig is rabid--snaps at him--we  
29 drag him across the barrow--hold  
30 him down--& so at last get him  
31 home--

1           If a wild shoat like this gets loose  
2 --1st track him if you can, or otherwise  
3 discover where he is-- Do not scare  
4 him more than you can help-- -- Think of  
5 some yard or building or other enclosure  
6 that will hold him--& by showing your  
7 forces--(yet as if uninterested<sup>384</sup> parties<sup>385</sup>)  
8 15 or 20 rods off--let him of his own  
9 accord enter it-- Then slightly shut the  
10 gate-- Now corner & tie him & put him  
11 into a cart or barrow--

12           All progress in driving at last was made  
13 by facing & endeavoring to switch him from home  
14 he rushed upon you & made a few feet in  
15 the desired direction-- When I approached with  
16 the barrow he advanced to meet it with determi-  
17 nation--

18           So I get home at dark--wet through  
19 & supperless--covered with mud & wheel-  
20 grease--without any rare flowers--

21           To the eyes of men there is something  
22 tragic in death-- We hear of the death of any  
23 member of the human family with something  
24 more than regret<sup>386</sup>--not without a slight  
25 shudder & feeling of commiseration--  
26 the churchyard is a grave place

27                               Sat. Aug 9th 56

28           Notwithstanding the very copious rain  
29 with Lightning on the night of Aug. 5th--

---

<sup>384</sup>"uninterested" altered from "uninteresting"

<sup>385</sup>stray mark after "parties"

<sup>386</sup>extra stroke in "regret"

1 & the deluge which fell yesterday  
2 raising the river still higher-- It  
3 rained again & again with very vivid  
4 // lightning--more copiously than ever last-  
5 night--and without long intervals  
6 all this day-- Few if any can remember  
7 such a succession of thunder storms merged  
8 into one long thunderstorm lasting almost  
9 continuously (the storm does) 2 nights  
10 & 2 days-- We are surprised to see that  
11 it can lighten just as vividly--thunder just  
12 as loud--rain just as copiously as last as at  
13 first.

14 Pm

15 Up Assabet--

16 The river is raised about 2 feet!--  
17 my boat is nearly even full, though under  
18 the willows. The water stands nearly  
19 a foot over the highest part of the  
20 large<sup>387</sup> flat rock by Island-- There  
21 is more curreant-- The pads are  
22 hardly  
23 drowned ~~not~~ one to be seen afloat--  
24 --the utmost length of their tethers  
25 does not permit them to come within  
26 a foot or 10 inches of the surface. They  
27 lay smoothly on the top before with considerable  
28 spare coil beneath--now they strain  
29 in vain toward the surface-- All  
30 the B. Beckii is drowned too--

---

<sup>387</sup>"large" poss written over "dr"

1 & will be delayed if not exterminated for this  
2 year-- The water is cool to the bather //

3 after so much rain. The notes of the  
4 wood Pewee & warbling vireo are more prominent //

5 of late--& of the Goldfinch twittering over--

6 Does the last always utter his twitter when  
7 ascending? {drawing} These are already  
8 feeding on the thistle seeds.

9 Again I am surprised to see the Apocynum //

10 Cannabinum--close to the rock at the  
11 Island--several plants--ap not more than  
12 10 days out--say July 25 including the ?  
13 ones I saw before. The flowers of this  
14 are white--with divisions of the corolla erect  
15 or nearly so--corolla not 1/8th of an inch  
16 wide--calyx segments lanceolate pointed  
17 as long as the tube of the corolla. I  
18 now notice that all the branches are  
19 about equally upright--& hence the  
20 upper ones are much more upright  
21 than the upper ones of the A. Androsaemi-  
22 folium-- The plant is inclined to be  
23 taller & narrower than that, perhaps  
24 because it grows by water-- The leaves  
25 are more oblong or lanceolate & pointed  
26 --the downiness & petioles about the  
27 same with that of the common--in  
28 this case none heart-shaped. The one  
29 found the 5th ult was between this & the

1 At Astor library NY. Nov. 8th 56--in Richardson's Flora Boreali &c--the leaves of  
 2 Apocynum  
 3 common--a rose-streaked one--in fact  
 4 cannabinum in the plate are an inch or more beyond the flowers, and not hearted! Of the  
 5 A. hy-  
 6 colored like the common--this a white one  
 7 pericifolium the lower leaves are decidedly hearted, & the flowers are about terminal.  
 8 with still longer calyx segments & no ~~hearted~~  
 9 heart shaped leaves-- This<sup>388</sup> is rather  
 10 smooth-- Say then for that of the  
 11 ? 5th & this-- They are vars of the A. Canna-  
 12 {binum}).  
 13 // I scare up a couple of wood ducks--  
 14 separately  
 15 undoubtedly birds bred & dispersed about  
 16 here-- The<sup>389</sup> rise of the river attracts them.  
 17 // What I have called A. Corymbosus,  
 18 (%but which is perhaps--A. Cordifolius as  
 19 Russell thinks--%)<sup>390</sup> out a day above hemlocks  
 20 to 12  
 21 It has 8 ~~or 9~~ white rays smaller than those of the macro-  
 22 phyllus.--& a dull red stem commonly.  
 23 It differs from Grays Corymbosus in the  
 24 achenia being ap. not slender--not opening  
 25 in July--& there being no need of distinguishing  
 26 it from ~~the~~ A. Macrophyllus.-----from  
 27 his Cordifolius--in the rays not being numerous  
 28 (sometimes pretty numerous  
 29 --nor the paniced heads very numerous ^--and  
 30 the rays not pale blue. Perhaps I  
 31 must call it A. Cordifolius--yet the lower  
 32 individual Gray makes them so commonly!  
 33 & principal petioles{--}are naked^--not at all  
 34 Found one ^at Miles swamp whose lower petioles were winged  
 35 winged-- ^though the upper are. ~~somewhat~~--  
 36 Its petioles (the lower) are only sometimes winged here.  
 37 The flowers of A. macrophyllus are white  
 38 with a very slight bluish tinge--in a coarse  
 39 flat topped corymb. Flowers<sup>391</sup> 9 to 10 /8 inches diam.  
 40 A. cordifolius flowers 6/8 inch diam.

---

<sup>388</sup>"This" written over "Sa"

<sup>389</sup>"T" poss written over "t"

<sup>390</sup>parenthetical remark "but...thinks--" cancelled in pencil

<sup>391</sup>"F" written over "f"

1 Sunday Aug 10th 56

2 The weather is fair & clear at last-- //

3 The dog-days over at present--which have

4 lasted since July 30th

5 Pm--to F. H. Hill & Walden

6 Fragrant Everlasting may be some days-- //

7 some days

8 In the radula swamp ^a very smooth upright

9 Solidago--with small somewhat appressed entire

10 thickish leaves above (Perhaps what I have called

11 Puberula though as before no {mealiness} or down!)

12 some in Moores Swamp--v aug 12 '56

13 The lowest like S. stricta--Panicule {drawing} v. press--

14 Becomes recurved stricta-like {drawing}}

15 Desmodium maricandicum--smooth Small Leaves //

16 D. at the Lespedeza place F. H. Hill side--

17 {or} a week

18 may have been out ~~5 or 6 days~~<sup>392^</sup>--begin to show

19 a few pods. It is very smooth--spreading--

20 tufted--or caespitose--2+ feet long-- Flowers

21 turn green in drying--as ap. few others do.

22 R. Copallina not yet for 2 or 3 days-- //

23 The Pycnanthemum Incanum the handsomest //

24 of the Ps--grows also at the west end the

25 Knoll with the R. Copallina-- All the

26 upper leaves are equally hoary there in the

27 light-- The corymbs are an<sup>393</sup> inch across

28 & the flowers large & very prettily purple

29 spotted-- They are swarming with great

30 wasps of different kinds & bees--

31 Hear the wood-thrush still. I go across //

32 lots<sup>394</sup> like a hunting dog. With what

33 tireless energy & abandonment they

---

<sup>392</sup>"5 or 6 days" also ap cancelled in pencil

<sup>393</sup>"an" plus bleedthrough

<sup>394</sup>"t" uncrossed

1 dash through the brush & up the  
2 sides of hills-- I meet 2 ^fox hounds  
3 led by an old red one-- How full of  
4 it they are--how their tails work! They  
5 are not tied to paths--they burst forth  
6 from the thickest shrub-oak lot--  
7 & immediately dive into another as the  
8 fox did. There are more varieties of  
9 blackberries<sup>395</sup>--between the low & the  
10 ? high than I take notice of--v. that  
11 kind in the Well Meadow field--  
12 The fine (early sedge?) grass in  
13 the frosty hollows about Walden  
14 (where no bushes have sprung up--) looks  
15 like an unkept head--  
16 // Vernonia how long?  
17 The river has been rising all day--  
18 // It is between 2 1/2 & 3 feet higher than  
19 10 days ago. Even the white umbels  
20 of the sium are drowned except here  
21 & there where they stand over the water.  
22 It is within 9 1/2 inches of the top of Hoar's  
23 wall at 6Pm.<sup>396</sup> The meadows have  
24 quite a spring-like look--yet the  
25 grass conceals the extent of the flood--  
26 It appears chiefly where it is mown.  
27 Yet a quarter part as much  
28 rain would have raised the river more  
29 in the spring-- So much of it was

---

<sup>395</sup>extra pen stroke in word  
<sup>396</sup>"p" written over "p"

1 soaked up by the thirsty earth  
2 Aug 11  
3 This morning the river is 1 1/2 inches higher  
4 or within 8 inches of the top of Hoars Wall-- //

5 The other evening returning down the  
6 river--I think I detected the convexity of the  
7 earth within a short distance. I saw the western  
8 landscape & horizon reflected in the water 50 rods  
9 behind me--all lit up with the reflected sky--  
10 though it was a narr picture-- A stroke of  
11 my oar & the dark intervening water was  
12 interposed like a dark opaque wall. Moving  
13 my head a few inches up or down produced  
14 the same effect--i.e. by raising my head  
15 3 inches I could partially over-see the plain of  
16 the water at that point--which was other-  
17 wise concealed by the slightest convexity.

18 Pm--  
19 Walk to Conantum with Mr Bradford--  
20 Cassia  
21 He gives me a sprig of Senna Marilandica<sup>397</sup> //

22 Wild Senna--found by Minott<sup>398</sup> Pratt just  
23 P. thought it in prime Aug 10th  
24 below Leightons by the roadside. How long?^  
25 v. 16th prox //

26 A Puniceus a day or more. A new  
27 sunflower--at Wheeler's Bank--this side  
28 corner Spring--which I will call The  
29 tall Rough<sup>399</sup> sunflower--opened say Aug 1st(?)<sup>400</sup> //

30 (I saw it out the 7th ult) It does not  
31 correspond exactly to any described  
32 Stem 3 or six feet high branched at top  
33 --purple with a bloom, roughish, especially

---

<sup>397</sup>"S" altered from "s" in cancelled "Senna"; "i" in "Marilandica" altered from "y" (the descender struck through and the remaining letter dotted)

<sup>398</sup>Minott] "M" altered from "m"

<sup>399</sup>"R" written over "r"

<sup>400</sup>"(?)" pos. added

1 the peduncles-- Leaves opposite, except,  
2 a few small ones amid the branches,  
3 thick ovate or ovate lanceolate taper  
4 pointed, 3 nerved, obscurely & remotely  
5 toothed, rough above smooth & whitish  
6 below, abruptly contracted<sup>401</sup> into ~~short~~ mar-  
7 gined petioles.<sup>402</sup> Scales of the involucre  
8 lanceolate taper-pointed, subequal<sup>403</sup>, ex-  
9 ceeding the disk, ciliate--rays 8 or 9  
10 1 1/2 or more inches long--chaff black{.}  
11 Edge of meadow--  
12 Measured a mulgedium 8 feet 3 inches  
13 long--& hollow all the way-- Some  
14 boy had fixed an archangelica stem at  
15 so as to conduct the water at the  
16 // spring close by-- Elder berries in a day or 2  
17 // I see some Hypericum angulosum turned  
18 a delicate clear purple  
19 // P. dumetosum at Bittern Cliff--one flower gone  
20 to seed--! say day or 2.  
21 7 Pm. The river has risen about  
22 // 2 inches today--& is now within 6 inches  
23 of the top of Hoar's Wall.  
24 Aug 12 56  
25 11 Am. To Hill  
26 ? The Hypericum mytilum is well out at this  
27 hour. The river is now at a stand-  
28 still-- Some 3 feet above its usual  
29 level. The pickerel weed is all  
30 covered & {m} lilies--& much of the

---

<sup>401</sup>"t" left uncrossed

<sup>402</sup>"t" left uncrossed

<sup>403</sup>"subequal" written over "subaequal"

1 button bush & mikania-- It is as great  
2 an accident as can befall these flowers.  
3 It is novel to behold this great full  
4 tide--in which you perceive some current  
5 by the eddies--in which no snarl of weeds  
6 is seen. So different from that Potamogeton  
7 River--where you caught a crab at every stroke  
8 of the oar--& farmers drove their hay-carts  
9 across-- Instead of watery gleaming fields  
10 of Potamogetons in which the boatman  
11 was entangled & drifting valisneria  
12 on which the dragon flies alighted--I  
13 see a deep full river on which vessels  
14 may float--& I feel at a distance from  
15 terra firma when on its bosom--

16 Pm  
17 To Moores Swamp--

18 Gerardia purpurea 2 or 3 days. The mulgedium //  
19 in that swamp is very abundant--& a very stately  
20 plant--so erect & soldier like in large  
21 companies rising above all else with its  
22 very regular long sharp-elliptic<sup>404</sup> head  
23 {drawing} & bluish white flowers

24 Again I examine that very strict  
25 Solidago--which perhaps I must call  
26 wandstemmed-- Perhaps it is only a swamp- ?  
27 var of S. stricta. Yet the leaves are  
28 the upper  
29 thicker & darker ? green--& ^commonly  
30 broader, often elliptic pointed, less recurved  
31 & not wavy Stem & head is now

---

<sup>404</sup>"elliptic" altered from "eliptic"

1 commonly much more strict & branches more  
 2 erect--& racemes less one-sided--but in<sup>405</sup> larger  
 3 & maturer ones--they are at length recurving  
 4 & forming a pyramid like S. Stricta-- Rays  
 5 are fewer & broader--5 or 6--stem reddish  
 6 with ap. more branchlets or leaflets in axils--  
 7 V Aug 30th<sup>406</sup>  
 8 Am surprised to see still a third species  
 9 // or var of Helianthus--(which may have  
 10 say only a week  
 11 opened near Aug 1st^--) Only the first flowers  
 12 out. At edge of the last clearing S of Spring.  
 13 I cannot identify it. It has very short but  
 14 {not} margined petioles-- Leaves narrower  
 15 than yesterdays & rough beneath (as well as  
 16 above. The outer scales of involucre a little  
 17 ? but I think it is of little importance for the involucre of the H. divaricatus is  
 18 very variable  
 19 the longest--^ rays about 10. In some respects  
 20 hardly 2 alike  
 21 it is most like H. strumosus--but not  
 22 %It has decidedly thick leaves--unlike that  
 23 downy beneath. of Aug. 29%--& flowers 2 1/2 or more inches in diameter  
 24 The bruised leaves of these Helianthus are  
 25 rather fragrant.  
 26 // It is thick smoky dog-day weather  
 27 again. Bradford speaks of the  
 28 Dog's tooth-violet as a plant which disappears  
 29 early.  
 30 The Aster<sup>407</sup> Patens is very handsome by the  
 31 side of Moore's swamp on the bank-- Large  
 32 flowers--more or less purplish or violet--  
 33 each commonly (4 or 5) at the end of a  
 34 long peduncle 3 to 6 inch long--at right  
 35 angles with the stem giving it an open

---

<sup>405</sup>"in" inserted

<sup>406</sup>"V Aug 30th" poss. added

<sup>407</sup>"t" written over "p"

1 look-- Snake-head or chelone ap X //   
 2 On the edge of the ditch op. the spring--   
 3 Epilobium coloratum & also what   
 4 I must call E. Palustre of Wildenow //   
 5 & Pursh & Eaton-- It is smooth or smoothish   
 6 leaves somewhat toothed--or sub-denticulate--pe-   
 7 duncle 1 inch long--flowers white.   
 8 The most interesting domes I behold   
 9 are not those of oriental temples & palaces--   
 10 but of the toad stools-- On<sup>408</sup> this Knoll in   
 11 the swamp--they are little pyramids of Cheops   
 12 which also stand on the plain   
 13 or Cholula--^very delicately shaded-off-- They   
 14 have burst their brown tunics as they expanded--   
 15 leaving<sup>409</sup> only a clear brown apex--& on every side   
 16 their swelling roofs or domes are patched &   
 17 shingled with the fragments--delicately shaded   
 18 off thus into every tint of brown to the edge-- As   
 19 if this creation of a night would thus imitate   
 20 the weather stains of centuries-- Toads Temples.   
 21 So charming is gradation!   
 22 Gerardia Pedicularia how long? //   
 23 What a wilderness of weeds is Moores<sup>410</sup>   
 24 swamp now? Tall rough G. rods--   
 25 dog wood   
 26 Erechthites--Poke--A radula ^&c &c It   
 27 looks as if the potatoes which grew there   
 28 would be poisonous.   
 29 An arrow head in Peter's path-- How   
 30 many times I have found an arrowhead   
 31 by that path, as if that had been an Ind--   
 32 trail. Perchance it was--for some of

---

<sup>408</sup>"O" poss written over "o"

<sup>409</sup>"leaving" written over "&"

<sup>410</sup>"Moores" poss written over text

1 The paths we travel are much older than  
2 we think--especially some which the  
3 colored race in our midst still use--  
4 for they are nearest to the Ind. trails.  
5 The Emerson children say that Aralia nudi-  
6 caulis berries are good to eat.

