

1 At Camp in Tuckerman's Ravine
2 Friday July 9th 1858--
3 Walked to the Hermit Lake some
4 40 rods NE. Listera cordata abundant
5 & in prime in the woods--with a little
6 Platanthera obtusata also ap. in prime. (the
7 last also as far up as the head of the ravine sparingly.)
8 This was a cold clear lake with {scarsly} a plant
9 low
10 in it--of perhaps 1/2 an acre--& from a ridge
11 E of it was a fine view up the ravine-- Hoar
12 tried in vain for trout here. The vac. canadense
13 was the prevailing one here & by our camp. Heard
14 huge
15 a bull frog in the lake & afterward saw a ^ toad
16 part way up the ravine. Our camp was
17 about on the limit of trees here--& may have
18 been from 2500 to 3000 ft below the summit.
19 I was here surprised to discover looking down, through
20 bright
21 the fir tops--a large ^ downy fair weather cloud
22 covering the lower world far beneath us--&
23 there it was the greater part of the time
24 like a lake
25 we were there ^ --while the snow & alpine summit
26 was to be seen above us on the other side at
27 about the same angle. The pure white crescent
28 of snow was our sky--& the dark mt side
29 above our permanent cloud.
30 We had the F. hiemalis with its usual
31 note about our camp--& Wentworth
32 said it was common & bred about his house--
33 I afterward saw it in the valleys about the

1 mts. I had seen the White-throated sparrow
2 near his house. This also he said commonly
3 bred there, on the ground.

4 The wood we were in was fir & spruce--
5 along the brook--grew the alnus viridis--S. Torrey-
6 ana (?)¹ canoe birch--red cherry--mt ash--&c
7 & prominent among lesser plants--Heracleum
8 lanatum. Castilleja {septentrionalis}-- The
9 swamp-Goose berry in flower & in ^ fruit. and a
10 green
11 sort of R. floridum without resinous dotted leaves!

12 The Hedyotis caerulea was surprisingly large &
13 %chiogenes%²
14 fresh in bloom--looking a much whiter than usual
15 as late snows do-- I thought they must be a variety.

16 & on a sand-bar by the brook-- Oxyria digyna
17 seen in Kane's exped. by Hans &c at the furthest N point or 80° + Ap. viola
18 the very pretty mt sorrel ap. in prime^.
19 blanda--as well as wool grass in the meadow--& Ap. Aster prenanthes--& juncus filiformis
20 I ascended the stream in the afternoon &
21 got out of the ravine at its head--after
22 dining on chiogenes tea--which plant I
23 could gather without moving from my log seat--
24 We liked it so well that Blake gathered a
25 parcel to carry home. In most places it was
26 scarcely practicable to get out of the ravine
27 on either side on account of precipices. I judged
28 it to be 1000 or 1500 feet deep--but with care
29 you could ascend by some slides. I found that
30 we might have camped in the scrub-firs
31 above the edge of the ravine--though it
32 would have been cold & windy & compara-
33 tively unpleasant there--for we should
34 have been most of the time in a cloud.

35 also Rhodora--fetid currant--Amelanchier var oligocarpa--trientalis
36 --mt-maple--tree cranberry with green fruit Aster acuminatus
37 & aralia nudicaulis--a salix humilis-like--& Polystichum aculeatum (??)
38 & Lycopod. annotinum var.³

¹"S. Torreyana (?)" looks like it was added in later.

²"chiogenes" written diagonally from "fresh" through "sort" two lines above. Poss connected to larger interlineation in left margin

³ "also Rhodora...annotinum var." this interlineation is written vertically in the left margin and inserted with caret to line starting: "blanda--".

1 The dense patches of dwarf fir & spruce--scarcely
2 rose above the rocks--which they concealed--
3 & you would often think the trees not more
4 than a foot or 2 deep--as indeed they
5 might not be generally--but searching within
6 you would find hollow places 6 or 8 feet deep
7 ~~where~~ between the rocks--where they filled
8 up all level--& by clearing a space here with
9 your hatchet you could find a shelter for
10 your tent--& also fuel--& water was close by
11 above the head of the ravine. Never the less
12 at a glance--looking over--or even walking
13 over this dense shrubbery--you would have thought
14 it no where more than a foot or 2 deep--& the
15 trees at most only an inch or 2 in diameter-- But
16 by searching you would find deep hollow
17 places in it as I have said--where the firs
18 were from 6 to 10 inches in diameter-- The
19 strong wind & the snow are said to flatten
20 these trees down thus. Such a shrubbery
21 would begin with a thin & shallow but dense
22 edge of spruce not more than a foot
23 thick--like moss upon a rock--on which
24 you could walk--but in many places in the
25 middle of it, though its surface was of a
26 uniform slope--it would be found to be 6 or 8
27 feet deep-- So that these very thickets
28 of which the traveller complains afford
29 at the same time an indispensable shelter--
30 I noticed that this shrubbery just above the
31 Ravine--as well as in it--was principally fir--
32 while the yet more dwarfish & prostrate portion on the

1 edge was spruce.

2 Returning I sprained my ankle in jumping
3 down the brook--so that I could not sleep
4 that night nor walk the next day--. We
5 had commonly clouds above & below us--though
6 it was clear where we were-- The clouds com-
7 monly reached about down to the edge of the
8 ravine.

9 The black flies which pestered us till into
10 evening were of various sizes--the largest
11 more than 1/8 of an inch long. There were
12 scarcely any mosquitoes here, it was so cool--

13 A small owl came in the evening &
14 sat within 12 feet of us--turning its head
15 this way & that & peering at us inquisitively.
16 It was ap. a screech owl. %(or {nestica} saw-whet)%⁴

17 Saturday July 10th

18 Wentworth says he once collected 100 lbs
19 of Spruce gum & sold it at Biddeford
20 for 40 cts per lb. Says there are "Sable
21 lines" about here. They trap them, but rarely
22 see them-- His neighbor who lives on the
23 hill behind where we camped on the 6th has
24 4 hours more sun than he. He can accordingly
25 The days are about 40 minutes longer on top Mt Washington than so at sea shore--ac-
26 to G. Book
27 make hay better, but W. beats him in corn.
28 The sun set to us here at least an hour earlier than usual.

29 This ravine at the bottom of which we
30 were looking westward up it had a rim
31 somewhat like that of the crater of a
32 volcanoo-- The head of it bore from

⁴"nestica . . . saw-whet" very faint on the microfilm. I could only make out a few words.

1 looking nearer than it was
2 camp about N 65 W ^ --the highest rock with
3 the outline of a face on it on the south rim--
4 S 32 W-- A very steep cliff on the opposite side
5 N 20 W-- so over the last we judged was the
6 summit of Mt Washington-- As I understand
7 Wentworth this was in Pingry's grant-- The Glen-
8 House in Pinkham's Grant-- To day & yesterday clouds
9 were continually drifting over the {summit}--commonly ex-
10 tending about down to the edge of the ravine-- When
11 we looked up that way the black patch made
12 by our fire looked like a shadow on the mt side.
13 ~~I saw but~~ When I tasted the water under the
14 snow arch the day before I was disappointed at
15 its warmth--though it was in fact melted snow--
16 but half a mile lower it tasted colder--probably
17 the ice being cooled by the neighborhood of the snow
18 it seemed thus warmer by contrast.

19 The only animals we saw about our camp were
20 a few red-squirrels. W. said there were striped ones
21 about the mts. The F. hiemalis was most com-
22 mon in the upper part of the ravine & I
23 saw a large bird of prey⁵, perhaps an eagle--sailing
24 over the head of the ravine. The wood thrush
25 & veery sang regularly esp. morning & evening.
26 But above all the peculiar & memorable songster
27 was that Monadnoc like one--keeping up
28 an exceedingly brisk & lively strain-- It was remarkable
29 for its incessant twittering flow-- Yet we never got
30 sight of the bird, at least while singing, so
31 that I could not identify it--& my lameness
32

⁵"prey" poss written over "pray"

1 prevented my pursuing it-- I heard it
2 afterward even in the Franconia Notch.
3 It was surprising for its steady & uninterrupted
4 flow--for when one stopped another appeared to
5 take up the strain. It reminded me of
6 a fine cork-screw
7 a slender⁶ ^ stream issuing with incessant lispig
8 flowing rapidly
9 tinkle from a cork ^ --& I said that
10 he had pulled out the spile & left it
11 That was the rhythm but with a sharper tinkle of course
12 running-- ^ It had no more variety than that.
13 --but it was more remarkable for its continuance
14 & monotonousness than any bird's note I ever heard.
15 It evidently belongs only to cool mt sides.
16 high up amid the fir & spruce. I saw once
17 flitting through the fir tops restlessly a small
18 white & dark bird--(sylvia like) which
19 may have been it. Sometimes they appeared
20 to be attracted by our smoke. The note
21 was so incessant that at length you only noticed
22 when it ceased ~~at~~
23 The black flies were of various sizes here
24 much larger than I noticed in Maine-- They compelled
25 most of the time to sit in the smoke--which
26 I preferred to wearing a veil-- They lie a long
27 your forehead in a line where your hat touches
28 it--or behind your ears--or about your throats
29 (if not protected by beard) or into the rim of the
30 eyes or between the knuckles--and then suck till
31 they are crushed-- But fortunately they do not
32 last ~~long~~ far into the evening--& a wind
33 or a fog disperses them. I did not mind
34 I find many of them accidentally pressed in my botany & plant book. A botanists
35 books, if he has⁷

6"slender" possibly "tender"

7This interlineation begins at the bottom of ms page 6 and continues at the top of ms page 7.

1 ever visited the primitive northern woods will be pretty sure to contain these
2 specimens of the black fly--
3 them much--but I noticed that men working on
4 the high way made a fire to keep them off. Any-
5 Plenty of fly-blowing flies--but
6 thing but mosquitoes by night. I saw no ants in the dead wood-- --
7 some spiders
8 In the pm Hoar Blake & Brown ascended
9 the slide on the S to the highest rock-- They were
10 more than an hour getting up--but we heard
11 them shout distinctly from the top.
12 Hoar found near the edge of the ravine there--
13 or between the snow there & edge--
14 ^ *Rhododendron Lapponicum* (some time out of
15 ac to Durand at 68° in Greenland
16 bloom) ^ growing in the midst of *empetrum*
17 & moss.-- *Arctostaphylos alpina* going to seed
18 Ac. to Durand at all Kane's stations
19 *Polygonum viviparum* in prime ^ --& *salix*
20 ac to Durand at 73° in Greenland
21 herbacea ^ a pretty trailing roundish leaved willow
22 S.
23 going to seed--but ap not so early as the *Uva*
24 *ursi* Sunday July 11th--mizzling weather--were
25 visited by 3 men from Glen House who thought it
26
27 It rained hard all night--wetting us but
28 (Sunday)
29 was well named "Tucker's Ravine," because it tuckered a man out to get to it!
30 little however-- One of the slender spruce trees
31 by our camp which we cut down--though it
32 looked young & thrifty--being 28 feet high
33 & only 6 1/2 inches in diameter--had about 80
34 rings--& the firs were at least as old.
35 Wentworth said that he had 500 acres
36 & would sell the whole with buildings for
37 \$2000-- He knew a dead log on the fire
38 to be spruce, & not fir, because the stubs
39 slanted
40 of the lower part grew downward--& also
41 by its "straight rift". He called a rotten
42 {cane} "dozy". After some observation I con-
43 cluded that it was true that the base of
44 the lower limbs of the spruce slanted downward more
45 generally than those of the fir.

1 Monday July 12th
 2 It having cleared up--we shouldered our
 3 packs & commenced our descent-- by a path
 4 about 2 1/2 or 3 miles to Carriage road not descending a great deal.
 5 The prevailing underplant at first
 6 as we descended were--oxalis acetosella
 7 abundantly in bloom--Cornus Canadensis--
 8 chiogenes
 9 clintonia borealis-- ^ vac. canadense--Gold-
 10 thread--listera cordata--~~Platanthera~~ smilacina
 11 biifolia. Solidago thyssoides (large & prevalent)
 12 from top of ravine to base of mt
 13 on more open & grassy parts. where it was in prime--3 ft
 14 high & spike 18 inch long.
 15 Trees at first fir & spruce--then canoe
 16 %Oakes says the white birch (here--meaning the canoe) {comes} {up} after%⁸
 17 birches increased--& after 2 miles yellow
 18 %burning--%
 19 birch began--
 20 Halfway down the mt on the road--saw--
 21 %?%
 22 a white-weed--& one alsine Groenlandica-- It
 23 surprising how much of that white {path}--the {nidus}
 24 of an insect there was on the grass & weeds
 25 on and about the mts-- They were white with it.
 26 Carex trisperma (?) 3/4 down-- Hear the oven-
 27 bird near base-- Dined by Peabody river
 28 3/4 of a mile S of Glen House--
 29 (found in Essex woods)
 30 found Lonicera ciliata in fruit there ^ & saw
 31 a little white pine--& alnus incana was
 32 common--& that large fragrant A. macro-
 33 phyllus (?) was budded--
 34 I had noticed that the trees at the ravine camp
 35 fir & spruce--did not stand firmly--2 or
 36 3 of us could have pulled over ~~a fir~~ one
 37 32 feet high & 6 or 7 inches thick-- They
 38 were easily rocked lifting the horizontal roots

⁸very faint on microfilm

1 each time--which reminded me of what
2 is said about the Ind. sometimes bending over
3 a young tree, burying a chief under its roots--&
4 letting it spring back for his monument & protection.
5 W. said they had found the fir the best material for bridge planking in his town
6 out-
7 lasting other woods!!
8 In the pm we rod along--3 of us--
9 on our way northward & north-westward
10 on our way round the mts--going through Gor-
11 1&
12 ham-- We camped about 1/2 miles W of Gorham
13 by the roadside on the bank of Moore River--
14 Tuesday
15 ~~Monday~~ July 13th '58
16 This morning it rained--keeping us in
17 camp till near noon--for we did not
18 wish to lose the view of the mts as we rode along.
19 We dined at Wood's tavern in Randolph,
20 just over Randolph Hill--& here had a
21 pretty good view of Madison & Jefferson which
22 rose from just S the stream there--but a
23 cloud rested on the summits most of the time--
24 As we rode along in the afternoon
25 I noticed that when finally it began to
26 rain hard the clouds settling down--we
27 had our first distinct view of the mt
28 outline for a short time. Wood said they
29 had no spruce but white spruce there--
30 though I called it black-- --& that they
31 had no white pine nor oak--
32 It rained steadily & soakingly the rest
33 of the pm as we kept on through Randolph
34 & Kilkenny & Jefferson Hill--so that we

1 had a clear view of the mts.
2 We put up at a store just opposite the town
3 hall on Jefferson Hill-- It here cleared up
4 after 2 days rain
5 at sunset ^ & we had a fine view of the mts--
6 repaying us for our journey & wetting S Easterly
7 ^ mt Washington being some 13 miles distant -
8 ^⁹ South Westward we looked down over a very
9 extensive uninterrupted & level-looking forest--
10 which our Host said was very valuable
11 on ac. of its white pine¹⁰--there--most valuable
12 land indeed-- Over this the fog clouds
13 were rolling beneath us--& a splendid
14 but cloudy sunset was preparing for us in
15 the west.. By going still higher up the
16 hill in the wet grass N of the town House--
17 we could see the whole while mt range
18 from madison to Lafayette
19 The alpine, or rocky portion, of Mt Washington
20 & its neighbors, was a dark chocolate brown
21 almost invariably this dark saddle on the top
22 the extreme summits being dark topped or edged ^ --&
23 as the sun got lower--a very distinct brilliant
24 & beautiful green, as of a thick mantle, was
25 reflected on the ~~ravines~~ vegetation in the
26 as from the fold of a mantle
27 ravines ^ & on the lower parts of the mts-- They
28 were chiefly Washington & the high northern
29 peaks that we attended to The wisps of
30 fog-like cloud skirting the sides of cherry mt
31 & mt Deception in the South--had the
32 appearance of rocks--& gave to the mt sides
33 a precipitous look. I saw a bright streak
34 looking like snow--a narrow bright ribbon

⁹possibly false start

¹⁰"pine" inserted

1 where the source of the ammonosuk swollen
2 by the rain leaped down the side of mt Washing-
3 ton from the Lake of the Clouds.

4 The shadows on Lafayette betrayed ridges run-
5 ning toward us. That brilliant green on the
6 northern mts was reflected but a moment or 2
7 --for the atmosphere at once became too misty.
8 It several times disappeared & was then brought
9 out again with wonderful brilliancy--as
10 it were an invisible writing--or a fluid which
11 required to be held to the sun to be brought out.

12 After the sun set to us the base summits--
13 were of a delicate rosaceous color--passing through
14 violet or to the deep dark blue or purple of
15 the night which already circled their lower parts--
16 For this night shadow was wonderfully blue
17 reminding me of the blue shadows on snow--
18 There was an after-glow in which these tints &
19 variations were repeated. It was the grandest
20 mt view I ever got-- In the mean while
21 white clouds were gathering again about the
22 about
23 summits--first ~~of~~ the highest--appearing to
24 form there--but sometimes to send off an emissary
25 to imitate a cloud upon a lower neighboring
26 peak-- You could tell little about the com-
27 parative distance of a cloud & a peak--till you
28 saw that the former actually impinged on the latter.
29 1st Washington--Adams, then Jefferson put on their caps, and you saw the latter as it were,
30 send off one small nucleus to gather round the head of Madison.¹¹
31 This was the best point from which to observe
32 these effects that we saw in our journey--
33 but it appeared to me that from a hill
34 a few miles further westward--perhaps in
35

¹¹ "1st Washington . . . Madison" written vertically in the left margin with line for insertion.

1 Whitefield, the view might be even finer.
2 I made the¹² accompanying 2 sketches of the
3 mt outline--here--as far S. only as what
4 the Landlord called mt Pleasant--the route
5 from the Notch house being visible no further--¹³

6 This was said to be a fine farming town-- I
7 heard the song of toads--& saw a remarkable
8 abundance of butter cup (the tall) yellowing
9 the fields in this town & the next--somewhat
10 spring-like.

11 Wednesday July 14th

12 This forenoon we rode on through White-
13 field to Bethlehem--clouds for the most
14 part concealing the higher mts. Found the
15 Geum stricta in bloom in Whitefield. also
16 common flax by a house. Got a nother
17 fine view of the mts--the higher ones much more
18 distant than before--from a hill just s of the
19 public house in Bethlehem--but might have
20 higher
21 got a better view from a ^ hill a little more
22 east--which we said was the highest land
23 between the Green & the White mts--(of course
24 saw the Stratford peaks 30 or 40 miles north & many mts E of them
25 on that line) ^ Climbed the long hill from
26 Franconia to the Notch--passed the {Profile}
27 House & camped half a mile up the side
28 of Lafayette.

29 Loudon says of the vac. Uliginosum that it
30 is "Taller than the common bilberry" ie vac. myrtillus
31 & is "a shrub about 2 feet high; a native of Sweden, Ger-
32 many, Siberia, Switzerland, Savoy, Scotland, & the
33 north of England; as well as in the more northern parts

¹²"the" altered from "this"

¹³ "Whitefield . . . further" the accompanying two sketches Thoreau refers to can be found on a loose leaf of paper waxed into the journal and corresponding to our ms photocopy pp 12a-12b (p.12b is the blank side of the loose leaf). The sketches are of two outlines of the White Mountains, with the names of individual mountains labeled on the lower sketch as follows (with Thoreau's spelling): "Maddison," "Jefferson," "Adams," "W.", "monroe (&?" and "Pleasant." Above the sketches is written: "NB Oakes puts Jefferson next to Washington--but makes it lower than the 3d." Below the sketches is written: "View of Wht mts proper from Town-house & store in Jefferson--" to the right of this: "other mts this side below" and underneath: "other mts & Franconia mts further to the right."

1 of America, & on its west coast, & on the island
2 of Sitcha, & in the north of Asia, in marshy mt
3 heaths & alpine bogs." High on the mts in Scotland.
4 "It is said to cover extensive tracts of land on the west
5 coast of Greenland, along with Andromeda tetragona--"--
6 -- -- "The berries are agreeable, but inferior in flavor to
7 those of *V. myrtillus*: eaten in large quantities, they
8 occasion giddiness, & a slight headache. Called "The
9 bog whortle-berry, or Large Bilberry"

10 *Vac. Angustifolium Ait.*-- -- "Berries large & known
11 by the name of bluets.-- -- -- A shrub nearly 2 feet high;
12 a native of Canada, about Hudson's Bay & Labrador;
13 and of the high Alpine woods of the Rocky mts, from
14 the Atlantic to the Pacific.-- -- -- -- The fruit is large,
15 globose, blackish purple,"--highly esteemed.

16 *V. Vitis Idaea* "The berries of this plant form an
17 important article of commerce in the sea-ports
18 bordering the Gulf of Bothnia, whence they are
19 sent to the south of Europe along with cran-
20 "mt Ida Whortleberry or Cowberry".
21 berries."

22 *Vac. Oxycoccus*--Bankers in Russia whiten silver
23 money by boiling it in their juice. "In Russia & in
24 some parts of Sweden, the long filiform shoots of the
25 oxycoccus are collected in spring, after most of the
26 leaves have dropped off, & are dried, and twisted into
27 ropes, which are used to tie on the thatch of houses, &
28 even for harnessing horses."

29 *Cassiope hypnoides*-- "A native of Lapland, Denmark,
30 & Siberia, on the mountains, where it covers whole
31 tracts of land; & on the north-west coast of
32 North America."

1 Phyllodoce taxifolia. "A native of Europe,
2 North America, & Asia. In Europe; in Scotland on
3 dry heathy moors, rare; &c &c cultivated in British
4 gardens."--

5 Arctostaphylos uva-ursi--"in Sweden, Russia, & Ameri-
6 (the berries)
7 ca, they ^ form a principal part of the food of bears."

8 Arctostaphylos Alpina-- "native of Denmark,
9 Switzerland, Dauphine, Savoy, Siberia &c--" --berries
10 scarcely edible. Ac to Linnaeus very common about the White
11 Sea.
12

13 [Pursh says of the chiogenes hispidulum that it is
14 growing always amidst sphagnum.]

15 Rhododendron Lapponicum "a native of the
16 arctic regions of Europe, Asia, & North America,
17 where it forms a procumbent shrub, flowering
18 in July."

19 Salix uva ursi Pursh¹⁴ "A native of Labrador"
20 Loudon's
21 his ^ leaves are blunt obovate!

22 L.
23 S. herbacea "A native of Britain on the Welsh
24 & Highland mts;-- "In The Companion to the
25 Botanical Magazine, it is stated that S. herba-
26 cea exceeds in the elevation of its habitat every
27 other shrub in Britain" "S. herbacea is the
28 least of British willows, and ac. to Sir J. E. Smith,
29 the least of all shrubs. Dr. Clarke, in his Scandina-
30 via, calls it a perfect tree in miniature; so small
31 that it may be taken up, & root, trunk, & branches,
32 spread out in a small pocket-book." But it
33 has a considerable prostrate stem & root. Leaves used
34 for tanning in Iceland.

35 S. repens--(of Linnaeus--has in plate

¹⁴"Pursh" added

1 pointed (!) lanceolate leaves & he says which Loudon
2 says are from 1/4 to 3/4 inch long--while the plant
3 rises only "a finger's length"--can it be mine?

4 Loiseleuria procumbens "plentiful on the
5 tops of mts in Scotland."

6 Alnus viridis D.C. Belongs to the continent of Europe

7 Empetrum nigrum--the north of Europe & of Asia--
8 abundant in Scotland. "The Scotch Highlanders & Russian
9 peasants eat the berries,"--one of the plants that
10 would prevail in England with ling &c if let alone--or
11 ground not cultivated.¹⁵

12 Willey says of Jackson "The great number of
13 sheep scattered upon the mountains make it the
14 principal place of resort for what bears & wolves
15 are yet left among these hills." Wentworth
16 said that he had trapped & killed a number of them.
17 They killed many of his sheep & calves--& destroyed
18 much of his corn when in the mill close to his house.
19 A sheep could run faster than a bear but was
20 not so long winded--esp. going up a mt side.
21 The bear when pursued would take directly
22 as
23 to some distant & impenetrable thicket ~~like~~
24 dark
25 these Fir thickets on the mt side-- He once
26 found some young bears on a nest--made of
27 small dry sticks collected under a ledge--&
28 raising them 5 or 6 inches from the ground--
29 He carried home the young & reared them. The
30 voice of a bear was like that of a woman in
31 distress. It was in Gilead the 1st town (in Maine) NE
32 from Jackson that Bean killed his bear--thrusting
33 his arm down her throat.

¹⁵followed by horizontal line toward right margin

1 Thursday July 15th
2 %also called the Great { }%¹⁶
3 Continued the ascent of Lafayette %^% --It
4 is perhaps 3 1/2 miles from the road to the top
5 by path--along winding ridge.
6 At about 1 1/2 miles up by path the spruce
7 began to be small-- Saw there a silent
8 bird--dark slate & blackish above. esp. head--
9 with a white line over the brows--then a dark slate
10 next beneath--white throat & reddish belly--black
11 bill. A little like a nuthatch. Also saw
12 an F. hiemalis on top of a dead tree.
13 The wood was about all spruce here 20 feet
14 high--together with--vaccinium canadense--
15 --lamb-kill in bloom--mt ash.--viburnum
16 nudum--rhodora--amelanchier oligocarpa--
17 nemopantes-- As I looked down into some very
18 broad & deep ravines from this point--their
19 sides appeared to be covered chiefly with spruce--
20 with a few bodkin points of fir here & there--
21 (had seen 2 days before some very handsome
22 firs on low ground which were actually concave
23 on sides of course {drawing}) while the narrow bottom
24 in middle of the ravine--as far up
25 & down as trees reached--where of course there
26 was most water was almost exclusively hard wood¹⁷
27 of birch chiefly.
28 As we proceeded the number of firs began to in-
29 crease & the spruce to diminish--till at about
30 2 miles perhaps the wood was almost pure fir
31 about 14 ft high--but this suddenly ceased at
32 about half a mile further & gave place to

¹⁶too faint to read on microfilm

¹⁷"wood" blot through third letter

1 to a very dwarfish fir & to the latter of
2 ~~fir~~ spruce again--~~but~~ ^ a very dwarfish procumbent
3 dense & flat 1 to 2 feet high-- than the fir
4 form ^ which crept yet higher up the mt ^ over
5 the rocks beyond the edge of the fir.--& with this
6 spruce was mixed--empetrum nigrum dense & matted
7 on the rocks--partly dead--with berries already blackening
8 also vac. uliginosum-- Though the edges all
9 around and the greater part of such a thicket
10 higher up the { } have rocks
11 might be spruce--yet the deeper hollows between
12 the rocks--in the midst, would invariably be filled
13 only
14 with fir rising ^ to the same level--but much larger
15 round-- These firs esp. made the stag-horns when
16 dead--
17 {drawing}¹⁸ The spruce was mostly
18 procumbent at that height, but the fir upright
19 though flattopped.
20 In short, spruce gave place to fir from 1 1/2 to 1 mile below top--(so you may
21 say firs were the highest trees) & then succeeded to it in a very dwarfish &
22 procumbent form yet higher up--¹⁹
23 At a part 1 mile or 3/4 below the summit--just
24 above the limit of trees we came to a little pond
25 maybe of 1/4 of an acre--(with a yet smaller one near
26 by) the source of one {head} of the Pemigewasset--
27 in which grew a great many yellow lilies
28 (Nuphar adrena) & I think a potamogeton--
29 In the flat dryish bog by its shore I noticed
30 1 2
31 the empetrum nigrum--ledum--vac. oxycoccus,
32 3
33 smilacenia trifolia--Kalmia glauca (in bloom still)
34 4
35 Andromeda calyculata--(& I think polifolia?) eri-
36 5
37 ophorum vaginatum--vac. uliginosum--juncus
38 (E.g. C. pauciflora?--C. irrigua with dangling spikes--& a c. lupulina like--& the
39 scirpus caespitosus (?)
40 of mt Washington (q.v)
41 filiformis-- 3 4 kinds of sedge ^ --(q.v) brown lichens
42 in a
43 & cladonias all low & ^ moss like bed in the moss of
44 the bog.--also rhodora of good size-- 1--2--3--4--& 5
45 were quite dwarfish.
46 The outlet of the pond was considerable
47 but soon lost beneath the rocks-- A willo{w} rostra-
48 ta like--but not downy--grew there.
49
50

¹⁸"{drawing}" caption: spruce, firs (written vertically), spruce, firs (written vertically), spruce.