7 The leaves of seriocarpus conyzoides are fragrant  
8 // when bruised.-- Black cherries ripe.

9 Labor Lost<sup>411</sup>-- For one of this  
10 generation to talk with a man of the old  
11 school-- You might have done a solid  
12 work the meanwhile with a contemporary  
13 I though of this when I saw Neighbor  
14 B---, the worthy man! & thought of  
15 my interviews with him. If I could only  
16 get the Parish Clerk to read what I have  
17 to say to him!

18 Saw the primrose open at sundown--the  
19 Corolla suddenly burst partway open & unfolded  
20 rapidly-- The sepals flew back with a smart  
21 spring-- In a minute or 2 the corolla was  
22 opened flat & seemed to rejoice in the  
23 cool serene light & air.

24 // Lespedeza capitata not long.

25 The Sarothra (as well as small hypericums generally)  
26 has a lemon scent.

27 The late ~~has~~ rains has tried the  
28 roofs severely--tenants have complained  
29 to their landlords & now I see

---

<sup>411</sup>"Labor Lost" Underlining poss. in pencil

1 carpenters setting up their staging  
2 & preparing to shingle--on various sides.

3 Aug 13th '56

4 Pm to Conantum

5 Beck says of the small Circaea--(C. Alpina,  
6 "Many botanists consider this a mere variety  
7 of the preceding". I am not sure but it  
8 It is as far as I observe  
9 is more deeply toothed than the larger^-- Its leaves  
10 of the large  
11 are of the same color with those ^at Bittern  
12 decidedly  
13 but more {~~---bly~~} toothed  
14 Cliff^. q.v. Why does it not grow larger at  
15 Corner Spring?

16 The root of the Polygala verticillata also  
17 has the checkerberry odor--

18 In Bittern Cliff woods that (ap.) very oblong  
19 ellip head leafed Lespedeza violacea(?)--growing  
20 a few  
21 very loose and open on ^long petioles--1 foot  
22 high X 4 or 5 inch wide. Is this because it  
23 grows in woods--? It is not in bloom.

24 Is there not now a prevalence of //  
25 aromatic herbs in prime--? The polygala roots--  
26 blue-curls--wormwood Penny royal-- S odora--  
27 Rough sun-flowers--horsemint--&c &--  
28 Does not the season require this tonic?

29 I stripped off a shred of Ind. hemp bark--  
30 & could not break it. It is as strong as  
31 anything of the kind I know--

32 Aug 14th 56

33 Pm to Flint's Pond--via Saw Mill Brook.

34 A. tradescanti ap a day or 2-- --Hipopitys // //

1 just beyond the last large (2 stemmed) chest-  
 2 nut at Saw Mill Br. about done.  
 3 Ap. a fungus like plant. It erects itself in  
 4 // seed. Gymnadenia nearer the brook--how  
 5 ? long? Is that slender erect shrub near  
 6 {Oak Stump<sup>412</sup>} at Sawmill--C. circinata?? %vib nudum%  
 7  
 8 // S. Odora abundantly out.  
 9 // The low wood paths are strewn with  
 10 toad stools now--& I begin to perceive their  
 11 {musty} scent--great Tumbae--or as R. W. E.  
 12 says tuguriae--crowding one another by the  
 13 path side when there was not a fellow in  
 14 sight. Great towers that have fallen--&  
 15 made the plain shake-- Ponderous wheels  
 16 that have lost their fellows--broken their axles  
 17 abandoned by the toady or swampy team-  
 18 sters-- Some whose eaves have been nibbled  
 19 ap. by turtles-- Ricketson says he saw  
 20 a turtle eating a toadstool once.  
 21 Some great dull yellow towers (towers of  
 22 strength to judge from their mighty columns)  
 23 like the S. African Honey birds'?<sup>413</sup> nests.  
 24 The recent heavy rains have caused many  
 25 // leaves to fall--especially chestnut-- They  
 26 already spot the ground--rapidly yellowing--  
 27 & very handsomely spotted-- I never weary of  
 28 their colors<sup>414</sup>-- I see those eye spots on  
 29 the low<sup>415</sup> hickory leaves also-- All the Flints  
 30 pond wood paths are strewn with these  
 31 gay-spotted chestnut leaves--& the

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<sup>412</sup>"{Oak Stump}" altered from some other word(s)

<sup>413</sup>question mark written over apostrophe

<sup>414</sup>"colors" poss. altered from "collor"

<sup>415</sup>"low" added

1 changing sarsaparilla leaves begin to yellow  
2 the forest floor--  
3 Sedum telephium some time-- //

4 In Watt's Potatoe field at the Turnpike  
5 I find 2 new kinds of Polygonum--very //  
6 near to P. Persicaria--& so to Pennsylvanicum  
7 P.(P. common at Brattleboro & different)  
8 & Lapathifolium

9 The first I will call the Purple spotted Polyg. ?  
10 It is 2 or 3 feet high--stem quite smooth  
11 except the glandular roughish peduncles--geniculate<sup>416</sup>  
12 but moderately dense  
13 spike slender^--pale rose tinted--stamens 6-anthers  
14 purple--styles 2 ie, "distinct & at length di-  
15 vergent; {erect} flattened smooth & shining"  
16 Spikes 1 inch or so long x 1/8th-- Leaves petioled  
17 lower commonly a small spot in middle  
18 --lanceolate tapering--^sheaths purple--& entire--  
19 (i.e not ciliate) stem purple dotted.

20 The other--I may call the Green spiked-- ?  
21 The flowers are white--same stamens styles &c as  
22 scarcely whitened by the flower  
23 last--spikes green ^2 inch x 2 to 3 /8<sup>417</sup> very dense  
24  
25 Fruits remarkably swollen 3/4 inch diam-  
26 making an impression of strength & vigor  
27 eter when only 2 feet high ^flower larger than last  
28  
29 Stem like that smooth--except the glandular  
30 roughish peduncles-- Leaves broader than  
31 last--~~uit~~ ovate lanceolate petioled with  
32 the lower commonly a small spot in mid.  
33 (~~Had not the first also a small spot sometimes?~~)  
34 Same height with last--  
35 The first--is more tinted--slender spiked--narrow-  
36 leafed--purple sheathed & ~~spotted~~ dotted--  
37 The 2d Dense green spiked--white flowered--broad  
38 leaved & great jointed.

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<sup>416</sup>"geniculate" inserted

<sup>417</sup>this represents T's fraction: 2/8 to 3/8



1 Friday Aug. 15

2 Pm to Minot Pratts--

3 Pratt is collecting his Parsnip seed--  
4 this the 2d or 3d cutting-- It takes 3 cuttings  
5 the central umbellets ripening first-- It takes  
6 a sharp knife not to shake out the seeds--  
7 & as it is enough to seed ten times the ground  
8 is lost. Almost every one is poisoned--says P.  
9 by this work--the skin comes off the back<sup>425</sup> of  
10 the hand--making tanned hand look white  
11 spotted-- This from handling the Parsnip in its  
12 2nd year only. Great rank poisonous look--  
13 & really poisonous parsnips gone to seed. It  
14 is not quite time to cut the carrots seed.

15 A very fragrant ap. introduced mint //  
16 by the roadside at Oak about 15 rods S of H Shattucks  
17 out some time-- It comes nearest to Spear mint  
18 or M. Viridis--but has petioled leaves--& long  
19 spikes with distant whorls--{drawing?} (stamens included)--  
20 Is it a var. of M viridis--White mint? V 2ps forward<sup>426</sup>

21 Aug 16th 56

22 8 Am. to Cassia Field.  
23 Chenopodium Hybridum--a tall rank weed. //  
24 5 feet at least--dark green with a heavy  
25 (poisonous?) odor compared to that of stramo-  
26 nium. Great maple?<sup>427</sup> shaped leaves-- How  
27 deadly--this peculiar heavy odor!--<sup>428</sup>

28 Dip. linarifolius ap. several days. //

29 Ambrosia pollen now begins to yellow my clothes //

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<sup>425</sup>"c" poss. inserted

<sup>426</sup>"v 2ps forward" poss. added

<sup>427</sup>"?" poss. inserted

<sup>428</sup>exclamation mark written over dash

1 // Cynoglossum officinale--a long time mostly<sup>429</sup>  
2 gone to seed--at Bulls path-- & N<sup>430</sup> roadside  
3 below Leppelmans-- Its great radical leaves  
4 made me think of smooth mullein. The  
5 flower has a very peculiar rather sickening odor--  
6 Sophia thought like a warm apple-pie just  
7 from the oven--(I did not perceive this)--  
8 A pretty flower however-- I thoughtlessly put a  
9 handful of the ~~seeds~~ nutlets in to my pocket  
10 with my handkerchief-- But it took me a  
11 long time to pick them out my handkerchief  
12 when I got home--& I pulled out many  
13 threads in the process.  
14           At roadside op. Leightons--just this side his<sup>431</sup>  
15                           Wild bergamot  
16 // barn--Monarda fistula ^nearly done with  
17 terminal whorls--& fragrance mixed of balm  
18       %ap the same kind in Loring's yard--%  
19 & summer savory%^%. The petioles are not ciliated  
20 like those on straw berry Hill road  
21           Am surprised to find the Cassia so obvious  
22 & abundant-- Can see it yellowing the  
23 field 25 rods off from top of hill. It  
24 is perhaps the prevailing shrub over several  
25           rocky  
26 acres of moist ^meadow pasture on the  
27 brook-- Grows in bunches 3 to 5 feet high  
28 (from the ground this year) in the neighbor-  
29 hood--of Alders--hardhack--elecampane &c  
30           turning white &       pods already 3 inch long  
31 The lower flowers are ^going to seed^--a few  
32 upper not yet opened-- It resounds with the  
33 hum of bumble bees. It is branched  
34       of the half-naked (of leaves)  
35 above--some ^racemes 20 inches long

---

<sup>429</sup>"mostly" added

<sup>430</sup>"N" inserted

<sup>431</sup>"his" added

1 x 5 or 6 wide-- Leaves alternate--of 6 or  
2 8 pairs of leaflets & often an odd one at base-- Locust  
3 like--looked as if they had shut up in the night--  
4 I observe it myself  
5 (Mrs Pratt says they do^ ) E. Hoar says she  
6 has known it here since she was a child.

7 The Cynoglossum by roadside opposite--

8 & by side of tan yard the ap true M viridis //  
9 say Aug 1st at least  
10 or spear mint growing very rankly in a dense

11 bed--some 4 feet high--spikes rather dense  
12 stem often reddish  
13 1 to 1 1/2 inches long.^ leaves nearly sessile--{—}

14 The leaves of yesterday's mentha were longer petioled<sup>432</sup>

15 & finer toothed--stem more hairy--as well as spikes different<sup>433</sup>

16 (more leafy) Stamens in both included & fragrance

17 the same--

18 Some Elicampane with the Cassia is 6 feet high

19 & blades of lowers leaves 20 inches x 7 or 9

20 What a variety {of} garden herbs--mints

21 &c are naturalized along an old settled

22 road--like this to Boston (which the

23 British travelled--& then there is the site

24 of an old garden by the tanyard where

25 the Spear mint grows so rankly-- I am

26 intoxicated with the fragrance-- Though

27 I find only one new plant (the cassia)

28 yet old acquaintances grow so rankly--

29 & the spearmint intoxicates me so--that

30 I am bewildered as it were by a variety

31 of new things--an infinite novelty

32 -- All the roadside is the site of an

33 old garden where fragrant herbs have

---

<sup>432</sup>"petioled" pos. added

<sup>433</sup>"different" pos. added

1       become naturalized--hounds tongue--bergamot--  
2       spearmint--elecampane--&c-- I see even  
3 ? the tiger lily--with its bulbs--growing by the  
4       roadside far from houses--(near Leighton's  
5       Grave-yard). I think I have found many  
6       new plants & am surprised when I can reckon  
7       but one. A little distance from my ordinary walk--  
8       & a little variety in the growth or luxuriance  
9       will produce this illusion. By the discovery of  
10      one new plant all bounds seem to be infinitely  
11      removed.

12 //        Amphicarpaea some time--pods 7/8 inch long.  
13            Mimulus ringens 4 feet high--& chelone 6 feet  
14      high!

15            Am frequently surprised to find how imperfectly  
16      water plants are--known--even good shore  
17      botanists are out of their element on the water--  
18      I would suggest to young botanists--to get  
19      not only a botany box--but a boat--&  
20      know the water plants not so much  
21      from the shore as from the water side.

22 //        White morning glory up the Assabet--  
23      I find the Dogs bane--(A androsamifolium) bark  
24      not nearly so strong as that of the A. Canna-  
25 // binum. Amaranthus hypochondriacus  
26      how long?

27            Minot says that the meadow grass  
28      will be good for nothing after the late  
29      over flow--when it goes down-- The water  
30      has steamed the grass-- I see the  
31      rhue all turned yellow by it.

1 prematurely-- Bathing at Merricks old place  
2 am surprised to find how swift the current--  
3 Raise the river 2 feet above summer level  
4 & let it be running off--& you can hardly swim  
5 against it. It has fallen about 15 inches //  
6 ~~today~~--from the height.

7 My plants in press are in a sad con-  
8 dition--mildew has invaded them during  
9 the late damp weather--even those that  
10 were nearly dry-- I find more {and} other  
11 plants than I counted on-- Very bad weather of  
12 late for pressing plants-- Give me the dry heat of July--  
13 Even growing leaves out of doors are spotted with fungi now--  
14 much more than mine in press.

15 Aug 17

16 Pm Walked with Minot Pratt behind  
17 his house--

18 Hypericum Canadense well out at 2 Pm  
19 Ludwigia Alternifolia still with red or scarlet //  
20 calyx lobes to the seed--roadside this side H.  
21 Shattucks. A. miser some time--turned //  
22 purple. A. longifolius not long. Hieracium // //  
23 canadense-- Pratt describes finding one  
24 or 2 small yellowish plants on the edge of ?  
25 his field under the hill--like a polygala  
26 but 2ce as large--stiff & points of the flowers  
27 turned brown-- Leaf clover like three foliate.  
28 Russel had suggested Genista. He has  
29 in his garden--the Mt fringe Adlumia ?  
30 cirrrosa--which grows in maine & he  
31 thought in the W part of this state

1 ? Also Wood geranium G. dissectum Big<sup>434</sup>  
2 from Fitzwilliam--though Gray seems to  
3 think that the Carolinianum has been  
4 // mistaken for it-- Rhus Copallina already  
5 going to seed by the wall ap on what was  
6 W. E. Cs ground-- Saw again the Red  
7 huckleberry & the white hard hack--  
8 {drawing}<sup>435</sup> I think this the lay of the  
9 Land  
10           The red huckleberry  
11 is as easily distinguished in  
12 the green state as when ripe  
13 It is then red with white  
14 cheek--often slightly fern shaped  
15 semi-transparent with a luster  
16 very finely & indistinctly white  
17 dotted-- I do not perceive  
18 any very marked peculiarity in the bush--unless  
19           the last years a peculiar ochreous color  
20 ~~that~~ the recent twigs are red ^& the red bud{s}  
21 in the axils larger. It might be  
22           resinosa var  
23 called Gaylussacia ^erythrocarpa  
24                    Aug 18th '56  
25           Pm to Beck Stow's  
26 //           Now perhaps get thorough wort--  
27           The Lecheas in the great fields are  
28 now turning red--especially the fine one--  
29 As I go along the hill sides in sprout-  
30 lands--amid the S. stricta †<sup>436</sup>

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<sup>434</sup>"Big" altered from "big"  
<sup>435</sup>Map captioned "hardhack", "huckleberry," "wall", "sweetbriar in swamp", and  
"sumac"  
<sup>436</sup>"I" cancelled

1 ~~hear the~~ looking for the blackberries left  
2 after the rain-- The sun<sup>437</sup> warm as ever, but  
3 the air cool nevertheless-- I hear the steady (not  
4 intermittent) shrilling of ap. the alder cricket  
5 clear--loud & autumnal--a season sound. //

6 Hear it, but see it not. It reminds me  
7 of past {autums} & the lapse of time--  
8 suggests a pleasing thoughtful melancholy  
9 --like the sound of the flail-- Such preparation  
10 --such an outfit has our life & so little  
11 brought to pass!