¹⁹"In short . . . higher up--" written vertically in left margin with line for insertion.

1 In the dwarf fir thickets above & below this
2 pond--I saw the most beautiful Linaneas that
3 I ever saw-- They grew quite slenderly full of rose--
4 purple flowers--(deeper reddish purple than ours
5 which are pale) perhaps nodding over the brink
6 of a spring--altogether the purist mt flowers
7 I saw--~~by the~~ lining the side of the narrow horse-
8 track through the fir-scent. As you walk you
9 overlook the top of this thicket--each side.

10 There also grew near that pond--red-cherry--
11 aster prenanthes (??) & common shue.

12 We saw a line of fog over the Connecticut
13 valley. ²⁰Found near summit the ap.
14 vac. angustifolium of Ait. (var of V. Penn. Gray)
15 Bluets--and a pond leaved vac. lower down--
16 (q.v.) just below top reclined on a dense
17 bed of salix uva ursi 5 feet in diameter by
18 4 or 5 inches deep--a good spot to sit on--mixed
19 with a rush--amid rocks-- This willow was generally
20 showing its down.

21 We had fine weather on this mt & from the summit
22 a good view of mt Washington & the rest-- Though
23 it was a little hazy in the horizon-- It was a
24 mild mt & forest scene from SSE round
25 eastwardly to NNE. On the N. W. the country
26 was half cleared as from Monadnoc--in the
27 leopard spotted land-- I saw about WNW
28 a large Green mt--perhaps Mansfield mt
29 though the compass was affected here.

30 The carex scirpoidea (?) grew at top--& it

²⁰2+ inches of spaces following "valley."

[18a]

1 In an ac. of C. Piazzzi Smyth's sci-
2 entific mission under the Eng. Gov. to the
3 peak of Teneriffe in 1856--it is said
4 "in the hollow of this crater [the top most] 12,200
5 feet above the sea level, though at a lesser
6 altitude they had left all signs of animal
7 life, they found a population of bees, flies, spiders,
8 as well as swallows and linnets--The birds
9 & insects flying about in numbers."
10 & of a lower altitude, speaking of the flowers,
11 it is said--that during the early summer
12 "the towns people [of Orotava]

1
2 find it worth their while to
3 pack their hives of bees on mules &
4 bring them to these upper regions
5 to gather honey from the myriads of
6 mountain flowers."²¹

²¹ "In . . . flowers" pp 18a and 18b written on a scrap of paper waxed or stuck into the Journal. The inked text on 18 b is written over pencilled text.

1 was surprising how many large bees, wasps, butterflies
2 & other insects were hovering & fluttering about the
3 very apex--though not particularly below-- What
4 attracts them to such a locality?

5 Heard one White throated sparrow above these trees--
6 and also saw a little bird by the pond. Think I
7 heard a song sparrow about latter place-- Saw a toad
8 near limit of trees--& many polly wogs in the pond
9 above trees.

10 Boiled tea for our dinner by the little pond--
11 the bend of the Pemigewasset

12 Saw tracks in the muddy bog by the pond side--
13 shaped somewhat like a small human foot
14 sometimes--perhaps made by a bear.

15 We made our fire on the moss & lichens by a
16 rock amid the shallow fir & spruce--burning the
17 dead fir twigs--or "deer's horns". I cut off a
18 flourishing fir 3 feet high & not flattened
19 at top yet. This was 1 1/4 inches in diameter & had
20 34 rings-- One also flourishing 15 inches high
21 a dead one
22 had 12 rings at ground. One ^ was 29 inches in²²
23 circumference & at 4 feet from ground branched
24 as much as 5 feet each way
25 horizontally ^ (making a flat top) curving up--
26 and again into stag-horns--with branches very large
27 & stout at base²³-- Another fir close by
28 & dead was 30 inches in circumference--at
29 only 1/2 inch in diameter at
30 ground and ^ ~~about the same for~~, 4 1/2 feet
31 thus-- {drawing}
32 another fir 3 feet high--fresh & vigorous without
33 a flat top as yet--had its woody part 1 1/8 inch thick
34 (or diameter) at base (the bark being 1/8 inch thick)

²²"in" added
23line follows to "thus"

1 & 61 rings-- There was no sign of decay, though
2 it was as usual, mossy, or covered with lichens--

3 I cut off at ground one of the little
4 procumbent spruce trees which spread
5 much like a juniper, but not curving
6 upward-- This rose about 9 inches above
7 the ground--but I could not count the
8 rings they were so fine--(V. piece) ^{^24}

9 The smallest diameter of the wood is $41/80$ of an inch-- The number of rings, as near
10 as I can count with a microscope taking much pains are about 70--and on one side,
11 these are included within a radius of $9/40$ of an inch--of which a little more than
12 $1/2$ is heartwood--or each layer on This side is less than $1/300$ of an inch thick.
13 The bark was $3/40$ inch thick--

14 It was quite round & easy to cut it was
15 so fresh--

16 If the fir 30 inch in circ. grew no faster than that $1\ 1/8$ inch in diameter
17 If as fast as the little spruce it would be nearly
18 then it was about 549 years old. 1400 yrs old.

19 When half way down the mt amid the spruce--

20 we saw 2 pine gross beaks--male & female

21 close by the path & looked for a nest but in

22 vain-- They were remarkably tame--& the male

23 red

24 a brilliant ^ orange neck--head--breast beneath

25 & rump blackish wings & tail with 2 white

26 bars on wings-- (Female yellowish) The male

27 flew nearer inquisitively uttering a low twitter--

28 & perched fearlessly within 4 feet of us--eyeing

29 us & pluming himself & plucking & eating

30 The leaves of The Amelanchier oligocarpa{s} on

31 for several minutes

32 which he sat-- ^ The female meanwhile was a

33 rod off. They were evidently breeding there. Yet neither

34 Wilson nor Nuttall speak of their Breeding in the

35 U.S.

36 At the base of the mt over the road--heard (& saw),

37 at the same place where I heard him the evening

38 before a splendid Rose-breasted gross beaks singing

²⁴Line extends from caret to "The smallest . . . thick" written vertically in left margin.

1 I had before mistaken him at first for a
2 tanager--also for a red eye--but was not
3 satisfied--but now with my glass I distin-
4 guished him--sitting quite still high above
5 the road at the entrance of the mt path--
6 in the deep-woods--& singing steadily for
7 It was remarkable for sitting so still & where yesterday & sweeter
8 20 minutes- ^{^25} It was much richer ^ and I think
9 more powerful than the note of the tanager
10 or red-eye-- It had not the hoarse ness of the tanager--
11 & more sweetness & fulness than the red-eye-- Wilson
12 does not give this breeding place-- Nuttall quotes
13 Pennant as saying that some breed in N. York-
14 but most further north. They too appear to breed
15 Heard The Ev. Forest note in the
16 about the white mts. sides of the mts often-- Heard no robins
17 on the White mts.
18 Rode on & stopped at Morrison's (once Tilton's)
19 W. Heracleum lanatum in notch & very large
20 Inn in ^ Thornton some 7ft high-- Observed as we rode S--through Lincoln
21 that the face of cliffs on the hills & mts E of the river & even the stump of the
22 spruce reflected a pink light at sunset.
23 Friday July 16th '58
24 Continue on thro Thornton & Campton. The
25 butternut is first noticed in these towns
26 Urtica Canadensis in Campton
27 a common tree.
28 About the mts were wilder & rarer birds--more
29 or less arctic {like} the vegetation-- I did
30 not even hear the robins on them--& when
31 I had left them a few miles behind--it was
32 a great change & surprise to hear the
33 lark--the wood-pewee--the robin--& ~~er~~
34 the bobolink (for the last had not done singing).
35 On the mts--esp. at Tuckerman's Ravine
36 the notes even of familiar birds sounded strange

²⁵Caret points to "& sweeter"

1 to me-- I hardly knew the wood thrush &
2 veery--& ovenbird at first. They sing dif-
3 ferently there. In 2 instances--(going down the
4 mt Washington road--& along the road in
5 the Franconia Notch) I started an F. Hiemalis
6 within 2 feet--close to the roadside--but looked
7 in vain for a nest-- They alight & sit thus close.

8 I doubt if the chipping sparrow is found about
9 the mts.

10 We were not troubled at all by black-flies
11 after leaving the Franconia Notch-- It is ap.
12 only in primitive woods that they {work}-- We
13 had grand Views of the Franconia mts from
14 Campton. & were surprised by the ~~perfectly~~
15 regular pyramidal form of most of
16 the peaks. including Lafayette which
17 we had ascended. I think that there must be
18 some ocular illusion about this--for no
19 such regularity was observable in ascending
20 Lafayette. I remember that when I got more
21 than half a mile down it I met 2 men
22 perspiring very much
23 walking up--one of whom asked me if a
24 cliff within a stones throw before them was
25 the summit. Indeed the summit of a mt
26 though it may appear thus regular at a
27 distance, is not after all the easiest thing
28 to find even in clear weather-- The surface
29 was so irregular that you would hav thought
30 you saw the summit a dozen times before
31 you did--& in one sense the nearer

1 you got to it, the further off it is-- I told the
2 man it was 7 or 8 times as far as that. I suspect
3 that such are the laws of light--that
4 our eyes as it were leaps from one prominence
5 to another--connecting them by a straight line
6 when at a distance--& making one side balance
7 the other-- So that when the summit viewed
8 is 50 or a hundred miles distant--there
9 is but a very general & very little truth in
10 the impression of its outline conveyed to the
11 mind. Seen from campton & lower the Franconia
12 ^{blue}
13 mts show 3 or 4 sharp & regular ^ pyra-
14 mids--reminding you of pictures of the pyra-
15 mids of Egypt--though when near you
16 suspected no such resemblance. You know
17 from having climbed them--most of the time out
18 of sight of the summit--that they must be
19 at least of a scalloped out line-- {drawing}
20 & it is hardly to be supposed that a nearer
21 or more distant prominence always is seen
22 at a distance filling up the irregularities. It
23 ^{& vision}
24 would seem as if by some law of light ^ the
25 ^{inclined to}
26 eye ^ connected ~~ed~~ the base & apex of a peak in
27 the horizon by a straight line-- 25 miles off
28 in this case you might think that the
29 summit was a smooth inclined plane--
30 though you can reach it only over a suc-
31 cession of promontories & shelves.
32 Cannon mt on the W side of the F. Notch--
33 (or whose side is the purple) is the most

1 singularly lumpish mass of any mt
2 I ever saw--esp. so high-- It looks
3 like a behemoth or a load of hay--&
4 suggests no such pyramid--as I have described.
5 --so my theory does not quite hold together--
6 & I would say that thy eye needs only
7 a hint of the general form--& completes
8 ^{from²⁶}
9 the outline {-----} the slightest suggestion--
10 The huge lumpish mass & curving outline
11 of Cannon mt is yet more remarkable
12 than the pyramidal summit of the others--
13 It would be less remarkable in a mere
14 hill-- But it is in fact an elevated & bald
15 rocky mt-- My last view of these Franconia
16 mts was from a hill in the road just this
17 side of Plymouth village. Campton ap.
18 affords the best views of them--& some artists
19 board there.
20 Gathered the carex straminea (?) some 3 feet high
21 --scoparia like--in Bridgewater-- Nooned on²⁷
22 W bank of the Pemigenasset 1/2 mile above the
23 covered Saw 1st pitch pines in New Hampton--
24 New Hampton ^ Bridge.
25 &
26 Saw chestnuts first ^ frequently in Franklin & Bos-
27 cawen--or about 43 1/2° N--or half a degree higher
28 It was quite common in Hollis
29 than Emerson put it-- ^ Of oaks I saw & heard
30 only of the Red in the North of N. Hampshire-- The
31 witch hazel was very abundant & large in the north part
32 of N.H. & about the mts--
33 Lodged at Tavern in Franklin W side of river--
34 Sat. July 17

²⁶"from" written above cancellation

²⁷"on" written over "in"

1 houses--trees, fences, &c--a great improvement
2 --showing an older settled country--

3 In New Hampshire there is greater want of shade
4 trees--but long bleak or sunny roads--from which
5 there is no escape-- What barbarians we are.

6 The convenience of the traveller is very little
7 consulted--he merely has the privilege of
8 crossing somebody's farm by a particular
9 narrow & maybe unpleasant path--

10 The individual retains all the rights--
11 as to trees & fruit--& worth²⁹ of the road &c--

12 On the other hand these should belong to
13 mankind inalienably-- The road should
14 be of ample width--& adorned with
15 trees--expressly for the use of the traveller--

16 There should be broad recesses in it--esp.
17 at springs & watering places--where
18 he can turn out & rest or camp if he
19 will-- I feel commonly as if I were

20 condemned to drive through somebody's cow yard
21 by a narrow lane
22 or huckle berry pasture-- ^ & if I make a fire
23 by the roadside to boil my hasty pudding, the
24 farmer comes running over to see if I am not
25 burning up his stuff-- You are backed along
26 through the country from door to door.

27 July 19th get home at noon--

28 For such an excursion as the above carry & wear--
29 3 strong thick shirts--
30 2 pair socks

²⁹"worth" possibly "work"

1 neck ribbon & handkerchief--
2 3 pocket handkerchiefs
3 1 thick waist coat--
4 1 ~~thick~~ thin (or half thick) coat
5 1 thick do (for mt)
6 A large broad India rubber knapsack--with a broad flap--
7 A flannel shirt
8 India rubber coat--
9 3 bosoms (to go & come in)
10 a napkin
11 pins needles thread--
12 A blanket
13 A cap to lie in at night
14 tent (or a large simple piece of India rubber cloth
15 for the mt tops?)
16 veil & gloves (or enough millinet to cover all at night)
17 map & compass
18 plantbook & paper--
19 paper & stamps
20 Botany--spylglass--microscope
21 Tape--Insect boxes--
22 Jackknife--& Clasp knife--
23 Fish line & hooks--
24 matches
25 soap & dish cloths--
26 waste paper & twine
27 Iron spoon--
28 Pint dipper with a pail handle added--(not to
29 put out the fire)
30 Frying pan only if you ride
31 Hatchet (sharp) if you ride & perhaps in any case
32 on mt--with a sheath to it.
33 Hard head--(sweet crackers good) a moist sweet
34 plum cake very good & lasting-- ~~Hard head~~ pork

1 corn beef or tongue--sugar tea or coffee--
2 & a little salt.

3 As I remember those firs on the mts those
4 dwarfs ~~spruce~~ firs on the mts grew up
5 straight 3 or 4 feet without diminishing
6 much if any--& then sent forth every way very
7 stout branches like bulls horns or shorter
8 horizontally 4 or 5 feet each way--they were
9 stout because they grew so slowly-- Apparently
10 they were kept flat topped by the snow & wind--
11 But when the surrounding trees rose above them--
12 being sheltered a little apparently
13 they ^ sent up shoots from the horizontal~~ly~~ limbs
14 which also were again more or less bent &
15 this added to the horn like appearance--

16 We might easily have built us a shed
17 of spruce bark at the foot of Tuckerman's
18 Ravine-- I thought that I might
19 in a few moments strip off the bark of a
20 spruce a little bigger than myself &
21 7 feet long, letting it curve as it
22 naturally would--then crawl into it & be
23 protected against any rain. Wentworth
24 said that he had sometimes stripped off
25 birch bark 2 feet wide & put his head thro'
26 a slit in the middle letting the ends fall
27 down before & behind--as he walked

28 The slides in ~~t~~ Tuckerman's ravine
29 appeared to be a series of deep gullies side by
30 side--where ~~ap~~ sometimes it appeared as if a
31 very large rock had slid down without turning

1 over--plowing this deep furrow all the way--only a
2 few rods wide. Some of the slides were streams of
3 rocks a rod or more in diameter each-- In some
4 cases which I noticed the ravine side had evidently
5 been undermined by water--on the lower side--

6 It is surprising how much more bewildering is
7 a mt top than a level area of the same extent--
8 Its ridges & shelves & ravines--add greatly to its--
9 apparent extent & diversity-- You may be separa-
10 ted from your party by only stepping a rod or 2 out
11 of the path-- We turned off 3 or 4 rods to the
12 pond on our way up Lafayette--knowing that
13 Hoar was behind--but w we lost him for 3/4
14 of an hour & did not see him again till we reached
15 the summit. One walking a few rods more to the
16 right or left is not seen over the ridge of
17 the summit--& other things being equal, this
18 is truer the nearer you are to the apex.

19 If you take one side of a rock & your companion
20 another it is enough to separate you some-
21 times for the rest of the ascent.

22 On these mt summits--~~you~~ or near them--you
23 find small--& almost uninhabited ponds--ap. without
24 fish--sources of rivers--still & cold--strange--or
25 weird-like--of which nevertheless you make tea!!
26 condensed clouds-- ^ surrounded by dryish bogs--in which
27 perchance you may detect trees of the bear or Loup-
28 cervier.³⁰

29 We got the best views of the mts from Conway--
30 Jefferson--Bethlehem & Campton-- Conway
31 combines the Italian (?) level & softness with Alpine

³⁰This is a hyphenated compound word.

1 peaks around-- Jefferson offers the
2 completed view of the range a dozen
3 or more miles distant--the place from which
4 to behold the manifold varying lights ~~with~~
5 of departing day on the summits--Bethlehem
6 also afforded a complete but generally
7 more distant view of the range--& with respect
8 to the highest summits more diagonal--
9 Campton afforded a Fine distant view of the pyramidal
10 Franconia mts with the lumpish profile mt--
11 The last view with its smaller intervals & partial
12 view of the great ranges far in the north--was
13 somewhat like the view from Conway.

14 Belknap in his Hist. of N.H. 3d vol p33
15 %{this same as his Desc. of Wht mts in 2d vol Philadelphia Trans}%
16 says-- "On some mountains we find a shrubbery
17 of hemlock (?) & spruce, whose branches are knit to-
18 gether so as to be impenetrable. The snow lodges
19 on their tops, & a cavity is formed underneath.
20 These are called by the Indians, Hakmantaks."
21 %This is oakes in his {Scenery}%³¹ of the Wht mts
22 Willey quotes some one %^% as saying ^ -- "Above this
23 hedge of dwarf trees, which is about 4000 feet
24 above the level of the sea, the scattered fir & spruce
25 bushes, shrinking from the cold mountain wind, and
26 clinging to the ground in sheltered hollows by the sides of
27 the rocks, with a few similar bushes of white & yellow [?]
28 birch, reach about a thousand feet higher."

29 Willey says that "The tops of the mts are
30 covered with snow from the last of October to the
31 end of May."-- that the alpine ~~plants~~ ^{flowers} spring
32 up under the shelter of high rocks-- (Probably
33

³¹"Scenery" according to 1906

1 there they are most abundant on the SE sides--?)
2 To sum up--(omitting sedges--.)
3 plants prevailed thus on Mt Washington--
4 1st For 3/4 of a mile-- Black (?) spruce--
5 Yel. Birch--Hemlock, Beech--Canoe Birch--Rock Maple--
6 Fir--Mt Maple--Red-Cherry--Striped Maple--&c--
7 2d At 1 3/4 miles Spruce (prevails) with
8 Fir, Canoe & Yel Birch-- † Rock Maple, Beech,
9 & Hemlock disappear--(On Lafayette Lambkill--vil. nudum
10 --nemopantes--mt ash)-- Hard woods in bottom of
11 ravines above & below.
12 3 At 3 miles or limit of trees--(colliers shanty &
13 Ravine Camp)
14 Fir prevails, with some spruce & Canoe Birch--
15 mt ash--alnut viridis (in most ravines) Rred³² Cherry
16 mt maple--S humilis like & Torreyana like &c
17 vac. canadense--Ribes lacustre--prostratum--&
18 floridum (?) Rhodora--Amelanchier oligocarpa--Tree
19 cranberry--chiogenes--cornus candensis--oxalis
20 acetosella--Clintonia--Goldthread, Listera Cor-
21 data--Smilacina bifolia--solidago Thyrsoida
22 Ranunculus abortivus--Platanthera obtusata
23 & dilatata--oxyria digyna--viola blanda
24 --A. prenanthes (?) A acuminatus--arabis
25 nudicaulis--Polystichum auleatum (?)
26 wool grass &c
27 4th Limit of trees to within 1 mile of top--or as far as dwarf firs

³²"Rred": "R" added

- 1 On Wht Mts by Gray³³
 2 Cardamine bellidifolia July
 3 ~~Viola palustris June~~
 4 ~~Silene Acaulis July~~
 5 ~~Alsine Groenlandica June Aug.~~
 6 Paronychia argyrocoma July
 7 Alchemilla alpina
 8 Sibbaldia procumbens
 9 Dryas integrifolia (?)
 10 ~~Geum macrophyllum (around base) June~~
 11 ~~" Radiatum var Peckii July Sep~~
 12 Potentilla minima July
 13 Rubus Chamaemorus (at limit of trees)
 14 N. B. ~~Epilobium Alpinum (& var majus)~~
 15 saxifrage rivularis (very rare)
 16 viburnum pauciflorum (in woods.
 17 A. acuminatus depauperate
 18 " nemoralis (a small form)
 19 " graminifolius (about these mts)
 20 ~~solidago virga aurea var. Alpina~~
 21 " " " humilis at base
 22 Gnaphalium Supinum
 23 ? ~~Arnica mollis July (alpine rivulets)~~
 24 Nabalus Nanus
 25 & ~~" Boottii~~
 26 ~~vac. vitis Idaea June~~
 27 ~~" Caespitosum~~
 28 ~~" Ulignosum~~
 29 ~~Arctostaphylos alpina~~
 30 ~~Cassiope hypnoides~~
 31 ~~Phyllodoce taxifolia~~
 32 ~~Rhododendron Lapponicum~~
 33 Loiseleuria procumbens (on rocks) June

³³ This MS photocopy page [31a] is of a loose scrap of paper waxed into the Journal that includes a list of plants mentioned by Gray as being common to the White Mountains area. (Apparently Thoreau crossed off those species he found on his excursion.) MS photocopy pages 31b and 32a are of a newspaper article on the White Mountains that Thoreau placed in the journal at this point. MS pp. 32b-33 show the other side of the newspaper article (containing a part of the classified section of the paper). Thoreau does not make any reference to these items in the text of the Journal.

1 Dwarf fir--spruce--& some canoe Birch--
 2 vac. uliginosum--& vitis idaea--Salix--
 3 ~~ulig~~ uva ursi--Ledum--Empetrum nigrum--
 4 oxalis acetosella--Linnaea borealis--cornus
 5 canadensis--Alisine Groenlandica--Diapensia
 6 Lapponica--Gold thread--Epigaea--Sorrel
 7 Geum radiatum var Peckii--Solidago virga-
 8 urea, var alpinia--S. Thrysoidea (not so high
 9 as last--) Hellebore--Oldenlandia--Clintonia
 10 viola palustris--Tricutalis--a little vac-
 11 %V June 14 59%
 12 angustifolium (?) -- dwarf of vac. caespitosum %^% --Phyllodo-
 13 ce taxifolia - uvularia grandoflora-- Loiseleuria
 14 procumbens--cassiope hypnoides--rubus triflorus--
 15 heracleum lanatum--Archangelica--Rhododenron
 16 Lapponicum--Arctostaphylos alpina--Salix her-
 17 bacea--Polygonum viviparum--veronica alpina--
 18 Nabalus Boottii--Epilobium alpinum--Platanthera
 19 dilatata--Common³⁴ Rhue--castilleja septentrionalis
 20 --arnica mollis--Spiraea salicofolia--Salix repens (?)
 21 % {ap. vs. Ph p.21} % Hoar
 22 %^% solidago thyrsoides--Raspberry (♀) Lycopodium
 23 annotinum & selago--small fern--grass--sedges--
 24 % { } %
 25 moss & lichens%^%-- (On Lafayette vac. oxycoccus
 26 smilacina trifolia--Kalmia glauca--andromeda calyca-
 27 lata--red cherry--yellow (water, lily--Eriophorum vaginatum)
 28 5-- Within 1 mile of top
 29 Potentilla tridentata--A very little fir--
 30 spruce & canoe birch--one mt ash--
 31 alsine Groenlandica--Diapensia--vac vitis

³⁴"Common" written over "R"

1 Concord Wednesday July 21st '58

2 Pm to Walden--with E Bartlett & E. Emerson.

3 The former wished to shew me what he
4 thought an owl's nest--h had found--
5 Near it in Abel Brooks' woodlot--heard
6 a note & saw a small hawk fly over-- It
7 was the nest of this bird-- Saw several of
8 the young flitting about & occasionally
9 an old bird-- The nest was in a middling
10 sized white pine some 20 feet from the ground
11 resting on 2 limbs close to the main stem--
12 on the S side of it-- It was quite solid com-
13 posed entirely of ~~small~~ twigs about as big
14 around as a pipe stem & less--has some
15 15 inches in diameter & 1 inch deep or
16 nearly flat & perhaps 5 inches thick. It
17 was very much dirtied on the sides by the droppings
18 of the young.

19 As we were standing about the tree we heard
20 again the note of a young one approaching--
21 We dropped upon the ground & it alighted
22 on the edge of the nest--another alighted near-
23 by--& a 3d a little further off--

24 The young were ap. as big as the old--but still
25 lingered about the nest--& returned to it--
26 I could hear them coming some distance off--
27 Their note was a kind of peeping squeal
28 which you might at first suspect to be
29 made by a jay--not very loud--but

1 as if to attract the old--& reveal their where-
2 abouts The note of the old bird which occasionally
3 somewhat
4 darted past--was ~~more~~ like that of the marsh-
5 hawk--or pigeon woodpecker--a cackling--or
6 clattering sound--chiding us-- The old bird
7 was anxious about her inexperienced young
8 & was trying to get them off. At length she
9 dashed close past us & appeared to fairly
10 strike one of the young knocking him off his
11 perch & he soon followed her off-- I
12 saw the remains of several birds lying about
13 in that neighborhood--& saw & heard again
14 the young & old thereabouts for several days
15 thereafter-- A young man killed one of the
16 Young hawks & I saw it. It was the Falco Fuscus //
17 The American Brown or slate-colored Hawk--
18 Its length was 13 inches alar extent 23
19 The tail reached 2 or more inches beyond the
20 closed wings Nuttall says the upper parts
21 are "a deep slate color"--these were dark ^ brown
22 very
23 also that the nest is yet unknown--
24 But Wilson describes his F. velox--(which is
25 the same as Nuttalls F. fuscus) as "whole upper
26 parts very dark brown" but legs greenish yellow
27 (these were yellow). The toes had the peculiar
28 pendulous lobes which W refers to
29 As I saw it in the woods--I was struck
30 by its dark color above--its tawny throat &
31 breast--brown spotted--its clean slender--long
32 yellow legs--feathered but little below the

1 knee--its white vest--its wings distinctly & rather
2 finely dark barred beneath--short black--much
3 curved bill--& slender black sharp claws. Its
4 tail with a dark bar near edge beneath--
5 In hand I found it had the white spots
6 on scapulas of the F. fuscus & had not the white
7 bars on tail of the F. Pennsylvanicus-- It also
8 had the fine sharp shin. %V Aug 29%
9 But what then is my hawk killed by Farmer
10 with so stout a leg--? Had that any white
11 bars on tail? %V Aug 29%
12 July 22nd
13 // The nest of the marsh Hawk is empty--
14 It has prob. flown- C & I took refuge
15 from a showe³⁶ under our boat at Clamshell.
16 staid an hour at least. A thunder bolt
17 fell close by--a mole ran under the boat
18 Is not this owing to the circular manner of storms?
19 The wind curled round as usual ^ --more E--
20 & compelled us to turn the boat over--
21 Left a little too soon--but enjoyed a
22 //splendid rain bow for half an hour
23 July 23d
24 // Neottia gracilis--how long?
25 July 26
26 Button bush in prime-- Ed. Bartlett
27 //
28 shows me a nest in the agricultural ground

³⁶"showe" possibly shower

1 which had 4 eggs--yet pretty fresh--but the
2 bird has now deserted it--(v. one) It is like Farmer's
3 Seringo. It is a broad egg--white with large red-
4 disk & purplish brown spots chiefly about large end--
5 The nest is small & deep--& low in the grass of this
6 pasture (v. nest out of order) Could not see the
7 bird--only saw Bay-wings & Huckleberry birds--
8 I suspect it may be the F. passerina? He says //
9 the bird had a clear yellowish white breast!