12 Hear a faint warbling bird amid birches  
13 & pines--clear yel throat & breast--greenish ?  
14 conspic.<sup>438</sup>  
15 yellow head--white bar on wings--white beneath

16 --forked tail--bluish legs-- Can it be Pine warbler--?  
17 The note thus faint--is not like it.

18 See Black & white creeper-- //

19 See by the high path side N of Moores Holly  
20 Swamp--ap what I have called D. Dillenii //  
21 %earlier than D. Paniculatum%  
22 It is ap. about in its prime%^--though partly gone

23 to seed-- I am in doubt whether it can be really  
24 the leaves so small (1 to 1 3/4 inch) & pods 2 to 3 semi {orbicular}.  
25 D. Dillenii^-- It may be Rigidum (though this

26 is not adequately described) or a var of Ciliare  
27 The flowers are of a bluish or verdigrease green--  
28 in drying-- The stems are rough pubescent--about  
29 2 feet long spreading from a center--petioles 1/4 to  
30 5/8 of an inch long--leafets ovate or ovate  
31 lanceolate, lowest roundish--very finely ciliate  
32 on edge-- Panicle a foot or more long--

---

<sup>437</sup>"The sun" written over "I hear I"

<sup>438</sup>"conspic." inserted over dash



1 they did not bear the dry hot weather of  
2 July so well. They are ap. now in prime--  
3 --but the sarothra is not open at this hour  
4 The Perforatum is quite scarce now--and ap the  
5 Corymbosum--the ellipticum quite done. The  
6 small hypericums have a peculiar smart some-  
7 what lemon like fragrance--but bee-like.

8 The dangle berries in Hub's Grove--have a peculiar  
9 not very pleasant flavor & a tough skin. I see  
10 white buds on swamp pink just formed //  
11 also green checkerberries about grown //

12 In the Radula swamp the sweet scent  
13 %which last 10 days at least%  
14 of Clethra--some peculiarly bright orange  
15 toad stools with a wavy edge-- Now for  
16 spotted aralia leaves--brown pupils with //  
17 yellow iris amid the green.

18 The whorled Polygala is a<sup>444</sup> plant almost  
19 universally dispersed but inconspicuous.

20 I spend my afternoon among the  
21 Desmodiums & lespedezas sociably. The  
22 further<sup>445</sup> end of F. H. Hill side is a great  
23 place for them. There is the D. Marilandicum  
24 The smooth small leaved  
25 far more abundant than I had supposed  
26 about the hickory & Juniper in great beds  
27 some stems 3 or 4 feet long  
28 3 to 8 feet over^--its fine panicles of  
29 peculiar greenish flowers seen against the  
30 hill side--quite a mass of that peculiar  
31 color--green-purpling the hill side

32 Then there is the D. Dillenii (?) though ?  
33 much larger than yesterday's plant

---

<sup>444</sup>"a" poss inserted  
<sup>445</sup>"f" written over "T"

1 & possibly different--leaving that for another  
 2 name)--one near the Juniper & Marilandicum  
 3 --one or 2 more on the rt of the path a few  
 4 rods further--but much more & larger  
 5 on the hill side 2 or 3 rods W of the  
 6 rocks at the Cliff end.-- Then  
 7 the D. Paniculatum higher up by path  
 8 hardly yet showing seed--& also on face of  
 9 with its very handsome long & narrow finger-like smooth & more or less glossy leaves  
 10 light streaked along veins  
 11 rocks--^& the D. acuminatum  
 12 much earlier all gone to seed on the  
 13 face of the rocks--with its great pods<sup>446</sup>  
 14 The Lespedeza hirta very abundant  
 15 on all that hill side--& ap. the capitata  
 16 & the violacea both elliptic & narrow leafed  
 17 The flowers of the D marilandicum  
 18 Dillenii & Paniculatum all turn that  
 19 peculiar blue or verdigrease green in  
 20 drying--from a purple. They have always  
 21 light  
 22 2 little ^green spots on the recurved vexillum.  
 23 ~~Short~~ almost all the flowers are turned  
 24 There are a few fresh purple ones in the morning  
 25 whenever I see them.^ The D. marilandicum  
 26 has grown very rankly the stem growing flat  
 27 at end {&} 1/2 inch wide & recurved & densely  
 28 flowered--like a primrose stem sometimes deformed.  
 29 I am in doubt about the D. Dillenii (?)  
 30 which I find there (mentioned at top of p) whether  
 31 prob it is  
 32 it is that^ & whether it is the same with  
 33 Prob. different  
 34 that found yesterday^--(I find some evidently  
 35 which is ap. D. Rigidum  
 36 the same with that of yesterday--on left  
 37 by Potter's--star fungus path 6 rods beyond

---

<sup>446</sup>"with its great pods" added

1 site of wall). I detect no essential difference  
2 Many  
3 yet but in size-- ~~Some~~ plants are 3 or 4  
4 feet long--especially in the open copse at Cliff--  
5 -- The leaves & hence petioles are much longer--  
6 some of the leaves even 4 & 4 1/2!<sup>447</sup> inches long  
7 & perhaps 1 1/2 wide--the flowers are proportionally  
8 large--but the pods of<sup>448</sup> which I can already  
9 count 5! together threaten to be rhomboidal  
10 & they<sup>449</sup> are considerably later than the other  
11 --& the stem (in the copse at least) somewhat  
12 the petioles not hairy & the leaves yet smoothed  
13 less roughish^. If the pods are semi orbicular  
14 they are not v. 26th prox  
15 ^and I detect no dif. bet this & yesterdays but  
16 size--then I must call both for present  
17 D. rigidum. (Though they may possibly be ?  
18 long petioled  
19 Elliott's ^var of ~~{Ci}~~ oblongifolium (of Ciliare)  
20 They are v 26th  
21 ac. to Eaton)--if they are rhombic^--then the  
22 large one<sup>450</sup> D Dillenii %& put it of}% or date %{with} D. paniculatum%  
23 Of violet Lespedezas I think of  
24 the common elliptic leaved--more or less dense leaved  
25 --then a very<sup>451</sup> small leaved-- The linear leaved  
26 & the light red long peduncled-path above Moore's  
27 Holly swamp.  
28 D I see a var of L. capitata with peduncles ?  
29 longer than leaves?  
30 All the Lespedezas are ap. more open  
31 & delicate in the woods and of a darker green  
32 esp. the violet ones. When not too much  
33 crowded their leaves are very pretty & perfect  
34 Ivy berries dry & ap ripe on the rocks{.} Toxicodendron //

---

<sup>447</sup>"!" inserted

<sup>448</sup>"of" written over "on"

<sup>449</sup>"they" altered from "though" or "through"

<sup>450</sup>"one" inserted

<sup>451</sup>"v" written over "s"



1           They are not so abundant after all but  
2 I feel an agreeable surprise as often as I  
3 come across a new locality for Desmodiums  
4 Rarely find one kind without one or 2 more  
5 species near-- Their great spreading panicles  
6 --yet delicate--open & airy--occupying the  
7 August air-- Like raking masts with countless grays  
8 slanted far over the neighboring plants--

9           Some of these desmodiums the Paniculatum--Mari-  
10           Rigidum &  
11           landicum--nudiflorum^ & Dillanii are so fine &  
12 in obvious that a careless observer would look  
13 through their thin flowery panicles without  
14 observing any flower at all. The flowery beds of  
15 D {~~Dillanii~~} marilandicum reveal themselves to me  
16 like a blue-green mist or gauze veil spread on  
17 the grass. I find them abundant in some  
18 places where I am sure there were none  
19 last year. They are outsiders--few & far  
20 between--further removed from man's walks  
21 than most plants--considering that there  
22 is such a variety of them. A dry thin family  
23 of many species, no where abundant yet widely  
24 dispersed--looking out from dry hillsides &  
25 exercising their dry wit on the race of man.

26           The Lespedezas & D Canadense--more  
27 stiff & wand like--nearer to man & his paths.  
28           Rigidum  
29           The D ^Dillanii &c &c more spreading & open--  
30 thin & fleeting & dispersed like the aborigines.

31           They occupy the same dry soil too--



1 Aug 21st

2 Rain still all day--& wind rises--& //

3 shakes off much fruit & beats down the corn--

4 The prevailing solidagos now--are 1st //

5 %ie arguta var juncea%

6 stricta (the upland%^% & also meadow one which I

7 %ie true stricta%

8 seem to have called Puberula%^%)-- 2d the 3 ribbed

9 of ap several varieties which I have called arguta

10 or gigantea (ap. truly the last) 3 altissima

11 though commonly only a part of its panicles--4th

12 Nemoralis--just beginning generally to bloom--

13 Then there is the odora 5th out some time, but

14 not common--& 6th the bicolor just begun

15 in some places--

16 The commonest asters now--are 1st //

17 the Radula--2d Dumosus--3d Patens--

18 4th say ~~Prenanthe~~ Puniceus--5th Cordifolius--

19 These 2 a good while

20 6th Macrophyllus--^ 7 say Tradescanti 8 Miser

21 9 Longifolius-- These 3 quite rare yet--

22 sometime

23 10 prob-- acuminatus^ (not seen) 11 undulatus

24 12 laevis-- -- These 2 scarcely to be seen yet

25 N. B. Water so high I have not seen Early Meadow A.

26 lately.

27 Aug 22d

28 Fair weather at last-- //

29 Pm up Assabet-- Owing to the rain of

30 the 8th & before 2 days & 2 nights the river

31 rose to within 6 inches of the top of Hoar's Wall--

32 It had fallen about one half when the

1 rain began again on the night of the 20th  
2 & again continued about 2 nights & 2 days--  
3 --though so much did not fall as before--  
4 but the river being high it is now rising fast--  
5 The Assabet is ap. at its height &  
6 rushing very swiftly past the hemlocks where  
7 it is narrow & choked with rocks, I can  
8 hardly row against it there-- I see much  
9 hay floating & 2 or 3 cocks quite  
10 black--carried round & round in  
11 a great eddy by the side of the stream--  
12 which will ere long be released & continue  
13 their voyage down stream. The water  
14 is backing up the main stream so that  
15 there is no current whatever in that  
16 as far up as my boats place at least--  
17 when I rest on my oars the boat will  
18 not after any waiting drift down stream.  
19 // It is within 3 inch of the top of Hoar's  
20 wall at 7 Pm.

21 I notice 3 or 4 clumps of white maples  
22 at the swamp up the Assabet--which  
23 have turned as red--(dull red) as ever  
24 they do--fairly put on their autumnal  
25 hue. But we have had no dry weather  
26 & no frost--& this is ap. a premature  
27 ripening of the leaves-- The water stands  
28 around & affects them as it does the  
29 weeds & grasses--steams them too

1 They as it were take these for the fall  
 2 rains--the latter rain--accept their  
 3 fates--&<sup>454</sup> put on the suitable dress-- This shows  
 4 how little frost has to do with such changes  
 5 except as a ripener of the leaves-- The trees  
 6 are so ready for this change--that only  
 7 a copious rain & rise of the waters as in the  
 8 fall produces the same effect--also  
 9 some red maples on hill sides have a crisped  
 10 look for the same reason--actually ripening  
 11 & drying<sup>455</sup> without turning & without drought  
 12 or frost.

13 I find that much of the faint warbling  
 14 I hear now adays is from ap--the young  
 15 Maryland yel-throats--as it were practising  
 16 against another spring--half finished strains--  
 17 They are also more inquisitive & bold than usual  
 18 hopping quite near

19 The creak of the mole-cricket is heard along //  
 20 the shore

21 As for the 3 ribbed G. rods--I find several //  
 22 varieties all which methinks I must call--S. {gigntea}.  
 23 also in path on Emerson's burnt hill side  
 24 1st About 15 rods down RR on right ^is a perfectly  
 25 smooth one 3 feet high--leaves entirely smooth  
 26 both sides--stem glaucous--just out of bloom  
 27 one ap. the same seen to have larger flowers & rays than the other kinds  
 28 so I cant examine flowers^-- 2nd Then quite com-  
 29 mon, as at apple tree by wall E of Hill,  
 30 --A very tall slender Glaucous stemmed (except a  
 31 little pubescence at top) one with leaves smooth both-  
 32 sides except a little down or hair on mid rib beneath & edge

---

<sup>454</sup>"&" inserted

<sup>455</sup>"d" written over "&"

1 out ap. 5 or 6 days. The ~~(rh)~~<sup>456</sup> earlier quite  
2 common rough kind with more downy  
3 hardly glaucous stem--the 1st noticed this year--  
4 at Walden 1st shore by RR--perhaps stouter is  
5 in its leaves like the "Late G-- rod"--but stem is<sup>457</sup>  
6 Some of this elsewhere now fresh ap. differs from  
7 not smooth. the others only in size of rays--i.e. there maybe a  
8 great diff. in size of rays without any  
9 essential diff-- in other respects.

10 Aug 23d

11 Pm to Walden--

12 I see a bed of Antennaria Margariticea now  
13 in its prime by the RR--& very handsome--

14 It has fallen outward on all sides ray wise &  
15 rests on the ground forming perfectly regular  
16 circle 4 feet in diameter & 15 inches high  
17 with a dark ash colored center 20 inches  
18 in diameter composed of the stems then a  
19 wide circumference 1 foot or more broad of  
20 dense pearly masses of flowers--covered with  
21 bees & butterflies-- This is as regular as  
22 a wheel-- So fair & pure & abundant.

23 ? Elder-berries now looking purple--are  
24 weighing down the bushes along fences--by their  
25 // abundance-- White golden rod--not long commonly  
26 // -- Decodon getting stale at 2d Andromeda  
27 pond-- Often the end has rooted itself &  
28 the whole forms a loop 4 feet long & 20  
29 or more inches high in the middle--with  
30 numerous branches-- Making it rather  
31 troublesome to wade through-- Where  
32 the stems bend down & rest on the water  
33 they swell to several times their

---

<sup>456</sup>"~~(rh)~~" inserted then cancelled  
<sup>457</sup>"is" poss. "in"

1 usual size & acquire that thick {soft}  
2 bark & put forth numerous roots-- --not  
3 the extreme point--but a space just short  
4 of it--while that starts up again.  
5 On R. W. E's hill side by RR--burnt  
6 over by the Engine in the spring the  
7 Erechthites has shot up abundantly very  
8 tall & straight some 6 or 7 feet high--  
9 Those singular crowded & wrinkled dry  
10 galls--red & cream color--mingled on //  
11 White oak shrubs--with the grubs in them  
12 {drawing} On the W. side of Emerson's  
13 Cliff--I notice many G. Pedicularia  
14 out-- A bee is hovering about on bush--the<sup>458</sup>  
15 flowers are not yet open--& if they were perhaps  
16 he could not enter--he proceeds at once  
17 head downwards to the base of the tube--& extracts<sup>459</sup>  
18 the sweet there & departs-- Examining I find  
19 that every flower--has a small hole pierced  
20 through the tube commonly through calyx  
21 & all opposite the nectary-- This does not  
22 hinder its opening.-- The Rape of the Flower!  
23 The bee knew where the sweet lay & was unscrupu-  
24 lous in his mode of obtaining it. A certain violence  
25 tolerated by nature.  
26 Now for high black-berries though the  
27 low are gone--{at} the Lincoln {bound}  
28 hollow Walden--there is a dense bed

---

<sup>458</sup>"the" poss written over "are"  
<sup>459</sup>"extracts" added

1 of the *rubus hispidus* matting the ground  
2 7 or 8 inches deep--& full of the small  
3 // black fruit now in its prime-- It is es-  
4 pecially abundant where the vines lie<sup>460</sup> over  
5 a stump-- Has a peculiar, hardly agreeable  
6 acid.

7 // At Wyman's shore a new *Lespedeza*--appearing  
8 intermediate bet. *violacea* & *hirta* but smoother  
9 smooth above & lighter green  
10 & not silvery downy above^--& less downy beneath--peduncles  
11 much longer than leaves--not crowded if compared  
12 with *hirta* & *capitata* say a dozen flowers within  
13 3/4 of an inch at the end-- Corolla more purple  
14 or violet than the *hirta* but less than the *violacea*  
15 considerably longer than the calyx. Out say a  
16 fortnight. 2 1/2 feet high--rather past prime

17 // On this *L. Stuvei* a green locust 1 3/4 inch  
18 // long. The scent of decaying fungi  
19 in woods is quite offensive now in many  
20 places--like carrion even. I see many red  
21 ones eaten more or less in the paths--nibbled  
22 out on the edges

23 // 7 Pm The river has risen 4 inches since  
24 last night--& now is 1 inch above the  
25 wall--& there is a little current  
26 there-- Prob. then the Assabet has beg.  
27 to fall--(if this has not risen higher than that.)