10 July 28

11 Pm to Conantum-- From Wall corner saw a
12 pinkish patch on side hill W of Bake farm--
13 which turned out to be Epilobium a rod across--
14 Through the glass it was as fine as a moss. but
15 with the naked eye it might have been mistaken
16 for a dead pine bough. This pink flower was
17 distinguished perhaps 3/4 of a mile. V Aug 2d
18 Heard a king fisher which had been hovering over
19 the river--plunge 40 rods off.

20 The undersides of maples are very bright &
21 conspicuous now adays--upon walls--also

22 of the cubed panicked andromeda leaves-- Some grape
23 leaves also are {grown} up--

24 July 29

25 Pm to Pine Hill--looking for the Vac Pennsyl-
26 vanicus berries-- I find plenty of bushes--but these
27 bear very sparingly-- They ap. to bear but one or
28 2 years before they are over grown--also they {much}
29 {love} a cool atmosphere for they bear annually
30 on mts. as Monadnock-- Where the woods have been cut a year
31 or 2 They have put forth fresh shoots
32 of a lichen green--

1 The v. vacillans berries are in dense clusters
2 raceme-like--as huckleberries are not--
3 I see now adays--young martins perched
4 //
5 on the dead tops of high trees--also young
6 //swallows on the telegraph wire
7 In the Chinese novel "Iu-Kiao-Li
8 or The 2 Fair Cousins"³⁷--I find in a mottoe
9 to a chapter--(quoted)--"He who aims at one-
10 ness, should be continually on his guard against
11 a thousand accidents. How many preparations
12 are necessary before the sour plum begins to sweeten?
13 -- -- -- -- But if supreme happiness was to be
14 attained in the space of an hour, of what use
15 would be in life the noblest sentiments?" p227
16 Also these verses on p 230
17 "Nourished by the study of ten thousand different works,
18 The pen in hand, one is equal to the gods.
19 Let not humility take its rank amongst the virtues ☯:
20 Genius never yields the palm that belongs to it."
21 Again p 92 vol 2d--
22 "If the spring did not announce its reign by the
23 return of the leaves,
24 The moss, with its greenish tints, would find favor in
25 men's eyes."
26 July 31st
27 Pm to Flint's Pond.
28 I see much ericaulon³⁸ floating with its mass
29 //of white roots uppermost near the shore in
30 goosepond-- I suspect it may have been loosened

³⁷Possibly Iu-kiao-li: or, The Two Fair Cousins. A Chinese Novel. From the French version of M. Abel-Remusat. 2 Vols. London: Hunt and Clarke, 1827.

³⁸possibly "ericaulon"

1 up by the musquash--which either feeds on it
2 or merely makes its way through its dense mats.
3 I also see small fishes ap. shiners 4 or 5
4 inches long in this pond yet ~~I think~~ I have seen
5 this almost all dried up--
6 I have smelled Fungi in the thick woods for a week--
7 though they as not very comm³⁹ I see tobacco //
8 pipes now in the path-- You are liable
9 to be overtaken by a thunder shower these //
10 afternoons-- The anychia already shows green //
11 seed vessels on its lower branches-- Petty morel
12 has begun to bloom in shady swamps--how long? //
13 Got the wood thrushes' nest of
14 June 19 (now empty)-- It was placed
15 between many small upright shoots--against the
16 main stem of the slender maple--& weaves 4 1/2 to 5
17 inches in diameter from outside to outside of the
18 rim & 1 3/4 deep within-- It is quite firm
19 (except the external leaves falling off) the
20 rim about 3/4 of an inch thick--& it
21 is composed externally of leaves, of chiefly chest-
22 nut--very much decayed--beneath which
23 in the place of the grass & stubble of which
24 most nests are composed--are ap. the
25 mid ribs of the same leaves--whose whole pulp
26 &c is gone--arranged as compactly & densely--
27 (in a curving manner) as grass or stubble would
28 be--upon a core, not of weed, but ^a ap. of
29 pale brown composition quite firm & smooth (within
30
31

³⁹"comm" possibly "common" with blot over "on"

1 looking like made of a cocoa nut shell--
2 & ap. composed of decayed leaf pulp (?)⁴⁰ which the
3 bird has perhaps mixed & cemented with its saliva--
4 This is about 1/4 of an inch thick--& about
5 as regular as 1/2 of a cocoanut shell--
6 Within this the lower part is lined with con-
7 siderable rather coarse black root fiber &
8 a very little fine⁴¹ stubble.

9 From some particles of fine white sand &c on the
10 pale brown composition of the nest--I thought it was
11 obtained from the pond shore. This composition viewed
12 through a microscope has almost a cellular structure.

13 Aug 1st 58

14 Pm up Assabet-- The radical
15 or immersed leaves of the Pontederia
16 are linear & grass-like & I see that
17 I have mistaken them for valisneria
18 just springing from the bottom. The ~~new~~
19 of new plants
20 leaves ^ are just reaching & leaving the
21 surface now--like spoons on the end of
22 long handles.

23 Ed. Bartlet & another brought me a
24 green bittern this years first ap-- full grown
25 but not full plumaged--which they caught
26 near the pool on A. Haywoods land behind
27 Sleepy Hollow-- They caught it in the
28 woods on the hill side-- It had not yet ac-
29 quired the long feathers of the neck.

30 The neck was bent back on itself
31 an inch or more--(that part being bare of
32 feathers & covered by the long feathers

⁴⁰"(?)" written over dash

⁴¹"fine" obscured by ink blot

1 far above--) so that it did not appear
2 very long--until stretched out-- This
3 ^{was}
4 doubling ^ the usual condition & not apparent--
5 but could be felt by the hand.

6 so the green bitterns are leaving the nest now-- //

7 Aug 2d

8 Pm. Up Assabet--

9 Landed at the Bath Place & walked the
10 length of shad-bush meadow-- I noticed meandering
11 down that meadow which is now quite dry--
12 a very broad & distinct musquash trail--where
13 they went & came continually when it was wet
14 or under water in the winter or spring-- These
15 trails are often 9 or 10 inches wide & half a
16 dozen deep pausing under a root & the lowest
17 over hanging shrubs--when they glided along
18 on their bellies underneath everything

19 I tracked one such trail 40 rods till
20 it ended in a large cabin 3 feet high
21 with blueberry bushes spring still from the
22 top & other similar trails led off from it
23 on opposite sides-- Near the cabin they
24 had burrowed a room there out 9 or 10
25 inches deep--as if this now deserted

26 castle had been a place of great resort--
27 %Their skins had to be worth 50 cts apiece%

28 I see there what I take to be
29
30 a marsh-hawk of this year hunting by itself--

31 It has not learned to be very shy yet--so
32 that one repeatedly get near it. What a
33 rich brown bird--almost methinks with purple re-
34 flections.

?

1 What I have called the Panicum
 2 latifolium--has now its broad leaves striped
 3 with red--abundant under turtle bank--
 4 above bath place.
 5 Aug. 3d--savory leaved aster X
 6 //
 7 Thursday Aug 5 9 1/2 Am
 8 Up river--to Pantry Brook
 9 It clears up this morning after
 10 several cool--cloudy & rainy dog-
 11 days. The wind is westerly & will prob--
 12 blow us part way back-- The river
 13 is unusually full for the season
 14 & now quite smooth-- The pontederia⁴²
 15 //is apparently in its prime-- The button
 16 bush perhaps a little past-- The upper
 17 half⁴³ of its bolls in the sun looking
 18 brown generally-- The late rose is still
 19 conspicuous in clumps advanced into the
 20 meadow here & there-- See the mikania
 21 %{ }%
 22 only in one or 2 places beginning %^%-- The white
 23 lilies are less abundant than usual %^%
 24 perhaps on ac. of the high water (?)
 25 The water milkweed flower is an interesting
 26 red here & there like roses along the shore--
 27 The gratiola begins to yellow the shore
 28 in some places--& dense I notice the
 29 unobtrusive red of dense fields of stachys
 30 on the flat shores-- The sium has be-
 31 gun to lift its umbels of white flowers
 32 above most other plants-- The

⁴²"pontederia" "t" left uncrossed

⁴³"halves" altered from "half"

1 purple utricularia--tinges the pads in
2 many places--the most common of all
3 its tribe--
4 The best show of lilies is on the west side of the
5 bay in Cyrus Hosmers meadow above the willow
6 row--many of them are not open at 10'
7 o'clock Am-- I notice one with the sepals
8 perfectly spread flat on the water but the
9 petals still held together on a sharp cone
10 being held by the concave slightly hooked points
11 Touching this with our oar it opens quickly
12 with a spring-- The same with many others
13 whose sepals were less spread-- Under the
14 influence of the light & warmth-- The petals
15 or expand
16 elevate ^ themselves in the middle becoming more
17 & more convex--till at last being released
18 at their overlapping points they spring
19 open--& quickly spread themselves equally--
20 revealing their yellow stamens. How satis-
21 factory is the fragrance of this flower--
22 It is the emblem of purity-- It reminds
23 me of a young country maiden-- It is
24 just so simple & unproved-- Wholesome
25 as the odor of the cow. It is not a
26 highly refined odor--but merely a fresh
27 youthful morning sweetness--It is merely
28 the unalloyed sweetness of the earth & the waters
29 --a fair opportunity & field for life--
30 like its petals⁴⁴ uncolored by any experience

⁴⁴"petals" "t" left uncrossed

1 a simple maiden on her way to school--her
2 face surrounded by a white ruff--
3 But how quickly it becomes the prey of in-
4 sects!

5 As we paddle slowly along the edge of
6 the pads--we can see the weeds &
7 the bottom distinctly in the sun--in this
8 still August air--even 5 or 6 feet deep--
9 the countless utricularias--potamogetons &c &
10 & hornwort standing erect with its reddish stems--
11 countless schools of little minnows of various
12 species--chubby little beams not an inch long
13 & lighter colored banded minnows--are steadily
14 passing--partly concealed by the pads-- &
15 ever & anon we see the dimple when
16 some larger pickerel has darted away--
17 for they lie just on the outer edge of the
18 pads--

19 The foliage is ap. now in the
20 //height of its beauty--this wet year--
21 now dense enough to hide the trunks
22 & stems-- The black willows are perhaps
23 in their best condition--airy rounded
24 masses of light green rising one above
25 another, with a few slender black stems,
26 like umbrella handles--seen here & there
27 in their midst--low spreading cumuli of slender
28 foleate leaves--buttressed by smaller sallows
29 cornels Like long green clouds
30 --button bushes ^ & pontederias-- ^ They
31 or wreathes of vapor resting on the river side.
32 scarcely bear the impression of leaves but rather
33 of a low {stretching} rounded bank--even

1 as the heaviest particles or alluvium are deposited
2 nearest the channel-- It is a peculiarity of this
3 which I think is our most interesting willow, that
4 you rarely see the trunk & yet the foliage is never
5 dense-- They generally line one side of the river
6 only--& that is the meadow--a concave passive
7 v aug. 7th
8 female⁴⁵ side-- ^ They resound still with the
9 sprightly twitter of the king-bird--that aerial
10 & spirited bird hovering over there--swallow like--
11 which likes best methinks to fly where the sky is
12 reflected beneath him. Also now from time to
13 time do you hear the chattering of young black birds
14 or the link of bobolinks--there--or see the
15 great bittern flap slowly away-- The king-bird
16 by his activity & lively note--& his white breast
17 keeps the air sweet-- He sits now on
18 a dead willow twig--akin to the flecks
19 of mackerel sky--with reflections in the water--
20 or the white clam shell wrong side out opened by a musquash--
21 or the fine particles of white quartz that
22 muddy
23 may be found in the ^ river's sand. He is here
24 dead twig's
25 to give a voice to all these-- The willow's ^
26 aerial perch enough for him. Even the swallows
27 deign to perch on it. These willows appear
28 to grow best ~~methinks~~ on elevated sand bars
29 or deep sandy banks which the stream has brought
30 down leaving a little meadow behind them, at
31 some bend--often mixed with saw dust from
32 a mill. They root themselves firmly here
33 & spread entirely over the sand--

⁴⁵"female" obscured by ink blot

1 The rose which grows along with the
2 willows & button bushes--has a late & rare
3 look now--
4 From off Rain-bow rush shore--I pluck
5 a lilly--more than 5 inches in diameter--
6 Its sepals & petals are long & slender--
7 narrow--(others are often short broad &
8 rounded--) the thin white edge of the
9 or often
10 4 sepals are as usual ^ tinged with red--
11 There are some 25 petals⁴⁶ in about 4 rows
12 4 alternate ones of the outmost row--
13 have a reddish or rosaceous line along the
14 middle between the sepals & both the
15 sepals & the outmost row of petals--
16 have 7 or 8 parallel darkish lines from
17 base to tip-- As you look down on the lily--
18 it is a pure white star--centered with yellow
19 --with its short central anthers orange yellow.

20 The scirpus lacustris & Rainbow Rush--
21 //are still in bloom & going to seed-- The first
22 is the Tule of California.

23 Landed at Fair Haven Pond to smell
24 the A. macrophyllus. It has a slight
25 fragrance somewhat like that of the
26 Maine & northern N.H. one. Why has it
27 no more in this latitude? When I first
28 plucked it on Western stream--I did not
29 know but it was some fragrant garden
30 herb. Here I can detect some faint relation-
31 ship only by perseveringly smelling it.

⁴⁶"petals" "t" left uncrossed

1 The purple utricularia is the flower //

2 of the river today--ap in its prime. It is very

3 abundant--far more than my other utricularia

4 esp. from F. H. Pond upward-- That peculiar

5 little bay in the back just below the in-

6 let of the river--I will call Purple Utricularia

7 bay from its prevalence there. I count a dozen within

8 a square foot--1 or 2 inches above the water--&

9 they tinge the pads with purple for more

10 than a dozen rods-- I can distinguish their color

11 thus far The buds are the darkest or deepest

12 purple--Methinks it is more abundant than

13 normal this year--

14 I notice a commotion in the pads there, as if

15 a musquash making his way along, close beneath

16 the surface & at its usual rate--when suddenly

17 a snapping turtle puts its snout out--

18 only up to the eyes

19 It looks exactly like a sharp stake with 2 small

20 knots on it--thus {drawing}

21 While passing there I heard what I should call

22 my night warbler's note--& looking up saw ?//

23 the bird dropping to a bush on the hill side--

24 Looking through the glass I saw that it was

25 the Maryland--yel-throat--!! & it after-

26 ward flew to the button bushes in the meadow--

27 I notice no polygonum out--or a little

28 of the front rank only-- Some of the //

29 polygonums--not only have leaves like a

30 willow--esp. like the S. lucida--but I see

31 that their submerged leaves turn, or give place, to

1 fibrous pink roots which might be
2 mistaken for those of the willow.
3 Lily Bay--is on the left just above
4 the narrow place in the river--which is
5 just above Bound Rock. There are but
6 few lilies this year--however--but if you
7 wish to see how many there are you must be
8 on the side toward the sun.

9 Just opposite this bay I heard a peculiar
10 note which I thought at first might
11 be that of a king bird--but soon saw for
12 the first time a wren within 2 or 3 rods
13 perched on the tall sedge or the wool grass
14 // & smelling it-- Prob. the short billed
15 marsh wren-- It was peculiarly brisk &
16 rasping--not at all musical--the
17 rhythm something like-- Shar te
18 dittle ittle ittle ittle ittle. but the
19 last part was drier or less liquid than
20 this implies-- It was a small bird quite
21 dark above--and ap. plain ashy white
22 beneath-& held its head up when it sang--
23 & also commonly its tail. It dropped into
24 the deep sedge on our approach--but
25 did not go off as we saw by the motion
26 of the grass--Then stopped⁴⁷ & uttered its
27 brisk notes quite near us--& flying off
28 was last in the sedge again.

29 We ate our dinner on the hill

⁴⁷"stopped": "t" left uncrossed

1 by Rice's--This fore noon there were no
2 hayers in the meadows--but before we
3 returned we saw many at work--for
4 they had alread cut some grass next to
5 the upland--on the dried sides of the meadow--
6 & we noticed where they had struck up
7 green bushes near the river side to mow to.

8 While bathing at Price's landing--I
9 noticed under my arm amid the potamogeton
10 a little pickerel bet--2 1/2 to 3 inches long--with
11 about 1 inch long
12 a little silvery minnow ^ in his mouth. He held it
13 as it was jerking to and fro
14 by the tail-- ^ & was slowly taking it in by jerks--
15 I watched to see if he turned it--but to my
16 surprise he at length {swalled} it tail foremost--
17 The minnow struggling to the last & going alive into his maw--
18 Perhaps the pickerel learns by experience to turn
19 them head downward-- Thus early do these
20 minnows fall on fate--& the pickerel too
21 fulfill his destiny--

22 Several times on our return--we scared up
23 ap 2 summer ducks--first of this year--from //
24 the sid--of the river--first in each case seeing
25 them swimming about in the pads-- Also
26 once a great bittern--I suspect also as this
27 year's bird--for they are probably weaned at the
28 same time with the green one.

29 Though the river was high we pushed through
30 many beds of potamogeton--long leafy
31 masses--slanting downward & waving
32 steadily in the stream--10 feet or more in
33 length by a foot wide--

1 In some places it looked ~~ap~~ as if
2 the new sparganium could fairly choke
3 up the stream--
4 Huckleberries are not quite yet in their
5 //
6 prime

7 Aug. 6th

8 Pm Walk to Boulder Field--

9 The Broom is quite out of bloom--prob
10 //
11 a week or 10 days--it is about ripe
12 indeed-- I should like to see how rapidly
13 it spreads-- The dense roundish masses
14 side by side--are 3 or 4 feet over--&
15 15 inches high--They have grown from
16 near the ground this year-- The whole
17 clump is now about 18 feet from N to S
18 by 12 wide--Within a foot or 2
19 of its edge I detect many slender
20 little plants springing up in the grass--
21 only 3 ~~or 4 inch~~ inches high--but on dig-
22 ging am surprised to find that they are 2
23 years old. They have large roots reaching
24 down straight as well as branching--much
25 stricter than the part above ground--
26 Thus it appears to spread slowly by the
27 seed falling from its edge--for I de-
28 tected no runners-- It is associated
29 there with indigo which is still abundantly
30 in bloom--

31 I then looked for the little groves of barberries

1 which some 2 months ago I saw in the
2 cow dung--thereabouts--but to my surprise I
3 found some only in one spot after a long search--
4 They appear to have generally died--perhaps dried up--
5 These few were some 2 inches high--the roots--yet
6 longer having penetrated to the soil beneath-- Thus
7 no doubt some of those barberry clumps are
8 formed--but I noticed many more small barberry
9 plants standing single--most commonly protected by a
10 rock--

11 Cut a couple of those low scrub apple bushes
12 & found that those a foot high & as wide
13 as high--being clipped by the cows as a hedge with
14 shears--were about 12 years old--but
15 quite sound & thrifty.

16 If our sluggish river--choked with
17 potamogeton--might seem to have the
18 slow-flying bittern for its peculiar genius
19 --it has also the sprightly & aerial
20 king bird to twitter over & lift our thoughts
21 & a sky to clouds as white as its own
22 breast--

23 Emerson is gone to the Adirondack
24 country with a hunting party-- Eddy says
25 he has carried a double-barrelled gun one
26 side for shot the other for ball--for
27 Lowell killed a bear there last year--
28 But the story on the Mill Dam is that
29 he has taken a gun which throws shot

1 from one end & ball from the other!--

2 I think that I speak impartially
3 when I say that I have never met with
4 a stream so suitable for boating &
5 botanizing as the Concord--& fortunately
6 nobody knows it. I know of reaches
7 which a single county seat would spoil
8 beyond remedy--but there has not been
9 any important change here since I can
10 remember--

11 The willows slumber along its shore--sailed
12 in light but low masses even like the
13 cumuli clouds above. We pass hay-
14 makers in every meadow--who may think
15 that we are idlers. But nature takes
16 care that every nook & crevice is explored
17 by some one-- While they look after the
18 open meadows--we farm the tract between
19 the rivers brinks & behold the shores from
20 that side. We too are harvesting an annual
21 crop with our eyes--& think you nature is not
22 glad to display her beauty to us?

23 Early in the day we see the dew drops thickly
24 sprinkled over the broad leaves of the potamo-
25 geton-- These cover the stream so densely in
26 some places that a web-footed bird can
27 almost walk across on them.

28 Nowadays we hear the squealing notes
29 of young hawks.

1 is now "calf's head & huckleberries". I sus-
2 pect that the inhabitants of England &
3 of the continent of Europe have thus lost
4 their natural rights with the increase
5 of populations & of monopolies. The wild
6 fruits of the earth disappear before civilization--
7 or are only to be found in large markets. The whole
8 city country becomes as it were a town or beaten
9 common--& the fruits left are a few hips & haws.

10 Sat. Aug 7th

11 Pm up Assabet

12 The most luxuriant groves of
13 Black-willow as I recall them are on
14 the inside curves or on sandy capes bet--
15 the river & a bay--or sandy banks parallel
16 with the firmer shore--E.g. Bet Lees &
17 FH. on N side--point of F. H. Island--
18 Op. Clam shell & above--just below stone Bridge
19 --Lee Meadow or op. House--Below Nathan
20 Barretts at Bay--Sandy Bank below
21 Dove Rock

22 They also grow on both sides often when
23 the river runs straight through stagnant
24 %E.g. above Hollowell Bridge%
25 meadows or swamps-- %^% or on one side though
26 straight along the edge of a swamp
27 (as above assabet spring.) But rarely
28 ever against a firm bank or hill side
29 the positive⁵⁰ male shore--E.g. E shore

⁵⁰"positive": "t" left uncrossed

1 %V aug 15%
2 of F. H. P.-- E. side above RR. Bridge--&c
3 of 3
4 Measured the 2 largest ^ below Dove
5 Rock--The Southernmost--is 3 9/12 feet in circum-
6 ference at ground--& it branches then--
7 The westernmost--is 4 2/12 in circumference at
8 ground or 3 2/12 at 3 feet above ground--
9 for the largest is 1 ft & 4 inches in diameter at
10 ground. They all branch at the ground--
11 dividing within 4 or 5 feet with 3 or 4 main
12 stems-- The 3 here have the effect of one
13 tree seen from the water--and one 25 feet high
14 or more--& all together, broader than high--
15 They are none of them up right--but in this
16 case--close under a higher wood of maples
17 & swamp white oak--slant over the stream--
18 and taken separately or viewed from the
19 land side are very imperfect trees-- If you
20 or outward
21 stand at the shore & look upward ^ you see
22 a great proportion of naked trunk--but
23 thinly invested with foliage even at the sum-
24 mit--& they are among the most unsightly
25 trees-- The lower branches slant downward
26 from the main divisions so as commonly to
27 rest on the water-- But seen from the
28 water side--no tree of its height methinks,
29 so completely conceals its trunk-- They
30 meet with many hard rubs from the ice
31 & from drift wood in freshets in the course
32 of their lives--& whole trees are bent aside

1 or half broken off by these causes--but
2 they soon conceal their injuries--
3 The sternotherus odoratus knows them well
4 for it climbs highest up their stems--3 or
5 sometimes 7 or 8 along the slanting branches
6 4 feet or more now adays-- ^ & ^ is frequently
7 caught & hung by the neck in its forks.
8 They do not so much jump as tumble off
9 when disturbed by a passer-- The small black
10 mud-tortoise--with its muddy shell--eyes
11 you motionless from its resting place in a
12 fork of the black willow. They will climb
13 four feet up a stem not more than 2 inches
14 in diameter--& yet undo all their work in
15 an instant by tumbling off when your boat
16 goes by. The trunk is covered with coarse
17 long & thick upraised scales-- It is this turtle's
18 castle & path to heaven-- He is on the upward
19 road along the stem of the willow & by its
20 dark stem it is partially concealed-- Yes
21 the musquash & the mud tortoise--& the bittern
22 know it well. But not these sights alone
23 we have seen on the river--but the sprightly
24 king bird glances & twitters above the glossy
25 leaves of the swamp--white oak-- Perchance
26 this tree--with its leaves glossy above --
27 whitish beneath--best expresses the life
28 of the king bird--& is its own tree.
29 How long will it be after we have passed before
30 the mud tortoise has climbed to its perch again?

1 The author of the Chinese novel Iu-Kiao
2 Li--some ~~all~~ 800 years ago--appears to
3 to have appreciated the beauty of willow--Pe
4 --his principal character--moved out of the
5 city late in life--to a stream bordered with
6 willows about 20 miles distant--in order to
7 spend the rest of his days drinking wine & writing
8 verses there-- He describes the eye-brows of his
9 heroine as like a willow leaf floating on the
10 surface of the water--

11 In the upper part of J. Farmer's lane I find huckle-
12 berries which are distinctly pear-shaped--all of them--
13 %and ap. Huckleberries generally%
14 These and also other roundish ones near by ^ --are dotted
15 or ap. dusted over with a yellow dust--or meal
16 which looks as if it could be rubbed off-- Through
17 %It is ap. The { }%
18 a glass it looks like a resin which has exuded-- %^%
19 & on the small green point is of a bright orange
20 or lemon color-- Like small specks of yellow
21 lichens.