28 J Farmer says that he found that  
29 the gummed twig of a chimney swallows nest  
30 though it burned when held in a flame  
31 went out immediately--when taken out

---

<sup>460</sup>"lie" altered from "ly"

1 of it--& he thinks it owing to a peculiarity  
2 in the gum<sup>461</sup>--rendering the twig partly fire-  
3 proof--so that they cannot be ignited  
4 by the sparks in a chimney. I suggested that  
5 these swallows had originally built in  
6 hollow trees--but it would be interesting  
7 to ascertain whether they constructed their nests  
8 in the same way & of the same material  
9 then.

10 Aug 24th

11 3 Pm up river to Clam Shell--  
12 dan

13 Polyg-- tenue abun<sup>t</sup> & in bloom on //

14 side of money-digger's Hill esp. at S base near ap-

15 ple tree-- The choke cherry by fence beyond

16 spring--being dead ripe & a little wilted is at

17 length tolerable eating--much better than I //

18 ever tasted--but the stones are much in the

19 way. I was surprised to hear Peter Flood

20 mention it as an objection to a certain peat

21 meadow that he would have to dry the

22 peat on the adjacent upland. But he

23 explained that {pead} dried thus was apt

24 to crumble & so was not so good as that

25 dried gradually & all alike on damper

26 ground. So<sup>462</sup> an apparent disadvantage

27 is a real advantage, ac. to this

28 It rained a little last night--& the //

29 river at 3 Pm is at the same height as last

30 night-- It is not remembered when it was

---

<sup>461</sup>terminal "m" cancelled  
<sup>462</sup>"So" written over "Sa"

1 so high at this season. I have not seen  
 2 a white lily--nor a yellow one in the river--  
 3 for a fortnight-- The river meadows  
 4 prob will not be mown this year--  
 5 I can hardly get under the stone bridge  
 6 without striking my boat--cardinal flowers  
 7 &c &c are drowned before they were fairly in bloom.  
 8 // River at same height as yesterday--  
 9 Aug 25th  
 10 Pm to Hill by boat  
 11 Silvery cinquefoil now begins to show itself  
 12 // commonly again-- Perhaps it is owing to  
 13 the rain--spring-like which we have in august.  
 14 I paddle directly across the meadow--the  
 15 river is so high, & land E of the elm  
 16 on the the 3d or 4th row of potatoes--  
 17 The water makes more show on the meadows  
 18 than yesterday, though hardly so high, be-  
 19 cause the grass is more flatted down.  
 20 I easily make my way amid the thin  
 21 spires--almost every stem which rises above  
 22 the surface has a grass hopper or cater-  
 23 pillar upon it. Some have 7 or 8 grass  
 24 close &  
 25 hoppers--clinging to their masts one^  
 26 directly above another--& like shipwrecked  
 27 sailors now the 3d or 4th day exposed.  
 28 Whither shall they jump?<sup>463</sup> it is a quarter  
 29 of a mile to shore--& countless sharks  
 30 lie in wait for them. They are so  
 31 thick that they are like a crop which

---

<sup>463</sup>"?" pos. inserted

1 the grass bears--some stems are bent down  
2 by their weight. This flood affects other  
3 inhabitants of these fields than men--not  
4 only the owners of the grass but its inhabi-  
5 tants much more-- It drives them to their  
6 upper stories--to take refuge in the rig-  
7 ging. Many that have taken an imprudent  
8 leap are seen struggling in the water--  
9 How much life is drowned out! that in-  
10 habits about the roots of the meadow grass  
11 -- How many a family perchance of short-  
12 tailed meadow mice has had to scamper or  
13 swim!<sup>464</sup> The river-meadow cranberries  
14 are covered deep-- I can count them  
15 as they lie in dense beds a foot under-  
16 water so distinct & white--or just begin-  
17 ning to have a red cheek. They will probably  
18 be spoiled--& this crop will fail. Pota-  
19 toes too in the low land--on which water  
20 has stood so long--will rot--

21 The farmers commonly say that the  
22 spring floods--being of cold water, do  
23 not injure the grass, like later ones when  
24 the water is warm--but I suspect it is  
25 not so much owing to the warmth of the  
26 water--as to the age & condition of the  
27 grass & whatever else is exposed to them.  
28 They say that if you let the water rise  
29 some time  
30 & stand ^over the roots of trees in warm  
31 weather--it will kill them.

---

<sup>464</sup>“!” poss written over “?”

1           This then may be the value of these  
2 occasional freshets in August--they  
3 steam & kill the shrubs & trees which  
4 had crept into the river meadows--& so  
5 keep them open perpetually. Which perchance  
6 the spring floods alone might not do--  
7 It is commonly supposed that our river meadows  
8 were much drier than now originally--or  
9 when the town was settled. They were  
10 probably drier before the dam was built  
11 at Billerica, but if they were much or  
12 at all drier than now originally--I ask  
13 what prevented their being converted into  
14 maple swamps--?<sup>465</sup> Maples--alders--birches &c  
15 are creeping into them quite fast on many  
16 sides at present. If they had been so dry as  
17 is supposed they would not have been open  
18 meadows. It seems to be true that high-  
19 water in midsummer--when perchance the  
20 trees & shrubs are in a more tender state--kills  
21 It "steams" them as it does the grass  
22 them--^& maybe the river thus asserts its  
23 rights--& possibly it would still to great ex-  
24 tent--though the meadows should be con-  
25 siderably raised. Yet I ask why do maples  
26 alders &c at present border the stream?  
27 though they do not spring up to any ex-  
28 tent in the open meadow? Is it because  
29 the immediate bank is commonly more  
30 firm as well as higher--(their seeds also  
31 are more liable to be caught there)

---

<sup>465</sup>question mark written over dash

1 & where it is low they are protected by willows,  
2 & button bushes which can bear the flood--  
3 Not even willows & button-bushes prevail  
4 in the great meadows--(though many of the  
5 former at least spring up there--) except  
6 on the most elevated parts or hummocks--  
7 The reason for this cannot be solely in the  
8 fact that the water stands over them  
9 there a part of the year--because they are  
10 still more exposed to the water in many places  
11 on the shore of the river where yet they thrive.  
12 Is it then owing to the soft character of the  
13 ground in the meadow--& the ice tearing up  
14 the meadow so extensively? On the immediate  
15 bank of the river that kind of sod & soil is not  
16 commonly formed which the ice lifts up--  
17 Why is the black willow so strictly confined to  
18 the bank of the river? What is the use, in  
19 Nature's<sup>466</sup> economy, of these occasional floods  
20 in August? Is it not partly to preserve the  
21 meadows open?

22         Mr Rice says that the brook just beyond his  
23 {brother} Israels in Sudbury rises & runs out  
24 before the river--& then you will see the river  
25 running up the brook as fast as the brook  
26 ran down before.

27         Apparently half the pads are now afloat  
28 notwithstanding the depth of the water--  
29 but they are almost all white lily pads  
30 --the others being eaten or decayed. They

---

<sup>466</sup>indistinguishable marks under "ture's"

1 have apparently lengthened their stems  
2 somewhat-- They generally lie with more  
3 or less coil prepared for a rise of the water--  
4 and perhaps the length of that coil  
5 shows pretty accurately to how great a  
6 rise they are ordinarily subject at this  
7 season.

8 I was {sugesting} yesterday, as I have often  
9 before--that the town should provide  
10 a stone monument to be placed in the  
11 river, so as to be surrounded by water  
12 at its lowest stage--& a dozen feet  
13 high so as to rise above it at its highest  
14 stage-- On this feet & inches to be  
15 permanently marked--& it be made  
16 some one's duty to record each high  
17 or low stage of the water. Now when  
18 we have a remarkable freshet we  
19 cannot tell surely whether it is higher  
20 than the one 30 or 60 years ago or  
21 not. It would be not merely interesting  
22 but often practically valuable to know  
23 this. Reuben Rice was telling me to-  
24 night that the great freshet of  
25 2 or 3 years ago came, ac to his brother  
26 Israel, within 2 inches of one that  
27 occurred about 40 years ago. I asked  
28 how he knew. He said that the  
29 former one took place Early (--February!)

1 & the surface froze so that boys  
2 skated on it--& the ice marked a par-  
3 ticular apple tree--girdled it--so that it is  
4 seen to this day. But we wish to speak more  
5 confidently than this allows. It is important  
6 when building a causeway--or a bridge  
7 --or {~~even~~} a house even in some situations  
8 to know exactly how high the river has  
9 ever risen. It would need to be a very large  
10 stone or pile of stones which the ice could  
11 not move or break. Perhaps one corner of  
12 a bridge abutment would do.

13 Rice killed a woodchuck today--that was shearing  
14 off his beans-- He was very fat. //

15 I cross the meadows in the face of a thunder-  
16 storm rising very dark in the north. There were  
17 several boats out but their crews soon  
18 retreated homeward before the approaching  
19 storm. It came on rapidly with vivid lightning  
20 striking the northern earth--& heavy thunder  
21 following. Just before and in the shadow  
22 of the cloud, I saw advancing <sup>majestically</sup> ^with wide  
23 circles over the meadowy flood--a fish  
24 hawk--& ap a black eagle--(maybe //  
25 //  
26 a young Whitehead).<sup>467</sup> The first with slender  
27 curved wings & silvery breast 4 or 500{--}feet  
28 high watching the water while he circled  
29 slowly S. westery-- What a vision that could  
30 detect a fish at that distance. The<sup>468</sup> latter

---

<sup>467</sup>See Journal 10, Annotation 463.2-3.  
<sup>468</sup>"T" written over "t"

1 with broad black wings & broad tail  
2 thus {drawing} hovered only about 100 feet  
3 high--evidently a diff. species--and what else  
4 but an eagle? They soon disappeared S. W.  
5 The thunder shower passed off to the SE  
6 cutting off a bend.

7 Tuesday Aug. 26 '56

8 More wind & quite cold this morning but  
9 //  
10 very bright & sparkling autumn-like air--  
11 reminding of frosts to be apprehended--also  
12 We see no effects of frost yet in garden--but hear a rumor  
13 tempting abroad--to adventure. The fall  
14 //of a little somewhere 1st muskmelon gathered  
15 cricket or is it alder locust sings the  
16 praises of the day--

17 So about 9 Am--up river to F. H. Pond.

18 The flooded meadow, where the grass-  
19 hoppers cling to the grass so thickly--is  
20 alive with swallows skimming just  
21 over the surface around the grass tops--  
22 & apparently snapping up insects there.  
23 Are they catching the grass hoppers?--  
24 as they cling to bare poles?--(I see the  
25 swallows equally thick there at  
26 5 Pm when I return also)

27 // River slowly falling-- The most conspicuous  
28 weed rising above the water--is the  
29 wool grass with its great rich seedy  
30 heads--which rise from a few inches  
31 to a foot above at present--as I  
32 push over the uncut meadows.

33 ? I see many white lilies fairly & freshly

1 in bloom after all this flood--though  
2 it looks like a resurrection-- The wind is NW  
3 --ap-- by W. & I sail before it & under Hub-  
4 bard's bridge. The red maples of Potter's  
5 swamp show a dull purple blush--& some-  
6 times a low scarlet bough--the effect  
7 evidently of the rain ripening them.

8 Rice told me about their crossing the causeway  
9 from Wayland to Sudbury some 60 years ago in  
10 a freshet--which he could just remember--  
11 in a half hogs head tub--used for scalding  
12 pigs--having nailed some boards on the bottom  
13 to keep it from upsetting. It was too deep for  
14 a team.

15 We begin to apprehend frosts before the melons

16 are ripe! A blue heron sails away from a //  
17 Again he flies & alights on the {land} Conantum side where at length I detect  
18 him standing far away stake-like--(his body concealed) eyeing me--depending on  
19 pine at Holden Swamp shore & alights on  
20 his stronger vision  
21 the meadow above--

22 which there appears to have been open about a week  
23 The Desmod. Dillenii of Aug 19th ^under F-- H. Hill--  
24 now first distinguished  
25 proves by its rhomboidal pods to be the D. Dillenii^ //

26 & leaves that of 18th as D. Rigidum intermediate bet--

27 Dillenii & ciliare(?) judging from the pods this

28 D. Dillenii is at least a week later than the

29 D. Rigidum (which found on Heywood peak July

30 31st a week--{~~appr~~} 1853<sup>469</sup>--

31 The Desmodium flowers are pure purple--rose  
32 purple in the morning--when quite fresh--excepting  
33 D  
34 the 2 green spots. The Rotundifolium also has  
35 the 2 green (or in its case greenish spots) on its  
36 very large flower--

---

<sup>469</sup>stray mark under "1853"

1           These Desmodiums are so fine and inobvious  
2 that it is difficult to {detect} them. I go through  
3 a grove in vain--but when I get away  
4 find my coat covered with their pods-- They found  
5 me though I did not them.

6           The round leafed D. has sometimes 7 pods & large  
7 //flowers--still fresh--

8 //        On the side of Blackberry Steep--midway--that  
9 smooth purple stemmed grape--(but not  
10 sinuate<sup>470</sup> lobed of Pursh) v. leaf--here--has  
11 fruit the very largest about 5/8 inch diameter--  
12 Is it the V. Aestivalis of Gray?

13 ?        The L. stovei is very abundant on Blackberry  
14 steep--2 1/2 to 3 feet high It has a looser  
15 top & less dense spikes than the hirta-- It gives  
16 a pink hue to the hill-side. The L. violacea is  
17 smaller & much more violet-- the hirta more  
18 //white. Galium pilosum still common--

19 //        {&} Desmod acuminatum still by rock on Blackberry  
20 steep-- This to be added to the D's of this place.<sup>471</sup>

21        As I stand there a young male goldfinch darts away  
22 with a twitter from a spear-thistle top close to my side--  
23 & alighting near makes frequent returns as near  
24 to me & the thistle as it dare pass-- Not yet knowing  
25 man well enough to fear him.

26        I rest & take my lunch on Lee's Cliff  
27 looking toward Baker Farm-- What {is}  
28 a New England landscape--this sunny  
29 August day!-- A weather-painted house  
30 & barn--with an orchard by its side--

---

<sup>470</sup>"q" cancelled

<sup>471</sup>"This . . . place." added

1 in midst of a sandy field surrounded  
2 by green woods--with a small blue lake  
3 on one side. A sympathy bet. the color  
4 of the weather-painted house--& that of the  
5 lake & sky-- I speak not of a country road  
6 between its fences--for this house lies off one,  
7 nor do I commonly approach them from this  
8 side. The weather-painted house--this is  
9 the N-- E. color--homely but fit<sup>472</sup> as that  
10 of a toadstool-- What<sup>473</sup> matter though  
11 this one has not been inhabited for 30 years?  
12 Methinks I hear the crow of a cock--  
13 come up from its barn-yard.  
14 I think I hear the pine warbler's note in the //  
15 woods behind me. Hear a plain Phebe note //  
16 from a chicadee--& bluets still. Epilobium //  
17 down flies abundantly on hill sides. I gather  
18 a bundle of penny royal; it grows largest //  
19 & rankest high & close under these rocks amid  
20 the loose stones-- I tie my bundle with the  
21 purple bark of the Poke weed--  
22 Sailed across to Bee-tree Hill. This hill side--  
23 laid bare 2 years ago & partly last winter--  
24 is almost covered with the Aster macrophyl- //  
25 lus now in its prime. It grows large & rank  
26 2 feet high On one I {count} 17 central  
27 flowers withered--130 in bloom & 1/2  
28 as many buds. As I looked down from the  
29 hill top over the sprout-land--its rounded

---

<sup>472</sup>"f" written over "b"

<sup>473</sup>"What" written over another word, possibly "Does"

1 grayish tops amid the bushes--I mistook  
2 for gray--lichen-clad rocks--such was  
3 its profusion & harmony with the scenery--  
4 --like hoary rocky hill tops--amid bushes--  
5 There were acres of it densely planted. Also  
6 erechthites as abundant & rank in many  
7 places there as if it had been burnt over!!  
8 So it does not necessarily imply fire.