22 Monarda fistulosa is now ap in prime //
23 4 & more 8 or 10 rds behind Red oak on
24 Emerson's Assabet field.

25 Aug 8th

26 Pm to Ledum swamp--

27 I see at Clam Shell Hill--a yellow-browed
28 sparrow sitting quite near on a hay cock--
29 pluming itself--Observe⁵¹ it a long time in all
30 positions with my glass within 2 rods-- It
31 is prob. a this years bird. I think it must

⁵¹"Observe": "O" altered from "In"

1 //be the F. passerina. for its breast &
2 beneath is the clear pale ochreous white
3 which Wilson speaks of--& its wing shoulder
4 is distinctly yellow when not concealed in the feathers
5 of the side-- Its legs & bill except the upper
6 side of the upper mandible are quite a
7 reddish flesh color-- The yellow on its temple
8 pale
9 is quite bright & the ^ brownish cheeks-- The
10 crown is blackish with a distinct white line
11 along the midst. I see what I call chest-
12 nut with the black & whitish on the back &
13 wings-- It stands very upright so that I
14 can see all beneath-- It utters no note
15 i.e song--only a faint short somewhat
16 cricket like or trilled chip.
17 I see that handsome fine purple
18 //grass now on Hosmers hill side above
19 not yet in perfection
20 where he has mowed--
21 You see now in the meadows where the
22 mowers scythe has cut in two the great oval
23 //& already black fruit of the skunk cabbage
24 rough as a nut meg grater--exposing its
25 numerous nuts. I had quite forgotten the pro-
26 mise of this earliest spring flower--which
27 deep in the grass which has sprung up
28 around it--its own leaves for the most part
29 decayed-unremembered by us has been steadily
30 maturing its fruit-- How far we have wandered
31 in our thoughts at least--since we heard the
32 My friends can rarely guess what fruit it is, but think of pine apples & the like

1 After lying in the house a week & being wilted & softened--on breaking it open it has an agreeable
2 sweetish scent--perchance like a banana--& suggests that it may be edible-
3 But a long while after slightly tasting it-- it bites my potato
4 bee humming in its spathe! I can hardly re-
5 call or believe now that for every
6 such black & rather unsightly (?) capsule
7 there was a pretty freckled horn which at-
8 tracted our attention in the spring-- However
9 most of them lie so low that they escape
10 or are not touched by the scythe.

11 Saw yesterday a this years (?) marsh hawk--
12 female--flying low across the road near Hildreth's.
13 I took it to be a young bird it came so near & looked
14 so fresh-- It is a fine rich brown full breasted
15 bird with a long tail--some hens on the grass
16 run &
17 beneath were greatly alarmed & began to ^ fly with
18 a cackling to the shelter of a cornfield-- They
19 which did not see the hawk & were the
20 last to stir--expressed the most alarm--
21 Meanwhile the hawk sails low & steadily over the
22 field away--not thinking of disturbing them.

23 ^A
24 I find at Ledum swamp near the
25 pool the white fringed orchis quite abundant //
26 %quite%
27 but past prime--only a few yet %^%fresh-- It seems
28 to be long to this sphagneous swamp--& is
29 some 15 to 20 inches high--quite conspicuous
30 its white spikes amid the prevailing green. The
31 leaves are narrow half folded & almost in-
32 significant-- It loves then these cold bogs.

33 The rusty wool grass is in bloom there //
34 with very short wool-- Is it ever long?
35 The gay {lusaceia} dumosa--var hirtella

1 is the prevailing low shrub--perhaps--I
2 //see one ripe berry-- This is the only inedible
3 species of vaccinicae that I know in this
4 town.

5 The peculiar plants of this swamp are then, as I
6 these 9
7 remember-- ^ Spruce--Andromeda polifolia

8 --Kalmia glauca--Ledum latifolium--
9 vac. oxycoccus
10 gaylussacia dumosa, var hirtella ^ --platanthera
11 blephariglottis--Scheuchzeria palustris--
12 Eriophorum vaginatum (Woodsia virginica v sep. 6th)
13 I see there, esp. near the pool--tall
14 //& slender huckleberry bushes of a peculiar
15 kind--some are 7 ft high-- They are for
16 the most part 3 or 4 feet high very slender
17 drooping
18 ^ & bent like grass to one side-- The berries
19 are round & glossy black--with resinous dots,
20 as usual--& in flattish topped racemes sometimes
21 but generally more scattered tall
22 10 or 12 in a raceme. ^ Call it perhaps the swamp
23 The nesaea is fairly begun x
24 //huckleberry.

25 Looking north from Hubbard's Bridge about
26 4 pm--the wind being S. easterly I am struck
27 by the varied lights of the river-- The wind,
28 which is a considerable breeze, strikes
29 the water by a very irregular serrated edge
30 about mid-channel--& then abruptly
31 leaves it on a distinct & regular meandering
32 line--about 8 feet from the outer edge
33 of the pads on the W side. The rippled
34 portion of the river is blue--the

1 rest smooth silvery. Thus to my eye the
2 river is divided into 5 portions--first the weedy
3 & padded borders--then a smooth silvery stripe
4 8 or 10 ~~inch~~ feet wide--& next the blue rippled
5 portion--succeed by the broader silver & the pads
6 of the eastern side.

7 How many aspects the river wears--depending
8 on the ~~wind~~ height of the water--the season
9 of the year & state of vegetation--the wind--
10 the position of the sun--& condition of
11 the heavens &c &c!
12 {drawing} Ap. such is the
13 angle at which the wind
14 strikes the river from over
15 the bushes--that it
16 falls about mid channel--
17 & then it is either obliged
18 to leave it at a nearly similar angle
19 on account of the opposite shore & bushes--
20 or perchance the smoothing influence of the
21 pads is felt to some distance beyond their
22 edges-- The line which separates the smooth
23 from the rippled portion is as distinct & con-
24 tinuous as that which marks the edge of the
25 pads. I think that there is more oily watter
26 floating on the stiller sides of the river--& this
27 too may have something to do with the above
28 phenomenon-- Then there is the watered
29 appearance of the surface in a shower.

1 Aug. 9th 58

2 Edward Bartlett shows me this morning
3 a nest which he found yesterday-- It is saddled
4 on the lowest horizontal branch of an apple tree
5 in Abel Heywoods orchard--against a small twig--
6 & answers to Nuttalls' description of the Goldfinche's
7 nest--which it prob. is-- The eggs were 5
8 pure white-- or with a faint (~~greenish or~~) bluish green
9 // --just begun to be developed %v n p b 1)%
10 tinge-- ^ I did not see the bird.

11 It is but little you learn of a bird in this
12 irregular way--having its nest & eggs shown you.
13 How much more suggestive the sight of
14 the goldfinch going off on a jaunt over
15 twittering--
16 the hills ^ ~~with~~ its plainer consort by its side!

17 It is surprising to what extent the
18 world is ruled by cliques-- They who constitute
19 or at least lead New England or N. York
20 society in the eyes of the world are but a clique.
21 A few "men of the age" & of the town--who
22 work best in the harness provided for them.
23 The institutions of which all kinds are
24 thus of a sectarian or party character--
25 Newspapers--magazines--colleges--& all
26 forms of government & religion--express
27 the ~~rather~~ superficial activity of a few-- The
28 mass either conforming--or not attending.
29 The newspapers have just got over this
30 eating fullness or dropsy which takes place
31 with the annual commencements --& addresses
32 before the Philomathian or Alpha

1 neither
2 B. γ. societies--~~both~~ they who make these
3
4 addresses nor⁵² {~~or~~} they who attend to them are representa-
5 ive of the latest age-- The boys think that
6 these annual recurrences are part & parcel
7 of the annual revolution of the system.
8 There are also regattas & fire works, &
9 "surprise parties"--& horse shows-- So that
10 see or
11 I am glad when I ^ hear of a man {anywhere}
12 who does not know of these things nor re--
13 cognizes these particular fuglers-- I was pleased
14 to hear the other day that there were 2 men
15 in {Tamworth} N. H. who had been fishing for trout
16 there ever since May--but it was a serious draw-
17 back to be told that they sent their fish
18 %covered for%
19 to Boston & so %(% succumbed to %) the few--

20 The editors of newspapers--the
21 popular clergy--politicians & orators
22 & office holders
23 of the day ^ --though they may be thought
24 to be of very different politics & religion
25 are essentially one & homogeneous--in as
26 much as they are only the various ingre-
27 dients of the froth which ever floats on
28 the surface of society.

29 I see a pout this pm in the Assabet--
30 lying on the bottom near the shore evidently //
31 diseased-- He permits the boat to come within
32 2 feet of him-- Nearly half the head from
33 the snout backward diagonally is covered with
34 an inky black kind of leprosy-- Like a

⁵²added

1 crustaceous lichen-- The long feeler on
2 that side appears to be wasting--& there
3 stands up straight in it about an inch
4 or feeler
5 high a little black tree-like thorn ^ branched
6 at top-- It moves with difficulty.

7 Edith Emerson gives me an Asclepias tuberosa
8 //from Naushon--which she thinks is now in
9 its prime there--

10 It is surprising what a tissue of trifles & crudities
11 make the daily news--for one event of interest
12 there are 999 insignificant--but about
13 as on the first
14 the same stress is laid on the last ^ The news-
15 papers have just told me that the transatlantic
16 %{That is important but}%
17 telegraph cable is laid-- ^ & they instantly
18 proceed to inform me how the news was received
19 in every larger town in the U.S. how many
20 guns they fired, or how high they jumped in
21 New York--& Milwaukee--& Sheboygan--
22 & the boys & girls old and young at the corners
23 of the streets are reading it all with glistening
24 eyes--down to the very last scrap--not
25 %{ }%
26 omitting New Rochelle & Evansville--
27 %{ }%
28 You say that you have traveled far &
29 wide-- How many men have you seen
30 that did not belong to any sect or party
31 or clique-- Did you go further than
32 letters of introduction would avail?

33 The Goldfinch nest of this Am is saddled
34 on a horizontal twig of an apple some 7

1 feet from ground & 1/3 inch in diameter--supported
2 on one side by a yet smaller branch--also slightly at-
3 tached to another small branch. It measures 3 1/2
4 inches from outside to outside--1 3/4 inside
5 2 1/2 from top to bottom or to a little below the twig--
6 & 1 1/2 inside. It is a very compact thick &
7 warmly-lined nest--slightly incurving on the edge
8 within. It is composed of fine shreds of
9 and one piece of twine more externally
10 bark grapevine & other ^ --with ^ an abundance
11 of pale brown slender catkins of oak (?) or hickory (?)
12 mixed with effete apple blossoms & their peduncles
13 showing little apples--& the petioles of apple leaves
14 sometimes with half decayed leaves of this year attached--last
15 years heads of lespedeza--& ~~some other~~ some other heads
16 of weeds--with a little grass stem or weed stem--all
17 more or less disguised by a web--of white spider or cater-
18 pillar silks spread over the outside-- It is thickly
19 & very warmly lined with ap. short thistle down mixed
20 with which you see some grape vine bark--& the rim
21 is composed of the same shreds of bark--catkins & some
22 & 2 or 3 hairs (of horse)
23 fine fibrous stems ^ mixed with wool--(?) for only the bottom is
24 lined with the looser or less tenacious thistle down--
25 This nest shows a good deal of art.

26 The mind tastes but few flavors in the
27 course of a year-- We are visited by but
28 few thoughts which are worth entertaining.
29 & we chew the cud of these unceasingly--
30 What ruminant spirits we are! I re-
31 member well the flavor of that rusk
32 which I bought in New York 2 or 3 months
33 ago-- & ate in the cars for my supper--
34 A fellow passenger too pretended to praise--

1 it--& yet, O man of little faith! he took a
2 regular supper at springfield-- They cannot
3 make such in Boston. The mere fragrance
4 rumor & reminiscence of life is all that
5 we get, for the most part-- If I am
6 visited by a thought I chew that cud each
7 successive morning, as long as there is any
8 flavor in it. Until my keepers shake
9 down some fresh fodder-- Our genius is like
10 a brush which only once in many months is freshly
11 dipped into the paint pot-- It becomes so dry
12 that though we apply it incessantly it fails to
13 tinge our earth & sky. Applied to the same spot
14 incessantly it at length imparts no color to it.

15 Aug. 10th 58

16 Pm to Yew--&c

17 It is cloudy & misty dog day weather--with
18 a good deal--of wind--& thickening to oc-
19 casional rain this Pm. This rustling wind
20 is agreeable reminding me by its unusual sound
21 of other & ruder seasons. The most of a
22 storm you can get ever is rather exhilara-
23 ting-- The grass & bushes are quite wet--
24 & the pickers are driven from the berry field--
25 The rabbit's foot clover is very wet to walk
26 through--holding so much water-- The
27 fine grass falls over from each side
28 into the middle of the woodland path & wets
29 me through knee-high-- I see many

1 tobacco-pipes--now perhaps in their
2 prime--if not a little late--& hear //
3 of pine-sap. The In. ~~Tobacco~~ pipes-- //
4 though coming with the fungi--& sug-
5 gesting no doubt a close relation to them--
6 (a sort of connecting link between flowers &
7 fungi.)--is a very interesting flower & will
8 bear a close inspection when fresh.
9 The whole plant has a sweetish earthy
10 odor--though Gray says it is inodorous.
11 I see them now on the leafy floor of this
12 oak-wood in families of 12 to 30 sisters of
13 various heights (from 2 to 8 or 9 inches) as
14 close together as they can stand-- The youngest
15 standing close up to the others-- All with faces
16 yet modestly turned downwards under their
17 long hoods. Here is a family of about 25
18 within a diameter of little more than 2 inches
19 lifting the dry leaves for half their height
20 in a cylinder about them. They generally ap-
21 pear bursting up through the dry leaves which
22 elevated around may serve to prop them.
23 Springing up in the shade with so little color--
24 they look the more fragile & delicate-- They
25 have very delicate pinkish half naked stems
26 with a few semitransparent crystalline white
27 scales for leaves--and from the sinuses at
28 the base of the petals without (when their
29 heads are drooping) more or less ^ purple is re-
30 flected--like the purple of the arteries seen
31

1 on a nude body-- They appear--not to flower
2 only when upright-- Gray says they are upright
3 in fruit. They soon become black-speckled
4 even before flowering.
5 Am surprised to find the yew with ripe fruit
6 //
7 (⁵³ how long?)--though there is a little still
8 small &
9 ^ green--where I had just detected fertile flowers.
10 It fruits very sparingly the berries growing
11 singly here & there on last year's wood
12 & hence 4 to 6 inches below the extremities
13 of the upturned twigs. It is the most
14 surprising berry that we have--1st since it
15 is borne by an evergreen hemlock-like bush--
16 a little which we do not associate a
17 soft & bright colored berry--& hence its ~~bright~~ ^{deep}
18 scarlet
19 ^ contrasts the more strangely with the pure
20 dark evergreen needles--& 2nd because
21 of its form so like art--which could
22 be easily imitated in wax a ^{very} thick ~~dark~~
23 ^{%purple seed%}
24 scarlet cup or mortar with a dark %^% set
25 at the bottom. My neighbors are not pre-
26 pared to believe that such a berry grows in
27 Concord.
28 I notice several of the hylodes hopping through
29 //the roads like wood frogs--far from
30 water this mizzling. They are probably com-
31 mon in the woods, but not noticed on ac-
32 of their size--or not distinguished from the
33 //wood frog. I also saw a young wood frog--
34 with the dark line through the eye no bigger than the others.