9 I thought I was looking down on gray--lichen-  
10 clad rocky summits on which a few bushes  
11 thinly grew-- These rocks were asters--single ones  
12 a foot over--many prostrate--& making a  
13 //gray impression-- Many leaves of shrubs  
14 are crisp & withered & fallen there--though  
15 as yet no drought--nor frost-- Nothing  
16 but rain can have done it. Aspen leaves are  
17 //blackened. Stone crop still--&<sup>474</sup> another  
18 //monster aphid on a huckleberry leaf-- Galium  
19 //triflorum still. See a great many young  
20 //oaks & shrub oaks stripped by caterpillars  
21 of different kinds now.  
22 the 22d ult  
23 Last Friday ~~night~~ Pm (when I was away)  
24 Father's pig got out again--& took to the  
25 river side-- The next day he was heard from  
26 but not found. ~~One (do)~~ That night  
27 he was seen on an Island in the meadow--  
28 in the midst of the flood--but thereafter  
29 for some time no account of him. J. Farmer  
30 advised to Ai Hale just over the  
31 go to

---

<sup>474</sup>"&" written over "a"

1 Carlisle line. He has got a dog which  
2 if<sup>475</sup> you put him on the track of the pig  
3 not more than 4 hour's old--will pursue  
4 & catch him & hold him by the ear with-  
5 out hurting him till you come up. That's  
6 the best way. 10 men cannot stop him in the  
7 road but he will go by them. It was generally  
8 conceded that the right kind of dog was all  
9 that was wanted like Ai Hale's--one that  
10 would hold him by the ear--but not uselessly  
11 maim him. One or two said if I only had  
12 such a one's dog--I'd catch him for so much--  
13       Neighbors sympathized as much as in them  
14 lay--it was the town talk--the meetings  
15 were held at Wolcott & Holden's every man  
16 told of his losses & disappointments in this line.  
17 One had ~~lost~~ heard of his pig last up in  
18 Westford--but never saw him again. Another  
19 had only caught his pig by his running  
20 against a post so hard as to stun himself  
21 for a few moments. ~~One~~ It was thought  
22 this one must have been born in the woods  
23 for he would run & leap like a {woolf}.  
24 Some advised not to build so very high, but  
25 lay the upper board flat over the pen--  
26 for then when he caught by his fore  
27 feet his body would swing under to no  
28 purpose. One said you would not catch  
29 him to buy a pig out of a drove. Our

---

<sup>475</sup>what seems to be "if" written over "&" is actually bleedthrough

1 pig ran as if he still had the devil in him.  
2 It was generally conceded that a good  
3 dog was the desideratum. But thereupon  
4 Lawrence the harness maker came forward &  
5 told his experience. He once helped hunt a pig  
6 in the next town. He weighed 200--had been  
7 % (though not in 75)%  
8 out some time--but they learned where he  
9 resorted--but they got a capital dog of  
10 the right kind. They had the dog tied lest  
11 he should scare the pig too soon-- They  
12 crawled along very carefully near to the  
13 hollow where the pig was till they could  
14 hear him. They knew that if he should  
15 hear them--& he was wide awake, he  
16 would dash off with a grunt & that  
17 would be the last of him--but what  
18 more could they do--? They consulted in  
19 a whisper & concluded to let the dog go.  
20 They did so--& directly heard an awful  
21 yelp--rushed up the pig was gone &  
22 there lay the dog torn all to pieces! At  
23 this there was a universal haw! haw! & the  
24 reputation of dogs fell--& the chance of  
25 catching the pig seemed less.  
26 \$200<sup>476</sup> reward was offered to him who  
27 would catch & return him without  
28 maiming him  
29  
30 At length the <sup>26</sup>~~29~~<sup>477</sup>th he was heard from  
31 he was caught & tied in N part

---

<sup>476</sup>"2" written over "A". 1906 has "two dollars". It is not clear how T distinguishes "200" and "2" in his writing; see examples at line 6 of this page and line 12 of next page.

<sup>477</sup>cancelled "9" may be written over "8"

1 of the town<sup>478</sup> he was chased 2 hours with a spaniel  
2 took to a swamp--as they say they are inclined--  
3 dog--which never faced him nor touched him  
4 --but as the man said, "tuckered him out,"  
5 kept him on the go & showed where he was. When  
6 at a distance the pig stopped & faced the dog--  
7 until the pursuers came up. He was brought  
8 home the 27th all his legs tied & put into his  
9 new pen-- It might have been made deeper  
10 new pen-- It was a very deep one-- ^but Father  
11 did not wish to build a well--& the man who caught  
12 him & got his \$200<sup>479</sup> for it--thought it ought  
13 Father said he didn't wish to keep  
14 to hold any decent pig. him in a well

15 Aug 27

16 Pm to Clintonia swamp & Cardinal ditch

17 Unusually cold last night. //

18 Goodyera Pubescens-Rattle-snake Plantain //

19 is ap. a little past its prime-- It is very abundant

20 on Clintonia swamp hill-side quite erect with

21 its white spike 8 to 10 inches high on the sloping

22 hillside the lower half or more turning

23 brown--but the beautifully reticulated leaves

24 shady

25 which pave<sup>480</sup> the moist ^hill-side about its

26 base are the chief attraction. These oval

27 leaves perfectly smooth like velvet to the

28 touch about 1 ~~1/2~~ inches long--have a broad

29 longitudinal white

30 white mid-rib & 4 to 6 white ~~parallel~~ ^veins

31 very prettily & thickly connected by other

32 conspicuous white veins transversely<sup>481</sup>--& irregularly

33 --all on a dark rich green ground.

34 Is it not the prettiest leaf that paves

---

<sup>478</sup>"town" inserted

<sup>479</sup>1906 has "two dollars". It is not clear how T distinguishes "200" and "2" in his writing; see examples at line 6 of this page and line 12 of next page. See note #11 previous page.

<sup>480</sup>"pave" possibly "parse"

<sup>481</sup>"tr" written over "a"

1 the forest floor? As a cultivated exotic it  
2 would attract great attention for its  
3 leaf-- Many of the leaves are eaten. Is it  
4 by Partridges? It is a leaf of firm texture  
5 partially  
6 not apt to be ^eaten by insects or decayed--  
7 & does not soon wilt. So unsoiled and unde-  
8 cayed-- It might be imitated on carpets &  
9 rugs--some old withered stems of last year  
10 still stand.

11 On dry open hill sides & fields the spiranthes  
12 gracilis is very common of late--rising tall  
13 & slender--with its spiral of white flowers  
14 like a screw thread at top. Some times 15  
15 inches high--

16 There are close by the former--the peculiar  
17 of irregular form & dark spotted  
18 //large dark blue (indigo?)^ clintonia berries  
19 in umbels of 4 or 5--on very brittle stems  
20 & on erectish stemlets  
21 which break with a snap-- or pedicels

22 // See no fringed gentian yet--

23 // Veronica serpyllifolia again by Brister's spring--

24 // Krigia yesterday at Lee's Cliff--ap again--

25 though it may be uninterruptedly. {Tobaco} pipe  
26 //  
27 still-- The rhexia greets me in bright  
28 patches on meadow banks.

29 Ludwigia alternifolia still ~~out~~ It is abundant  
30 in Cardinal ditch 20 rods from road.

31 // Bidens frondosa how long?

32 // H. Canadense & Mytilum--now pretty generally open  
33 at 4 Pm--thus late in the season--it being  
34 more moist & cooler

35 flower  
36 // Ap-- the true S. puberula X (I find one ^open

1 next day--but with about 20! rays--S at marlboro  
2 V. it in press  
3 road quite past--^) not yet here-- very strict--with  
4 the aspect of an erect nemorialis--but racemes not  
5 rigidly erect  
6 recurved--stem finely hoary^ & long loose linear calyx  
7 scales. I seem to have seen this on Marlboro road Sep 1st  
8 also appears to be no 4 of sep 4th 53 & mentioned sep. 11 '53  
9 '53^--(V also sep 2d 4th--& 11th '53)--also a single  
10 mile-  
11 plant the next day just beyond {ring} post up RR. The first  
12 mid.-  
13 which was by Cardinal ditch 15 rods from {division} fence  
14 had a dull red or purple stem--one at Marlboro road  
15 --distinguished by its linear loose calyx scales  
16 a greenish one.

17 The cardinals in the ditch make a splendid show

18 now though they would have been much fresher & finer //

19 a week ago--they nearly fill the ditch for 35 rods  
20 about 3 feet high  
21 perfectly straight.^ I count at random 10 in one

22 square foot--and as they are 2 feet wide by 35 rods  
23 & may be more  
24 there are 4 or 5 000 at least--^482 They look like

25 slender plumes of soldiers advancing--in a dense  
26 troop  
27 crowd--& a few white (or rather pale pink)

28 ones are mingled with the scarlet. That

29 is the most splendid show of cardinal flowers I  
30 ever saw. They are mostly gone to seed--i.e. the  
31 greater part of the spike.

32 Mimulus there still common-- //

33 Near the clintonia berries I found the Polygonatum  
34 pubescens berries on its handsome leafy stem recurved<sup>483</sup>  
35 //

36 over the hill side. Generally 2 ~~dark~~ slaty blue  
37 (but dark green beneath the bloom) berries on an axillary  
38 peduncle ~~longer~~ 3/4 of an inch long hanging  
39 straight down--8 or 9 such peduncles--dividing

---

<sup>482</sup>caret written under dash

<sup>483</sup>"recurved" inserted



1 abundant this year-- The branches droop with  
2 cherries. Those on some trees are very superior  
3 to others. The bushes are weighed down with choke-  
4 berries which no creature appears to gather. This crop  
5 is as abundant as the huckleberries have been  
6 They have a sweet & pleasant taste enough{--}but  
7 leave a mass of dry pulp in the mouth. But it  
8 is worth the while to see their profusion--if only to  
9 know what nature can do.

10 Huckle berries are about given up--low //  
11 blueberries more or less shrivelled-- Low black-  
12 berries done. High blackberries still to be had--  
13 Vib nudum berries are beginning--I already see //  
14 {a}--few shrivelled purple ones amid the light green--  
15 -- Poke berries also begun. A gold finch twitters  
16 away from every thistle now, & soon returns to it  
17 when I am past. I see the ground strewn with  
18 the thistle down they have scattered on every side.

19 At Tarbells andromeda swamp-- A prob.  
20 Bidens connata--or small chrysanthemoides X //  
21 of June 10th  
22 I open the Paint-tortoise nest--^& find //  
23 a young turtle partly out of his shell<sup>485</sup>. He is  
24 uniform  
25 roundish & the sternum clear ^pink. The marks  
26 on the sides are pink. The upper shell is  
27 15/16 inch+ by 13/16- He is already wonderfully  
28 strong & precocious. Though those eyes  
29 never saw the light before--he watches me  
30 very warily even at a distance. With what vigor  
31 he crawls out of the hole I have made

---

<sup>485</sup>"shell" T put a t-cross over "h"

1 over opposing weeds-- He struggles in my  
2 fingers with great strength. has none of  
3 the tenderness of infancy. His whole snout is  
4 convex & curved like a beak. Having attained  
5 the surface he pauses & warily watches me--  
6 In the mean while another has put his  
7 head out of his shell--but I bury the latter  
8 up & leave them.

9 Mean while a striped squirrel sits on the  
10 wall across the road--under a pine eyeing  
11 me--with his cheek pouches stuffed with  
12 nuts & puffed out ludicrously--as if he had  
13 the mumps--while the wall is strewn with  
14 //the dry brown husks of hazel nuts he has stripped.  
15 A bird perhaps a thrasher in the pine close  
16 above him is hopping restlessly & scolding at  
17 him.-- June--July--& August--the  
18 tortoise eggs are hatching--a few inches  
19 beneath the surface in sandy fields-- You<sup>486</sup>  
20 tell of active labors--of works of art--& wars  
21 the past summer-- Meanwhile the tortoise  
22 What<sup>487</sup> events have transpired on the lit & airy surface 3 inches above them!  
23 eggs underlie this turmoil--^ Think what  
24 Sumner<sup>488</sup> knocked down--Kansas living an age of suspense  
25 is a summer to them-- How many worthy men  
26 have died & had their funeral sermons  
27 preached--since I saw the mother turtle  
28 burry her eggs here. They contained an undeveloped  
29 liquid then, they are now turtles. June July  
30 & August--the live long summer--what  
31 are they with their heats & fevers--but

---

<sup>486</sup>Stray mark or cancelled interlineation above "You"

<sup>487</sup>"W" written over "w"

<sup>488</sup>"Sumner" prob. Edwin Vose Sumner

1 sufficient to hatch a tortoise in. Be not in  
2 haste--mind your private affairs. ~~A whole~~  
3 Consider the turtle. A whole summer--June July  
4 & August--are not too good nor too much  
5 to hatch a turtle in. Perchance you have worried  
6 yourself--despaired of the world--meditated the  
7 end of life--& all things seemed rushing to destruction  
8 & serenely  
9 -- But nature has steadily ^advanced with a turtle's  
10 pace-- The young turtle spends its infancy within its  
11 shell--it gets experience & learns the ways of the  
12 world through that wall. While it rests warily on  
13 the edge of its hole rash schemes are undertaken%<sup>by men</sup>% & fail.  
14  
15 Has not the tortoise also learned the true value  
16 of time. You go to India & back & the  
17 turtle eggs%<sup>in your field</sup>% are still unhatched. French empires  
18 rise or fall--but the turtle is developed  
19 only so fast. What's a summer? time for  
20 {Not} so is the turtle developed--fitted to endure--for he outlives 20 French  
21 a turtle's eggs to hatch. They have seen no berries  
22 dynasties. %One Turtle knows several Napoleans--%  
23 had no cares-- Yet has not the great world  
24 existed for them as much as for you?  
25  
26 Euphorbia hypericifolia how long? It has  
27 pretty little white & also rose-colored petals or  
28 as they are now called involucre. Stands 6 inches  
29 high--regularly curving {drawing} with large leaves prettily  
30 {aranged} at an angle with both a horizontal &  
31 perpendicular line-- ~~That S. speciosa at~~ //  
32 ~~Clam shell a long time.~~ See the great  
33 oval masses of scarlet berries of the arum //  
34 now--in the meadows-- Trillium fruit long time //

1           The river being thus high--for 10  
2 //days or more I have seen little parcels  
3     of shells left by the muskrats-- So they eat  
4 //them thus early. Peppermint how long?  
5     may be earlier than I have thought--for the  
6     mowers<sup>489</sup> clip it.

7           The bright china colored blue berries of the  
8 //C. sericea begin to show themselves along the  
9     river--amid their red-brown leaves. The Kinni-  
10    kinnic of the Indians.

11                    Aug 29th '56

12 //        Heavy rain in the night--& this forenoon--  
13        Pm to J. Farmers--by river--

14 //        The Helianthus Decapetala ap. a var--with  
15        8 petals about 3 feet high leaves petioled  
16        --but not wing petioled--{drawing} broader leaved  
17                                with a tapering point  
18        than that of Aug 12 quite ovate^--with ciliate  
19        petioles--thin but quite rough beneath & above--  
20        stem purple & smoothish. Hosmers bank opposite  
21        azalea swamp-- Fragrant everlasting  
22 //  
23        in prime & very abundant whitening Carter's  
24 //pasture. Rib-wort still--an ap white  
25 //  
26        vervain with bluish flowers--as blue as bluets even--  
27        or more so--road side beyond Farmer's barn.

28                    Aug 30

29 //        Rain<sup>490</sup> again in the night as well  
30        as most of yesterday--raising the  
31        river a 2d<sup>491</sup> time. They say there has not  
32        been such a year as this for more

---

<sup>489</sup>"mowers" poss. "mowers' "

<sup>490</sup>"R" poss. written over "r"

<sup>491</sup>"2" poss. written over "3"

1 than half a century--for winter-cold--  
2 summer heat--& rain.

3 Pm to Vac. Oxycoccus Swamp.  
4 Fair weather--clear & rather cool--  
5 Pratt shows me at his shop a bottle filled  
6 with alcohol<sup>492</sup> & camphor-- The alcohol<sup>493</sup> is  
7 clear & the camphor beautifully crystallized  
8 at the bottom for nearly an inch in depth  
9 in the form of small feathers{--}like a hoar ^frost.  
10  
11 He has read that this is as good a ba-  
12 rometer as any. It stands quite still, &  
13 has not been unstopped for a year-- Yet  
14 some days--the alcohol will be quite  
15 clear--& even no camphor will be seen--  
16 & again it will be quite full of fine  
17 feathery particles--or it will be partly  
18 clear, as today.

19 Bidens connata abundant at Moore's swamp //  
20 how long? The aspect of some of what I have  
21 called the swamp Solidago stricta there--at present ?  
22 makes me doubt if it be not more than a var.  
23 the leaves are so broad smooth (i.e. uncurled or wrinkled)  
24 & thick--and some cauline ones so large almost  
25 speciosa like--to say nothing of size of rays--

26 The A. puniceus is hardly yet in prime-- //  
27 its great umbel-shaped tops not yet fully  
28 out. Its leaves are pretty generally whitened  
29 with mildew{--}& unsightly--even the chelone  
30 where prostrate has put forth roots from  
31 its stem near the top--

---

<sup>492</sup>"alcohol" altered from "alcohol"  
<sup>493</sup>"alcohol" altered from "alcohol"

1 // The sarothra is now apparently in prime  
2 on the great fields--& comes near being  
3 open now at 3 Pm. Bruised<sup>494</sup> it has the  
4 fragrance of sorrel &<sup>495</sup> lemon--rather pungent  
5 ? or stinging like a bee-- H. corymbosum lingers  
6 still with perforatum  
7 I have come out this Pm a cranberrying  
8 chiefly to gather some of the small cran-  
9 berry--vac. oxycoccus--~~the~~ which Emerson  
10 says is the common cranberry of the N of  
11 Europe. This was a small object yet not to  
12 be postponed--on account of imminent frosts--  
13 i.e. if I would know this year the flavor  
14 of the European cranberry as compared  
15 with our larger kind. I thought I should  
16 I should like to have a dish of this sauce  
17 of my own gathering  
18 on the table at Thanks giving^. I could  
19 hardly make up my mind to come this  
20 way it seemed so poor an object to spend  
21 the afternoon on. I kept forseeing a  
22 lame conclusion--how I should cross the  
23 Great Fields--look into Beck Stows &  
24 then retrace my steps no richer than before--  
25 In fact, I expected little of this walk--yet  
26 it did pass through the side of my  
27 mind that some how on this very account--  
28 (my small expectation) it would turn out  
29 well--as also the advantage of having  
30 some purpose however small to be  
31 %of%  
32 accomplished.--to<sup>496</sup> let<sup>497</sup> your deliberate

---

<sup>494</sup>"B" written over "b"

<sup>495</sup>"&" preceded by cancelled false start

<sup>496</sup>"to" cancelled in pencil

<sup>497</sup>"let" corrected to "letting" in pencil

1 wisdom & foresight in the house to some  
2 & control  
3 extent direct ^your steps. If you would really  
4 take a position outside the street & daily life  
5 of men--you must have deliberately planned  
6 your course--you must have business which  
7 is not your neighbors business--which  
8 they cannot understand. For only absorbing  
9 employment--prevails--succeeds--takes up  
10 space--occupies territory--determines the  
11 drives Kansas out of your head--& actually  
12 future of individuals & states.^ The attitude  
13 & permanently occupies the only desirable & free Kansas against all  
14 of resistance is one of weakness in as much  
15 border ruffians--  
16 as it only faces an enemy. It has its back  
17 to all that is truly attractive. You shall  
18 have your affairs, I will have mine.  
19 You will spend this Pm in setting up  
20 your neighbor's stove--& be paid for it--  
21 I will spend it in gathering the few  
22 berries of the Vac. oxycoccus which Nature  
23 produces here, before it is too late, and  
24 %after another fashion%  
25 be paid for it also--%^% I have always  
26 reaped unexpected & incalculable ad-  
27 vantage from carrying out at last  
28 however tardily any little enterprise which  
29 my genius suggested to me long ago as a  
30 thing to be done.-- some step to be taken  
31 however slight out of the usual course.  
32 How many schools I have thought of which  
33 I might go to<sup>498</sup> but did not go to! expecting  
34 or  
35 foolishly that some greater advantage (schooling)  
36 would come to me--!<sup>499</sup> It is these compara-

---

<sup>498</sup>"to" followed by bleedthrough or stray mark  
<sup>499</sup>exclamation mark written over dash



1 account in travelling in having prepared  
2 before hand a list of questions which I would  
3 get answered--not trusting to my interest at  
4 the moment--and can then travel with  
5 the most profit. Indeed, it is by obeying  
6 the suggestions of a higher light within you--  
7 that you escape from yourself--& in the  
8 transit--as it were see with the unworn  
9 sides of your eye--travel totally new paths.  
10 What is that pretended life that does not  
11 take up<sup>502</sup> a claim--that does not occupy  
12 ground--that cannot build a causeway to its  
13 objects? That sits on a bank looking over  
14 a bog--singing its desires?

15         However, it was not with such blasting  
16 expectations as these that I entered the  
17 swamp. I saw bags of cranberries just  
18 gathered & tied up--on the banks of Beck-  
19 Stow's swamp-- They must have been raked  
20 out of the water--now so high--before  
21 they should rot. I left my shoes & stockings  
22 on the bank far off--& waded bare  
23 legged through rigid andromeda & other  
24 bushes a long way to the soft open sphagneous  
25 ~~part~~ center of the swamp.

26         I found these cunning little cranberries  
27 lying high & dry on the firm uneven tops  
28         its weak vine considerably on one side  
29 of the sphagnum--^sparsely scattered about  
30                 drier<sup>503</sup>  
31 the ^edges of the <sup>△</sup><sup>504</sup> swamp--or sometimes

//

---

<sup>502</sup>"up" pos. cancelled

<sup>503</sup>"drier" connected with a line to caret preceding "edges"

<sup>504</sup>caret cancelled

1 more thickly occupying some little valley  
2 a foot or 2 over  
3 ^between two mts of sphagnum. They were  
4 of 2 varieties judging from the fruit.  
5 The one, ap the ripest, colored most  
6 like the common cranberry--but more scarlet--  
7 i.e. yellowish green blotched or checked with  
8 dark scarlet red--commonly pear shaped  
9 also pear shaped or more bulged out in the middle  
10 --the other ^thickly & finely dark spotted  
11 or peppered on yellowish green or straw colored  
12 almost exactly ~~just~~ like the smilacina & convallaria berries now, except that they  
13 are a little larger & not so spherical  
14 or pearly  
15 ground, ^--~~sometimes~~ with a tinge of purple--  
16 A singular difference often the whole of the long (1 1/2 inch or more) peduncle  
17 ^They both lay very snug in the moss^--their buried  
18 vines very inobvious--projecting only 1 to 3 inches  
19 so that it was not easy to tell what vine  
20 they belonged to--& you were obliged<sup>505</sup> to open  
21 the moss carefully with your fingers to ascer-  
22 tain it--while the common large cranberry  
23 there--with its stiff erect vine was  
24 commonly lifted above the sphagnum.  
25 The grayish speckled variety was particularly  
26 novel & pretty--though not easy to detect.  
27 It lay here & there snugly sunk in the  
28 sphagnum whose drier parts it exactly re-  
29 just  
30 sembled in color--like some kind of swamp-  
31 sparrows eggs in their nest. I was obliged  
32 with my finger carefully to trace the slender  
33 pedicel through the moss to its vine  
34 --when I would pluck the whole together.  
35 --like jewels worn on--or set in--these  
36 sphaganeous breasts of the swamp--

---

<sup>505</sup>"obliged" poss. written over "to"

1 Swamp pearls call them--one or 2 to  
2 a vine and on an average 3/8 of an inch  
3 in diameter. They are<sup>506</sup> so remote  
4 from their vines on their long thread like pe-  
5 duncles--that they remind you the more for-  
6 cibly of eggs--& in May--I might mistake  
7 them for such. These plants are almost  
8 parasitic resting wholly on the sphagnum  
9 --in water instead of air. The sphagnum is a  
10 living soil for it. It rests on & amid this  
11 on an acre of sponges-- They are evidently  
12 a few  
13 earlier than the common--~~some~~ are quite soft  
14 & red-purple. I waded quite round the  
15 swamp--for an hour--my bare feet in  
16 the cold water beneath--& it was a relief  
17 to place them on the warmer surface of  
18 the sphagnum. I filled one pocket with  
19 each variety but sometimes being confused  
20 crossed hands & put them into the wrong pocket--  
21 I enjoyed this cranberrying very much--  
22 notwithstanding the wet & cold--&  
23 the swamp seemed to be yielding its crop  
24 to me alone--for there are none else to  
25 pluck it--or to value it. I told the  
26 proprietor once that they grew here, but  
27 he learning that they were not abundant  
28 enough to be gathered for the market  
29 has prob. never thought of them since--  
30 I am the only person in the township who

---

<sup>506</sup>"are" followed by blot

1 regards them or knows of them--& I do{--}  
2 not regard them in the light of their  
3 pecuniary value. I have no doubt I felt  
4 richer wading there with my two pockets full  
5 --treading on wonders at every step--than  
6 any farmer going to market with a hundred  
7 bushels which he has raked<sup>507</sup>--or hired to be  
8 raked,-- I got further & further away from  
9 the town every moment--& my good genius  
10 seem have smiled on me--leading me  
11 hither--& then the sun suddenly came  
12 out clear & bright, but it did not  
13 warm my feet. I ~~do not know~~ would  
14 gladly share my gains--take one or 21 into  
15 partnership--& get this swamp with them--  
16 but I do not know an individual whom  
17 this berry cheers & nourishes as it does me--  
18 when I exhibit it to them--I perceive that  
19 they take but a momentary interest in it--  
20 & commonly dismiss it from their thoughts  
21 with the consideration that it cannot  
22 %you could not get {a pint at) one haul of a rake--& {slocum would not}%  
23 be profitably cultivated. But I love it  
24 %give you much for them%  
25 the better partly for that reason even.  
26 I fill a basket with them & keep it several  
27 days by my side. If anybody else--~~shoul~~  
28 any farmer at least--should spend an  
29 in this secluded swamp  
30 hour thus wading about here ^bare  
31 legged intent on the sphagnum--  
32 filling his pocket only--with no

---

<sup>507</sup>"raked" corrected from "rac"

1 rake in his hand--& no bag or bushel on  
2 the bank--he would be pronounced insane  
3 %but if he'll spend his time skimming & {watering} his milk & selling his small%  
4 %potatoes for%  
5 %large ones or generally in skinning flints he will probably be%  
6 & have a guardian put over him--%^% I have  
7 %made guardian of some body else--%^508  
8 not garnered any rye or oats--but I  
  
9 gathered the wild rice of the assabet--  
10 %V 4 ps forward%  
11 As I waded there I came across an ant-  
12 like heap--& breaking it open with my hand found  
13 it to my surprise to be an ant hill in the //  
14 sphagnum full of ants with their young or ova--  
15 It consisted of particles of sphagnum like saw-  
16 dust--was a foot & a half in diameter  
17 & my feet sunk to water all around it--!!  
18 The ants were small & of a uniform pale  
19 sorrel color--  
20 I noticed also a few small peculiar looking  
21 huckle berries {~~swing~~} hanging on bushes amid  
22 the sphagnum--& tasting perceived that  
23 they were hispid--a new kind to me--  
24 Gaylussacia<sup>509</sup> Dumosa var hirtella--(perhaps //  
25 just after resinosa--) though Gray refers  
26 it to a "sandy low soil"--& says nothing  
27 of the hispid fruit. It grows from 1 to 2  
28 are not others & mucronata  
29 feet high--the leaves minutely resinous dotted ^510  
30 the racemes long with leaf-like bracts now  
31 turned conspicuously red. Here a small  
32 black hairy or hispid berry--shining  
33 but insipid--& inedible with a tough  
34 prominent  
35 has very conspicuous calyx lobes  
36 hairy skin left in the mouth. ^511  
37 I seemed to have reached a new world--so  
38

---

<sup>508</sup>interlineation checked against 1906 edition

<sup>509</sup>"Gaylussacia" written over cancelled "Pr" and inserted

<sup>510</sup>line from caret to "are not others"

<sup>511</sup>line from caret toward "has . . . lobes"

1 wild a place that the very huckleberries  
2 I feel as if I were in Ruperts<sup>512</sup> Land--and a slight cool  
3 grew hairy--& were inedible^ Whats the  
4 but agreeable shudder comes over me as if equally far away from human society.  
5 need of visiting far off mts & bogs if  
6 a half hour's walk will carry me into  
7 such wildness & novelty? But why should  
8 not as wild plants grow here as in berk-  
9 shire--as in Labrador. Is nature so  
10 easily tamed? Is she not as primitive &  
11 vigorous here as anywhere? How does this  
12 particular acre of secluded--unfrequented  
13 useless(?) quaking bog differ from an acre  
14 in Labrador. Has any white man ever settled  
15 on it? Does any now frequent it?  
16 Not even the Indian comes here now.  
17 I see that there are some square rods  
18 within 20 miles of Boston just as  
19 wild & primitive & unfrequented--as a  
20 square rod in Labrador--as unaltered  
21 by man. Here grows the hairy huckle-  
22 Squaw Sachem's  
23 berry as it did<sup>513</sup> in Tahatawan's day & a  
24 thousand years before--& concerns me  
25 perchance more than it did her. I have no  
26 doubt that for a moment I experience  
27 exactly the same sensations as if I were  
28 alone in a bog in Rupert's Land. & it  
29 saves me the trouble of going there.  
30 --for what in any case makes the difference  
31 between being here & being there--but many  
32 such little differences of flavor & roughness  
33 put together?-- Rupert's land is recognized

---

<sup>512</sup>"Ruperts" pos. stray mark over "r"

<sup>513</sup>"did" poss. inserted

1 as much by one sense as another. I felt a shock  
2 a thrill--an agreeable surprise in one instant  
3 --for no doubt all the possible inferences were  
4 at once drawn, with a rush, in my mind. I could  
5 be in Rupert's<sup>514</sup> Land & ~~taking~~ supping at home  
6 within the hour! This beat the railroad--  
7 I recovered from my surprised<sup>515</sup> without danger  
8 to my sanity--& permanently annexed Rupert's  
9 Land-- That wild hairy huckleberry--inedible  
10 as it was--was equal to a domain secured  
11 to me & reaching to the south sea. That  
12 was an unexpected harvest-- I hope you  
13 have gathered as much, Neighbor<sup>516</sup>, from your  
14 corn & potato fields-- I have got in  
15 my huckleberries-- I shall be ready for  
16 Thanksgiving. It is in vain to dream of a  
17 wildness distant from ourselves-- There is none  
18 such. It is the bog in our brain & bowels--  
19 the primitive vigor of Nature in us that  
20 inspires that dream. I shall never find in the  
21 wilds of Labrador any greater wildness, than  
22 in some recess in Concord, i.e. than I  
23 import into it. A little more manhood  
24 or virtue will make the surface of the  
25 globe anywhere thrillingly novel & wild.  
26 -- That alone will provide & pay the fiddler.  
27 --it will convert the district road into an  
28 untrodden cranberry bog--for it restores all things  
29 to their original primitive flourishing & promising  
30 state--

---

<sup>514</sup>"R" written over "r"

<sup>515</sup>cancelled "d"

<sup>516</sup>"N" written over "n"

1                                   in the North  
2 //        A cold white horizon sky^--fore-  
3 runner of the fall of the year-- I go--  
4 to bed & dream of cranberry-pickers far  
5 in the cold north--with windows partly closed  
6 --with continent concentrated thoughts-- I  
7 dream-- I get my new experiences still--  
8 not at the opera--listening to the  
9 swedish nightingale--but at beck stow's  
10 Swamp--listening to the native wood-thrush.  
11        Wading ~~at~~ in the cold swamp braces  
12 me. I<sup>517</sup> was invigorated though I tasted  
13 not a berry. The frost will soon come  
14 & smite them on the surface of the sphag-  
15 num.  
16        Consider how remote & novel that swamp--  
17 beneath it is a quaking bed of sphag-  
18 num--& in it grow--Andromeda polifolia  
19 Kalmia glauca--Menyanthes (or buck-  
20 bean)-- ~~Va~~ Gaylussacia Dumosa--  
21 --Vaccinium Oxycoccus--plants which  
22 scarcely a citizen of Concord ever sees.  
23 It would be as novel to them to stand  
24 there as in a conservatory--or in Greenland.  
25        Better is it to go a cranberrying than  
26 to go a-huckleberrying-- For that is cold  
27 & bracing leading your thoughts beyond  
28 the earth--& you do not surfeit on  
29 crude or terrene berries. It feeds your  
30 spirit--now in the season of white

---

<sup>517</sup>"I" poss written over "&"

1     twilights<sup>518</sup>--when frosts are apprehended--  
2     when edible berries are mostly gone.  
3             Those small gray sparrow-egg cranberries  
4     lay so prettily in the recesses of the sphagnum--I  
5     could wade for hours in the cold water gazing  
6     at them--with a swarm of mosquitoes hovering  
7     about my bare legs;--but at each step the  
8     friendly sphagnum in which I sank protected  
9     my legs like a buckler--not a crevice by  
10    which my foes could enter.  
11            I see that all is not garden & cultivated  
12    field and copse--that there are square rods in  
13    Middlesex County as purely primitive & wild as  
14    they were a thousand years ago--which have  
15    escaped the plow & the axe--& the scythe  
16    & the cranberry rake--little oases of wildness  
17    in the desert of our civilization--wild as  
18    a square rod on the moon supposing it  
19    to be uninhabited. ~~by~~ I believe almost in  
20    the personality of such planetary matter--  
21    feel<sup>519</sup> something akin to reverence for it--  
22    can even worship it as terrene titanic matter  
23    extant in my day. We are so different we  
24    admire each other--we healthily & attract  
25    one another. I love it as a maiden.  
26    These spots are meteoric--aerolitic--  
27    and such matter has in all ages  
28    been worshipped-- Aye, when we are lifted  
29    out of the slime & film of our habitual

---

<sup>518</sup>first "t" uncrossed

<sup>519</sup>"feel" poss. written over "&"

1 life, we see the whole globe to be an  
2 aerolite--& reverence it as such--& make  
3 far off as it is  
4 pilgrimages to it.^ How happens it that we  
5 reverence the stones which fall from another planet--  
6 & not the stones which belong to this-- Another  
7 Are not the stones in Hodge's wall as good as the aerolite at Mecca--is not our broad  
8 globe not this--heaven & not earth?  
9 back-door stone as good as any corner stone in heaven?  
10 It would imply the regeneration of mankind, if  
11 they were to become elevated enough to truly worship  
12 sticks & stones. It is the sentiment of  
13 fear & slavery to habit which make a  
14 heathenish idolatry-- Such idolaters abound  
15 in all countries--& heathen cross the  
16 seas to reform heathen--dead to bury the  
17 dead--& all go down to the pit together.  
18 If I could I would worship the parings  
19 %If%  
20 of my nails.%^% He who makes 2 blades of  
21 grass grow where two grew before is a bene-  
22 factor-- He who discovers two gods where  
23 there was only known the one, & such  
24 a one! before, is a still greater benefactor.  
25 I would fain improve every opportunity to  
26 wonder & worship as a sun-flower wel-  
27 comes the light. The more thrilling wonderful  
28 divine objects I behold in a day, the more  
29 expanded & immortal I become. If a stone  
30 appeals to me & elevates me--{tells} me how  
31 many miles I have come--how many remain  
32 reveals the future to me in some measure  
33 to travel--& the more the better--<sup>520</sup> It<sup>521</sup> is a  
34 matter of private rejoicing-- If it did

---

<sup>520</sup>caret written under dash

<sup>521</sup>"I" written over "i"

1 the same service to all it might well  
2 be a matter of public rejoicing--

3 Sunday Aug 31st

4 Pm to Hubbard Bath Swamp by boat

5 There sits one by the shore who wishes  
6 to go with me--but I cannot think of it.  
7 I must be fancy free-- There is no such  
8 mote in the sky as a man who is not  
9 perfectly transparent to you--who has any  
10 opacity. I would rather attend to him earnestly  
11 for half an hour, on shore or elsewhere,  
12 & then dismiss him. He thinks I could merely  
13 take him into my boat--& then not mind  
14 him. He does not realize that I should  
15 by the same act take him into my mind  
16 where there is no room for him--and my bark  
17 would surely founder in such a voyage as  
18 I was contemplating. I know very well that  
19 I should never reach that expansion of  
20 the river I have in my mind with him aboard  
21 with his broad terrene qualities. He would  
22 sink my bark<sup>%(not to another sea)%<sup>522</sup></sup> & never know it. I could better  
23 carry a heaped load of meadow mud &  
24 sit on the thole pins. There would be more  
25 room for me--& I should reach that ex-  
26 pansion of the river just as soon.

27 I could better {aford} to take him into bed with  
28 me--for then I might perhaps abandon  
29 him in my dreams.-- Ah! you are a  
30

---

<sup>522</sup>interlineation checked against 1906 edition

1 heavy fellow--but I am well disposed--  
2 If you could go without going--then you  
3 might go. There's the Captain's state  
4 room--empty to be sure--& you say you  
5 could go in the steerage-- I know  
6 very well that only your baggage would  
7 be dropped in the steerage--while you  
8 would settle right down into that other  
9 snug recess-- Why I am going not  
10 staying-- I have come on purpose to  
11 sail--to paddle away from such as  
12 you--& you have way-laid me at  
13 the shore-- You have chosen to make  
14 your assault at the moment of em-  
15 barcation. %Why% If I thought you  
16 were steadily gazing after me a mile  
17 off--I could not endure it-- It is  
18 because I trust that I shall ere long  
19 depart from your thoughts & so you  
20 from mine that I am encouraged  
21 %sail at all%  
22 to set out<sup>523</sup>. I make haste to put several  
23 meanders & some hills between us.  
24 This Company<sup>524</sup> is obliged to make a distinction  
25 between dead freight & passengers--  
26 I will take almost any amount of  
27 freight for you cheerfully--anything  
28 my dear Sir but yourself--  
29 <sup>525</sup>What is getting into a man's carriage  
30 %2%  
31 when it is full--compared with

---

<sup>523</sup>"out" cancelled in pencil

<sup>524</sup>"C" written over "c"

<sup>525</sup>pencil in left margin to the bottom of this page and the first three lines of the following page marks sentences for transposition

1 putting your foot in his mouth & popping  
 2 considering  
 3 right into his mind without asking whether  
 4 it is occupied or not. <sup>526</sup>Some are so in-  
 5 considerate as to ask to walk or sail with  
 6 %I have known such%  
 7 %I me regularly every day%^--& think that because  
 8 there will be 6 inches or a foot between  
 9 our bodies he shall not interfere!!  
 10 The good ship sails----when she is ready--  
 11 These things are settled by fate--^ For Freight<sup>527</sup>  
 12 or passage apply to-- -- --?? ask my friend where.  
 13 If I remember aright--it was only on  
 14 condition that you were asked that you  
 15 were to go with a man one mile or twain.  
 16 Suppose a man asks not you to go with him--but to go with you!!  
 17 Often, I would rather undertake to shoulder a  
 18 barrel of pork & carry it a mile--than take  
 19 into my company a man-- It would not  
 20 be so heavy a weight upon my mind.  
 21 -- I could put it down & only feel my back<sup>528</sup>  
 22 ache. %for it--%  
 23 At my bath place Merricks P. a Great- //  
 24 jointed Polygonum--such as described Aug.  
 25 14th--but with faintly rose-tinted flowers & narrow  
 26 leaves.! which makes it ~~still~~ more like a  
 27 pale Persicaria-- The birches on Wheeler's  
 28 meadow have begun to yellow--ap. owing  
 29 to the water. The cornus sericea, with its  
 30 berries just turning--is generally a dull //  
 31 purple now--the first conspicuous change  
 32 methinks along the river--half sunk in water.  
 33 Capt. Hubbard is out inspecting his river  
 34 meadow & his cranberries. Says he never saw the

---

<sup>526</sup>pencil in the left margin for the rest of this paragraph mark it for transposition

<sup>527</sup>"F" poss. written over "f"

<sup>528</sup> "back" pos. underlined in pencil

1 water so high at this season before--  
2 // I am surprised that the river is not more  
3 than 2 inches higher than yesterday--or than  
4 the day before--notwithstanding the last copious  
5 rain; but Hubbard says he has heard that  
6 just  
7 they have--<sup>529</sup>lowered their dam a foot at Billerica  
8 He sees that the water has fallen a little  
9 in his meadow-- It leaves a scum on the  
10 grass & gives it a smell & taste--which  
11 makes the cattle reject it. He gets into  
12 my boat & we obtain some cranberries from  
13 beneath the water. Some of them are softened  
14 & spoiled. H. thinks it depends on the warmth  
15 of the water how much they are ~~killed~~ injured.  
16 This is what calls the farmer out now--to  
17 inspect his cranberries--or his grass. He talks  
18 with his neighbor about it at church.  
19 I am frequently amused when I  
20 come across the proprietor in my  
21 walks--and he asks me if I am not  
22 lost. I commonly approach his territory  
23 by the river or some other back way  
24 & rarely meet with him. The other  
25 day Conant--observed to me-- "Well, you  
26 have to come out once in a while to  
27 take a survey"--<sup>530</sup> He thinks that I  
28 do not visit his neighbor hood more  
29 than once in a year--but I go  
30 there about once a week & formerly  
31 much oftener--perhaps as often as he.

---

<sup>529</sup>--" pos. insertion mark for "just"  
<sup>530</sup>close double quotation mark written above dash or dash written below close double quotation mark

1 H. says he has found coal at the bottom  
2 of his meadow under the mud 3 feet deep.

3 The Vib. nudum berries are now in prime a  
4 handsome rose purple-- I brought home a bunch  
5 of 53 berries all of this color--& the next morning  
6 30 were turned dark purple. In this state  
7 they are soft & just edible--having somewhat  
8 of a cherry flavor--but a large stone.

9 A Painted tortoise shedding its scales--  
10 In the Hub. swamp path are many of //  
11 those ap. {slend} S. altissimas but some  
12 are almost entirely smooth stemmed! with narrow //  
13 leaves. There alone--this season--I see  
14 the S. speciosa not yet out, easily dis- //  
15 tinguished from the Stricta. There too grows  
16 the swamp Stricta.

17 The Hub. aster which I striped<sup>531</sup>--one that I find  
18 is now out of bloom & all withered--killed partly //  
19 though there are others still in bloom about it  
20 by the high water to be sure^--again I cannot  
21 distinguish it--unless in its time of flowering  
22 from the tradescanti--perhaps its stem is a little  
23 smoother--& its leaves a little more obscurely toothed  
24 --linear lanceolate

25 Sept 1st Pm with R. W. E  
26 to Saw Mill & S. odora.

27 He has just had 4 of his fir trees next  
28 his house cut--they shaded his windows so--  
29 They were set out by Coolidge, E. thinks  
30 28 years ago, The largest has 37 annual  
31 rings at the base--& measures at 1 foot from

---

<sup>531</sup>"striped" pos. "stringed"

1 the ground 46 1/2 inches in circumference--  
2 has made on an average about 1/2 an inch  
3 of wood in every direction.

4 There is no Bidens cernua, if that is  
5 it--by the turn-pike. It was apparently  
6 killed by the recent high water.

7 // Solidago latifolia not out quite. We go ad-  
8 miring the pure & delicate tints of fungi  
9 on the surface of the damp swamp  
10 there--following up along the N side of  
11 the brook past the right of the old camp.  
12 There are many very beautiful lemon yellow  
13 ones of various forms--some shaped like  
14 buttons--some becoming finely scalloped ~~or~~  
15 on the edge--some club shaped & hollow--  
16 of the most delicate & rare<sup>532</sup> but decided tints  
17 contrasting well with the decaying leaves--  
18 about them. There are others also pure  
19 white--others a wholesome red--others  
20 brown--& some even a light indigo  
21 blue above & beneath & throughout.

22 When colors come to be taught in the  
23 schools, as they should be, both the prism  
24 ~~& fun~~ or the rainbow--& these fungi  
25 should be used by way of illustration--& if  
26 the pupil does not learn colors, he  
27 may learn fungi, which perhaps is  
28 better. You almost envy the wood frogs  
29 & toads that hop amid such gems--

---

<sup>532</sup>"& rare" inserted

1 --some pure & bright enough for a breast-  
2 pin-- Out of every crevice between the  
3 dead leaves--oozes some vehicle of color--  
4 the unspent wealth of the year--which  
5 nature is now casting forth, as it were only  
6 to empty herself.

7 Cohush berries appear now to be in their prime //  
8 & arum berries--& red-chokeberries--which last //  
9 further up in this swamp with their peculiar  
10 light  
11 glossy ^mahogany<sup>533</sup> red--& squarish form are  
12 a few medeola berries ripe //  
13 really very handsome.^ The very dense clusters  
14 of the smilacina berries--finely purple dotted on  
15 on a pearly ground are very interesting--also the  
16 smaller & similar clusters of the 2 leaved Con-  
17 vallaria. Many of the last & a few of the //  
18 first are already turned red.--clear semilucent  
19 red. They have a pleasant sweetish taste.

20 Cistus flowers well out again--in the //  
21 old Camp-path--now nearly all grown up--  
22 I notice that the birches have sprung up in close  
23 straight rows in the old ruts there.

24 I think it stands about thus with  
25 asters & g. rods now--

26 The early meadow aster is either quite withered or much  
27 the worse for the wear--partly on ac. of the freshet

28 <sup>534</sup>Dip cornifolius not seen of late

29 Dip. Umbellatus Perhaps in prime or aproaching it  
30 but not much seen--  
31 A Patens--ap now in prime--& the most  
32 abundant of the larger asters

---

<sup>533</sup>"light mahogany" cancelled in pencil  
<sup>534</sup>T put the flower data below and on the following page in a two-column format with some space between the two column in nearly all cases] on the left he wrote each flower names on a single line; on the right he sometimes had more than one line of text.



1 are grown & worn & washed smooth at last--  
2 no infantile downiness on them-- This<sup>537</sup> say  
3 ever since Aug 26th--& we have had no  
4 true dog-day weather since the copious rains  
5 began or 3 or 4 weeks. A sheeny light re-  
6 flected from the burnished leaves as so many polished  
7 shields--& a steady creak from the locusts these  
8 days. Frank Harding has caught a dog-- --  
9 day locust which lit on the bottom of my //  
10 boat in which he was sitting & Z'-d there.  
11 When you hear him you have got to the end of  
12 the alphabet & may imagine the &c  
13 a mark somewhat like  
14 It has ^a small writing {~~α~~} w on the<sup>538</sup> top of  
15 its thorax. A few pigeons were seen a fort- //  
16 night ago. I have noticed none in all  
17 walks--but G Minot--whose mind runs  
18 on them so much--but whose age & in-  
19 firmities confine him to his woodshed on the  
20 hill side saw a ~~f~~<sup>539</sup> small flock a fort-  
21 night ago. I rarely pass at any season  
22 of the year but he asks if I have seen  
23 any pigeons. One man's mind running  
24 on Pigeons will sit thus in the midst  
25 of a village--~~whose~~ many of whose inhabi-  
26 tants never see nor dream of a pigeon  
27 except in the pot--and where even  
28 naturalists do not observe--& he looking  
29 out with expectation & faith from  
30 morning till night--will surely see them.  
31

---

<sup>537</sup>"T" poss. written over "t"

<sup>538</sup>"the" written over "its"

<sup>539</sup>"f" cancelled

1           I think we may detect that some  
2 sort of preparation & faint expecta-  
3 tion preceded every discovery we have made.  
4 We blunder into no discovery--but it will  
5 appear that we have prayed & disciplined  
6 ourselves for it. Some years ago I sought  
7 for Ind. Hemp. (A. cannabinum) hereabouts  
8 in vain--& concluded that it did not grow  
9 here-- A month or 2 ago I read again  
10 as many times before that its blossoms were  
11 very small scarcely a third as large as those  
12 of the common species--& for some unac-  
13 countable reason this distinction kept re-  
14 curring<sup>540</sup> to me--& I regarded the size of the  
15 flowers I saw--though I did not believe  
16 that it grew here--& in a day or 2 my eyes  
17 fell on--aye--in 3 different places &  
18 dif. varieties of it. Also a short time  
19 ago I was satisfied that there was  
20 but one kind of sunflower (divaricatus)  
21 indigenous here-- Hearing that one had  
22 found another kind it occurred to me that  
23 I had seen a taller one than usual lately  
24 but not so distinctly did I remember this  
25 as to name it to him--or even fully remember  
26 it myself--(I rather remembered it afterward)  
27 But within that hour my genius conducted  
28 me to where I had seen the tall plants  
29 --& it was the other man's \*<sup>541</sup> new kind.

---

<sup>540</sup>poss. "occurring"

<sup>541</sup>"k" cancelled

1 -- The next day I found a 3d kind miles  
2 from there--& a few days after a 4th<sup>542</sup>  
3 in another direction.

4 I commonly observe that I make my most in-  
5 teresting botanical discoveries when I in a thrilled  
6 & expectant mood perhaps wading in some  
7 remote swamp where I have just found some-  
8 thing {—} novel & feel more than usually  
9 remote from the town. Or some rare plant  
10 which for some reason has occupied a strange-  
11 ly prominent place in my thoughts--for  
12 some time--will present itself-- My expec-  
13 %I am prepared for strange things%  
14 tation ripens to discovery.

15 My father asked John Le Grosse if he  
16 took an interest in politics & did his duty to  
17 his country at this crisis. He said he did--  
18 He went into the wood-shed & read the  
19 newspaper sundays. Such is the dawn of  
20 the literary taste--the first seed of literature  
21 that is planted in the new country. His  
22 grandson may be the author of a Bhag-  
23 vat Geeta.

24 I see bright yellow blossoms on perfectly  
25 crimson hypericum angulosum--in the S. lanceo-  
26 lata path-- By the Ind. Hemp. at //  
27 the stone Bridge am surprised to see the  
28 Salix lucida--a small tree with very //  
29 marked and handsome leaves--on the<sup>543</sup>  
30 sand water's edge at the great eddy.

---

<sup>542</sup>"4th" mark to the right is bleed-through  
<sup>543</sup>marks in the margin are from following pages

1           The branches of an inch in diameter  
2 are smooth & ash colored--maple like--  
3 the recent shoots stout & yellowish green--  
4 very brittle at base. The leaves are the  
5 largest of any willow I have seen--ovate  
6 oblong or ovate lanceolate--with a long ~~long~~  
7 narrow tapering point--(cuspidate)  
8 some  
9 ^on vigorous shoots 2 1/2 by 7 inches wide  
10 in the blade--glandular serrate--with pedi-  
11 rounded  
12 cellate glands at the ^base--thick--smooth--  
13 & glossy above--smooth & green beneath.  
14 glandular toothed  
15 with broad crescent shaped ^stipules at base  
16 of petioles 5/8 to one inch long. Ac to  
17 Emerson "Sir W. J. Hooker says it is one  
18 of the most generally diffused of all the  
19 %North%  
20 willows in British %^%America,"--

21           Capt. Hub. said on Sunday that he had  
22 plowed up an Indian gouge--but how  
23 little an impression that had make on him com-  
24 pared with the rotting of his cranberries--  
25 or the loss of meadow grass. It seemed to  
26 me that it made an inadequate impression  
27 compared with many trivial events. Suppose  
28 he had plowed up 5 dollars!

29           The botanist refers you for wild &  
30 we presume wild plants--further inland  
31 or westward to so many miles from  
32 Boston--as if nature or the Indians had  
33 any such preferences-- Perchance the ocean  
34 seemed wilder to them than the

1 woods--as if there were primarily & essentially  
2 any more wildness in a western acre than  
3 an eastern one.

4         The *S. lucida* makes about the 11th willow  
5 that I have distinguished-- When I find  
6 a new & rare plant in Concord--I seem  
7 to think it has but just sprung up here--  
8 that it is, & not I am the new comer--  
9 while it has grown here for ages before  
10 I was born. It transports me in imagination  
11 to the Saskatchewan-- It grows alike on  
12 the bank of the Concord &<sup>544</sup> of the Macken-  
13 zie River--proving them<sup>545</sup> a kindred soil--  
14 I see their broad & glossy leaves reflecting  
15 the Autumn light this moment all along  
16 those rivers-- Through this leaf I com-  
17 municate with the Indians who roam  
18 the boundless N. W. It tastes the same  
19 nutriment in sand of the Assabet--&  
20 its water--as in that of the Saskatchewan  
21 & Jasper Lake--suggesting that a short  
22 time ago the<sup>546</sup> shores of this river were  
23 as wild as the shores of those.--  
24 We are dwelling amid these wild plants--  
25 still--we are eating the huckleberries--  
26 which lately only the Indian ate & dried.  
27 --we are raising & eating his wild & nutritive  
28 maize--& if we have imported wheat,  
29 it is but our wild rice which we  
30 annually gather with grateful awe

---

<sup>544</sup>"&" possibly "&c"

<sup>545</sup>"them" possibly "there"

<sup>546</sup>"the" possibly altered from "this"

1 like Chippewas<sup>547</sup>-- Potatoes are our ground  
2 nuts.  
3 // Spiranthes Cernua ap some days at least  
4 though no yet generally--a cool late flower  
5 growing with fringed gentian.  
6 // I cannot yet even find the leaves of the  
7 latter--at the house leek brook. I had  
8 come to the Assabett--but could not  
9 wade the river it was so deep & swift  
10 --the very meadow--poke logan was  
11 1/4 of a mile long & as deep as the river  
12 before--so I had come round over the  
13 bridge. In Paint Cup meadow  
14 the ferns are yellowing--imbrowned  
15 //  
16 & crisped as if touched by frost(?)--yet  
17 it may be owing to the rains. It is evi-  
18 dent that at this season excessive rain  
19 will ripen & kill the leaves as much as  
20 a drought does earlier. I think our  
21 strawberries recently set out have died  
22 partly in consequence-- Perhaps they need some  
23 dryness as well as warmth at this season.  
24 So trees by water change earliest--sassafrasses at  
25 Plainly dog-days & rain have had the  
26 Cardinal shore e.g. while those on hill are not turned red at all  
27 most to do as yet with the changing  
28 & falling of the leaves. These ferns  
29 I see with here & there a single maple  
30 bough turned scarlet-- This quite rare.  
31 Some of the small early blue berry bushes  
32 // a clear  
33 are ^red (V. Penn.) & the lingering ~~blue~~-  
34 clusters of blue berries contrast strangely

---

<sup>547</sup>"C" poss. written over "c"

1 with the red leaves of the V. vacillans-- Smooth- //  
2 sumacs<sup>548</sup> show quite red on dry warm hill  
3 sides  
4 In a pile of stones by the hickory wall op  
5 the Jesse Hosmer farm--about 5 or 6 rods //  
6 ~~from~~ on 3d mile from road--a rose not a sweet-  
7 briar--perhaps a var of Lucida--with large  
8 pear shaped hips--a little convex in the slope  
9 {drawing}--crowned with large persistent Calyx lobes  
10 --these, the fruit & peduncles glandular  
11 bristly--2 to 3 flowers together-- Leaves glossy  
12 large tooth<sup>549</sup> smooth both sides--with very wide  
13 (1/2 inch) stipules--& very large persistent prickles  
14 only now to the stem.  
15 While I am plucking the almost spicy blue-  
16 berries amid the crimson leaves there--on the springy  
17 slope--the cows gather toward the outlet of  
18 their pastures--& low for the herdsman--  
19 reminding me that the day is drawing to  
20 a close  
21 Centaurea will ap. be entirely done in a week //  
22 How deceptive these maps of western  
23 rivers--Me thought they were scattered ac to the  
24 fancy of the map maker--were dry channels  
25 at best--but it turns out that the Missouri  
26 at Nebraska City is 3 times as wide as the  
27 Mississippi at Burlington--& Grass hopper  
28 Creek perhaps will turn out to be as big  
29 as the Thames or Hudson.

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<sup>548</sup>final s written over "h"  
<sup>549</sup>first "t" uncrossed



1 Royal Society did not make one of them--  
2 --& knows no more about them than you--!<sup>552</sup>  
3 --all truly {indigenous} & wild on this earth. I  
4 know of no mark that betrays an introduced  
5 plant. as none but the gardener can tell what  
6 flower has strayed from its parterre.--but where  
7 the seed will germinate--& the plant spring &  
8 grow--there it is at home.

9 Weeds are uncultivated herbaceous plants--  
10 which do not bear handsome flowers.

11 -- Polygala sanguinea is now as abundant //  
12 at least as at any time--& perhaps more con-  
13 spicuous in the meadows where I look for  
14 fringed gentian.

15 Gathered 4 or 5 quarts of vib. nudum //  
16 berries--now in their prime--attracted more  
17 by the beauty of the cymes than the flavor  
18 of the fruit-- The berries which are of various  
19 sizes & ~~&~~  
20 ^forms--elliptical--oblong--or globular--  
21 are in different stages of maturity on the  
22 same cyme & so of different colors--green  
23 or white--rose colored--and dark  
24 %or black%  
25 purple%^%--i.e. 3 or 4 very distinct & marked  
26 colors side by side-- If gathered when rose  
27 colored they soon turn dark ~~blue~~ purple  
28 & are soft & edible--though before  
29 bitter-- They add a new & variegated wild-  
30 ness to the swampy sproutlands-- Remarkable  
31 for passing through so many stages of color

---

<sup>552</sup>exclamation point written over dash

1 before they arrive at maturity.-- A singular  
2 & pleasing contrast also to the different  
3 kinds of viburnum & cornel berries present  
4 when compared with each other. The white  
5 berries of the Panicked cornel soon & ~~pre~~ ap. pre-  
6 maturely dropping from its pretty fingers are very  
7 bitter--so also are those of the C. sericea

8 One carrion-flower berry is turning blue  
9 //  
10 in its dense spherical cluster-- Cast-steel  
11 //  
12 soap galls are crowding the more legitimate acorn  
13 on the shrub-oak.

14 Sep. 4th

15 Pm to Miles Swamp Conantum

16 What are those small yellow birds  
17 //  
18 with 2 white bars on wings--about the oak  
19 //at Hubbard's Grove?-- Aralia racemosa  
20 berries just ripe--at tall helianthus by {bars} beyond

21 Wm Wheelers--not edible. Ind. hemp out  
22 //  
23 //of bloom. Butterflies in road a day or

24 //2. The crackling flight of grasshoppers  
25 also  
26 The<sup>553</sup> grass ^is all alive with them & they  
27 trouble me, by getting into my shoes which  
28 are loose--& obliging me to empty them occa-  
29 sionally. Measured an archangelica  
30 stem<sup>554</sup> (now of course dry) In<sup>555</sup> Cor. spring  
31 swamp 8 ft 8 inches high & 7 1/4 inch circum-  
32 ference at ground. It is a somewhat zigzag  
33 stem with few joints & a broad umbelliferous  
34 top--so that it makes a great show.

---

<sup>553</sup>"The" written over "even" or "on"

<sup>554</sup>"stem" illegible final letter cancelled

<sup>555</sup>"In" poss. written over "in"

1 One of those plants that have their  
2 fall early. There are many splendid  
3 & last 10 days more at least  
4 scarlet arum berries there now in prime^-- //

5 forming a dense ovate head on a short peduncle  
6 the ~~sep~~ individual berries of various sizes--between  
7 pear & mitre & club form flattened against  
8 each other on a singular (now purple & white)  
9 core, which is hollow. What rank & venomous  
10 luxuriance in this swamp sproutland!

11 Viola pedatas again. I see where //  
12 squirrels have eaten green sweet viburnum berries  
13 on the wall together with hazel nuts. The  
14 former gathered red turn dark purple & shrivelled  
15 like raisins in the house & are edible--but chiefly  
16 seed. The fever bush is conspicuously flower  
17 budded. Even its spicy leaves have been cut by  
18 the tailor bee--circular pieces taken out-- He was  
19 perhaps attracted by its smoothness & soundness.

20 Large puff balls some time.<sup>556</sup> //

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<sup>556</sup>Lower one-third page left blank

1                               Friday Sep 5th  
2                    To Brattleboro Vt  
3   Will not the prime of Golden-rods & Asters  
4   be just before the 1st severe frosts?  
5   As I ride along in the cars I think  
6   that the ferns &c are browned & crisped  
7   more than usual at this season, on  
8   account of the very wet weather.  
9                    Found on reaching Fitchburg that  
10   there was an interval of 3 1/2 hours  
11   between this & the Brattleboro train--&  
12   so walked on on the track with shouldered  
13   valise. Had observed that the Nashua  
14   river in Shirley<sup>557</sup> was about 1 mile west of  
15   Groton Junction--if I should ever want  
16   to walk there. Observed by RR in  
17   Fitchburg--low slippery elm shrubs with  
18   great rough one sided leaves  
19   //            Solidago lanceolata--past prime a good deal  
20   //Aster puniceus in prime. About 1 mile  
21   from W. Fitchburg Depot westward I saw  
22   the Panicled elder berries on the RR--  
23   //but just beginning to redden--though it  
24   us said to ripen long before this. As I  
25   was walking through Westminster I  
26   remembered that G. B. Emerson says  
27   that he saw a handsome clump of  
28                    on an island  
29   the Salix<sup>558</sup> lucida ^in Meeting House Pond  
30   in this town--& looking round I saw

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<sup>557</sup>"S" written over "s"  
<sup>558</sup>"alix" inserted

1                   about 1 mile W of W. Fitch{land} Depot  
 2 a shrub of it by the RR--& several times  
 3 afterward north a mile or 2--also in the brook  
 4 behind Mr Alcott's house in Walpole N. H.  
 5                   Took<sup>559</sup> the cars again in Westminster--  
 6 The scenery began to be mountainous & in-  
 7 teresting in Royalston--& Athol--but was<sup>560</sup> more  
 8 so in Erving. In Northfield first observed  
 9 fields of broom-corn very common--Sorghum  
 10 Saccharatum--taller than corn-- Alcott says  
 11 they bend down the heads before they gather  
 12                   Here abouts women & children are already  
 13                   picking hops in the  
 14 them, to fit them for brooms.           fields in the shade  
 15                   of large white sheets--like sails.  
 16                   Sep 6th  
 17                   At Brattleboro. Mr Charles C(?) Frost  
 18 showed me a printed list of the flowers of  
 19 B. furnished by him to a newspaper in B. some  
 20 years since. He says he finds Aster simplex  
 21                   (ac to Oakes the latter is not found in NE out of Vermont)  
 22 and A. Ptarmicoides there^--the latter now covered  
 23 by the high water of the river--also A concinus  
 24 of Wood, perhaps, (not in Gray--) v. specimen pressed.  
 25 --also solidago Patula & serotina as well  
 26 as Canadensis & Gigantea. Also finds he says  
 27                   Oakes gives only H. divaricatus & decapetalus to Vt  
 28 Helianthus giganteus ^ (with quite small flowers  
 29 bank of river behind town house) and Decapetalus  
 30 --& strumosus--speaks of the fragrance  
 31 of the Dicksonia fern & the sensitiveness  
 32 of the sensitive fern. If you take a tender plant<sup>561</sup>  
 33 by the stem the warmth of your hand will  
 34 cause the leaves to curl. Thought my  
 35 great dish-cover fungus a Coprolus (?)--  
 36 (so called from growing in dung?)

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<sup>559</sup>"Took" possibly altered from "As"

<sup>560</sup>"was" inserted

<sup>561</sup>"plant" written over "{stem}"



1 are commonly green) the branches are commonly less  
2 spreading. The leaves are very sharply toothed,  
3 with commonly spreading teeth, except the  
4 very smallest & uppermost leaves--which become  
5 entire bracts or stipules-- The lower & greater  
6 part of the leaves are not wing petioled, & the  
7 uppermost & sessile far more variously  
8 winged than those of<sup>563</sup> the A. undulatus

9 I see the Flowering raspberry still in bloom  
10  
11 This plant<sup>564</sup> is quite common here-- The fruit now //  
12 & ripe  
13 ripe is red--^ and quite agreeable--but not  
14 abundant. Desmodium Canadense still-- //

15 Maple leaved viburnum very abundant here  
16 --a prevailing shrub--berries ap now in prime or  
17 a little earlier than this--ovoid dull blue black. //

18 Pluck some rose leaves by Connecticut (v press)  
19 with now smooth--somewhat pear-shaped hips--  
20 not a sweetbriar. Also Cornus circinnata  
21 berries very light blue or bluish white //  
22 U gracilis not given by Oakes  
23 Was not that urtica gracilis^? 6 or 7 feet  
24 leaves narrow & not heartshaped  
25 high near the Depot.^ Cirsium discolor ?

26 Roadside below depot ap in prime--much  
27 like Lanceolatum but smaller leaves--whitish  
28 beneath & inner scales unarmed.

29 Frost said that Dr Kane left B the<sup>565</sup>  
30 morning of the day I arrived--& had given him  
31 a list of Arctic plants brought home by  
32 him, which he showed me Pages<sup>566</sup> From his  
33 Report in press.

34 The solidago Canadensis very common

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<sup>563</sup>"of" pos. "at"; inserted

<sup>564</sup>"This plant" written over "--It"

<sup>565</sup>"the" altered from "that"

<sup>566</sup>"Pages" inserted

1 ap in prime--also perfectly smooth ones  
 2 with glaucous stems like some of ours--  
 3 I am in doubt whether the last or any  
 4 that we have in C. is the S. Serotina  
 5 Frost says he distinguishes both but Oakes does not give the S. Serotina to Vt  
 6 or Gigantea--^ I should say he had but  
 7 one kind, which varied from leaves rough  
 8 above & on the veins beneath--& stems smooth  
 9 below & pubescent above--to leaves quite smooth  
 10 on both sides & stems very smooth & glaucous--  
 11 says also vary very much in size-- Or  
 12 are these only varieties of the Canadensis??  
 13 I find small grapes 1/3 of an inch in  
 14 diameter--many ripe on the bank of the  
 15 Connecticut--pleasantly acid. clusters 3 to  
 16 4 or 5 inches long. ~~Eupator~~ The leaves  
 17 are sharply toothed & green on both sides. Is it  
 18 Ap it is, but, berries already ripe with leaves  
 19 the V. Cordifolia? I see also a vine ^rusty  
 20 downy beneath & not conspicuously toothed with  
 21 equally small now green grapes. Ap like  
 22 of the latter the  
 23 ours. Is not this V. aestivalis(? berries are said to be  
 24 %V. Oct 27th 56% pleasant & ripe in Oct.  
 25 Eupatorium ageratoides--white snake-  
 26 root--in rather low ground or on banks  
 27 along river side--ap in prime-- Ap.<sup>567</sup> Helianthus  
 28 //Decapetalus--or Cut-toothed H. the teeth  
 29 much larger than with us--  
 30 Solidago arguta--very common--ap in  
 31 prime--with sharp toothed more or less elliptic  
 32 slender  
 33 leaves & ^terminal drooping racemes-- Size  
 34 of S. stricta.  
 35 Frost thought a longifolius-like white aster above mid size  
 36 by Connecticut--A Tenuifolius?

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<sup>567</sup>"Ap." inserted