⁵³(" written over "--")

1 One hylode{s} which I bring home--has a
2 perfect cross on its back {drawing}--except
3 one arm of it.

4 The wood-thrush's was a peculiarly woodland
5 nest--made solely of such materials as that
6 unfrequented grove afforded the refuse of the
7 wood or shore of the pond-- There was no horse hair
8 no twine nor paper or other relics of art in it--

9 Aug 11th Pm to Beck Stow's--

10 I see of late a good many young sparrows
11 (& old) of different species flitting
12 about. That blackberry field of Gowings
13 in the Great Fields, this side of his swamp--
14 is a famous place for them-- I see a dozen or
15 more old & yung perched on the wall.

16 As I walk along they fly up from the grass
17 & alight on the wall--where they sit on
18 the alert with outstretched necks-- Nearest
19 & unalarmed sit the huckle berry birds--
20 next quite on the alert the bay-wings--
21 with which & further off the yel-browed
22 spars--of whom one at least has a clear--
23 yellowish breast--add to which that I heard
24 there abouts--the seringo note. If made
25 by this particular bird, I should infer it was ?
26 F. passerina. I still hear them at in-
27 tervals the Baywing--huckleberry-bird &
28 seringo.

29
30 Now is our rainy season-- It has rained half //
31 the day for 10 days past--instead of dog-day

1 clouds & mists we have a rainy season-- You
2 must walk armed with an umbrella.
3 It is wettest in the woods, where the air has
4 had no chance to dry the bushes at all--
5 The myriophyllum ambiguum ap--var natans
6 //is now ap in its prime--some buds have gone to seed
7 others are not yet open. It is floating all over
8 the surface of the pool by the road at the swamp--
9 long utricularia like masses--without the
10 bladders--the emersed part of linear or pecti--
11 Nate leaves rises only about 1/2 inch-- The rest
12 ~~is m~~ 18 inches more or less in length--consists ap
13 of an abundance of capillary pinnate
14 leaves covered with slime or conferva (?) as a
15 web. Evidently the same plants next
16 the shore & creeping over the mud only
17 2 or 3 inches long--is without the capillary
18 leaves--having roots instead--& ap. is the var
19 //limosum (?) I suspect erroneously so called--
20 Heard a fine sprightly richly warbled
21 strain--from a bird perched on the top of
22 a bean-pole. It was at the same time novel
23 yet familiar to me. I soon recognized it from
24 the strain of the purple finch, which I have
25 not heard lately. But though it ap-
26 peared as large, it seemed a dif. colored bird--
27 With my glass--4 rods off--I saw it to be
28 a Gold-finch-- It kept repeating this

1 warble of the purple finch for several
2 minutes-- A very surprising note to be heard
3 now when birds generally are so silent. Have
4 not heard the purple finch of late. I conclude
5 that the Goldfinch is a very fine & powerful
6 {singer}-- & the most successful & remarkable
7 mocking bird that we have. In the spring
8 I heard it imitate the thrasher exactly--
9 before that bird had arrived-- & now it im-
10 itates the purple finch as perfectly--after the
11 latter bird has ceased to sing! It is a surprising
12 vocalist. It did not cease singing till
13 I disturbed it by my nearer approach-- & then
14 it went off with its usual mew succeeded
15 by its watery twitter in its ricochet flight--
16 Have they not been more common all sum-
17 mer than formerly?

18 I go along Plum path behind Adolphus
19 Clarks'. This is a peculiar locality for plants--
20 The Desmodium canadense is now ap in its //
21 prime there & very common--with its rather
22 rich spikes of purple flowers-- The most conspicuous
23 of the desmodiums. It might be called desmodium (?)
24 path. Also the small rough sunflower--(now
25 abundant) & the common apocynum (also
26 in bloom as well as going & gone to seed) are very
27 common--

29 I smell the fragrant everlasting concealed
30 in the higher grass & weeds there some
31 distant off-- It reminds me of the lateness

1 of the season--
2 // Saw the Elodea--not long & a dangle-
3 //berry ripe (not long at Beck Stows--
4 See a small var. of Helianthus growing
5 with the divaricatus--on the N side of Peters
6 path 2 rods E of bars S E of his house--
7 It is an imperfect flower--but ap. answers
8 There is evidently a great var in respect to form--petiole--venation--roughness--
9 Thickness & color of the leaves of helianthus
10 //best to the H. Tracheliifolius.
11 Saw⁵⁴ yesterday the Utricularia vulgaris ap
12 //in its prime yellowing those little pools
13 in Lincoln at the Town Bound by Walden. Their
14 stems & leaves seem to half fill them. Some
15 pools like that at bath place by pond in R--
16 W E's wood--will have for all vegetation⁵⁵
17 only the floating immersed stems & leaves--light
18 brown--of this plant without a flower--
19 perhaps on ac. of shade.
20 The great bull frogs of various colors
21 from dark brown to greenish yellow--lie
22 out on the surface of these slimy pools or
23 in the shallow water by the shore--motion-
24 less & philosophic. Toss a chip to one & he
25 will instantly leap & seize & drop it as quick.
26 Motionless & indifferent as they appear they
27 are ready to leap upon their prey at any in-
28 stant.
29 Aug 12th
30 When I came down stairs this morning
31 --it raining hard & steadily-- I found an
32 Irish sitting with his coat on his arm

⁵⁴"Saw" altered from "say"

⁵⁵"vegetation" 1st "t" left uncrossed

1 in the kitchen waiting to see me. He wanted
2 to inquire what I thought the weather
3 %I sometimes ask my Aunt%
4 %& she consults the almanac. So%
5 would be to-day--!
6 Pm to the Miles' blueberry swamp--
7 %we shirk the responsibility.%
8 & White Pond.
9 %Ap. the end of the very wet weather we have had about a fortnight%
10 It clears up before noon %^%& is now very
11 %& clear%
12 warm-- %^% when I look at the sparrows
13 on the fences--yellow-browed & bay-wings
14 they all have their bills open & are pant-
15 ing with heat.
16 At Clam Shell I see more of, I think,
17 the same clear breasted--yel-browed sparrows
18 which I saw there the other day & thought
19 the F. passerina & now I hear from some //
20 of Thereabouts the seringo note.
21 As I stand on the bank there I find suddenly
22 that I hear low & steady--under all other
23 sounds--the creak of the mole-cricket //
24 by the river-side-- It was a peculiarly late
25 sound--suggestive of the progress of the year.
26 It is the voice which comes up steadily up
27 this season from that narrow sandy strip between
28 the meadow & the water's edge you might think
29 it issued from that small frog the
30 only living thing you see which sits so motionless
31 on the sand-- But the singer is wholly out
32 of sight in his gallery under the surface.--
33 creak creak, creak creak, creak
34 creak, creak creak, It is a sound
35 associated with the decling year--&

1 recalls the moods of that season-- It
2 is so unobtrusive yet universal a sound--
3 so underlying the other sounds which
4 fill the air--the song of birds--rustling
5 of leaves--dry hopping sound of grasshoppers
6 &c--that now in my chamber I can
7 hardly be sure whether I hear it still, or
8 remember it--it so rings in my ears.

9 It is surprising how young birds
10 esp. sparrows of all kinds abound now--
11 & bobolinks--& wood pewees & king-
12 birds--all weeds & fences & bare trees are
13 alive with them-- The sparrows & bobolinks
14 //are seen surging over or falling behind the
15 weeds & fences--even as grass-hoppers
16 now skip from the grass & leaves in your
17 path--

18 That very handsome high colored fine purple
19 & rather unproductive
20 grass--grows particularly in dry ^ soil
21 just above the edge of the meadows
22 on
23 at the base of the hill where the hayer
24 does not deign to swing his scythe--
25 He carefully gets the meadow hay
26 & the richer grass that borders it--
27 but leaves this fine purple mist for
28 the walkers' harvest-- Higher up the hill
29 perchance grow blackberries & Johnswort
30 & neglected & withered & wiry Junegrass--
31 20 or 30 rods off it appears as a
32 high colored purple border above the

1 meadow--like a berry's stain--laid on
2 close & thick--but if you pluck one plant
3 you will be surprised to find how thin it is
4 & how little color it has-- What puny causes
5 combine to produce such decided effects--
6 There is ripeness in its color as in the poke stem.
7 It grows in waste places:--perhaps on the
8 edge of blackberry fields--a thin fine
9 It oftenest grows in scattered rounded tufts a foot in diameter esp. on gentle
10 spreading grass--left by the mower--
11 slopes--
12 I see a hen-harrier (female) pursued by a
13 red-wing &c.--circling low & far off over the
14 meadow-- There is a peculiar & distinct reddish
15 brown on the body beneath.
16 All farmers are complaining of the
17 catching weather-- I see some of their
18 hay, which is spread, afloat in the meadow.
19 This year the fields have not yet worn
20 a parched & withered look.
21 I perceive that some high blueberries
22 have a peculiar and decided bitter taste which
23 makes them almost inedible. Some of
24 the blueberries growing sparingly on recent
25 sprouts are very large. I eat the
26 blueberry--but I am also interested
27 in the rich looking glossy black choke-
28 berries which nobody eats--but which
29 bend down the bushes on every side--Sweetish
30 berries with a ~~dry~~⁵⁶ & so choaking taste--
31 Some of the bushes are more than a
32 dozen feet high.

⁵⁶ Lowercase "r" with a double strikethrough.

1 The note of the wood pewee is a prominent
2 & common one now-- You see old &
3 young together-- ~~Also~~
4 As I sit on the high bank overlooking
5 White Pond--I am surprised at the number
6 of birds about me-- Woodpewees singing
7 so sweetly on a pine-- Chickadees uttering
8 their phebe notes ap. with their young too--
9 the pine warbler--singing--robins restless
10 & peeping--& a maryland yel-throat
11 Some boys bathing shake the whole pond-- I see the undulations
12 1/3 across it-⁵⁷and if it were smooth--might perhaps see them quite across--
13 hopping within a bush close by. ^
14 (though they are out of sight
15 Hear what I have called the alder--
16 //locust (?) as I return over the causeway & prob
17 before this.
18 It is pleasant enough for a change
19 to walk in the woods without a path
20 p.m.
21 in a wet & mizzling ~~day~~-- ^ as we did the
22 10th ult-- winding amid the wet bushes
23 which wet our legs through & seeing
24 ever & anon a wood frog skip over
25 the dead & wet leaves--& the various
26 colored fungi rejoicing in fungi-- (I
27 saw some large ones green that p.m.)
28 We are glad to come to more open spaces
29 where we can walk dry on a carpet
30 of pine leaves.
31 // Saw a v. pedata blooming again--
32 Aug. 13th
33 This month thus far has been quite rainy--
34 It has rained more or less at least half
35 the days-- You have had to consider

⁵⁷stray mark before "and"

1 each afternoon whether you must not take
2 an umbrella-- It has about half the
3 time either been dog-dayish--or mizzling
4 or decided rain-- it would rain 5 minutes
5 & be fair the next five & so on alternately
6 a whole afternoon-- The farmers have
7 not been able to get much of their hay.
8 On the whole it has been rather cool.

9 It has been still decidedly summer with
10 some reminiscences of autumn-- The last
11 week has been the heart of the huckle-
12 berry season--

//

13 Pm Up Assabet

14 The dullish blue or lead-colored vib. dentatum
15 berries are now seen--not long. over hanging

//

16 the side of the river--amid cornels & willows &
17 They make a dull impression--yet held close in some lights
18 they are glossy--The umbelled fruits--viburnums & cornels &c have began
19 button bushes-- aralias

20
21 As I am paddling up the N side above the
22 hemlocks--I am attracted by the singular shadows
23 of the white lily pads on the rich brown muddy
24 bottom-- It is remarkable how light tends
25 to prevail over shadow there-- It steals in under
26 the densest curtain of pads--& illustrates
27 the bottom-- The shadows of these pads
28 seen (now at 3 pm) a little one side
29 where the water is 18 inches or 2 feet deep--
30 are rarely orbicular or entire edged--
31 or resembling the leaf--but are more
32 or less perfect rosettes--generally of
33 an or more regularly rounded
34 ~~the~~ oval form--with 5 to 15 ^ petals
35 open halfway to the center {drawing} or {drawing}

1 You cannot commonly refer the shadow
2 to its substance--but by touching the leaf
3 with your paddle. Light knows a thousand
4 tricks by which it prevails-- Light is the
5 rule--shadow the exception. The leaf fails
6 to cast a shadow equal in area to itself--
7 While it is a regular & almost solid disk
8 the shadow is a rosette or palmate--
9 as if the sun in its haste illustrate every
10 nook-- shone round the shortest corner--
11 Often if you connect the extremities of the
12 petals you have the general outline
13 & size of the leaf--& the shadow is less
14 than the substance by the amount of the
15 openings. These petals seem to depend
16 for their existence on the somewhat
17 scalloped--waved or undulating edge
18 of the pad--& the manner in which the
19 light is reflected from it. Generally
20 the 2 sharp angles of the pad are al-
21 mostl~~y~~y entirely eroded in the shadow--
22 The shadows too have a slight halo about
23 them. Such endless & varied play
24 of light & shadow is on the river bottom!
25 It is Protean & somewhat weird even--
26 The shadow of the leaf might be mis-
27 taken for that of the flower--

28 The sun playing with a lily leaf draws the
29 outline of a lily on the bottom with its

1 shadow--

2 The broad leaved helianthus on bank of--

3 Assabet spring is not nearly out--though //

4 the H. divaricatus was abundantly out on

5 the 11th.

6 I landed to get the wood pewee nest in

7 the Lee wood--(Perhaps these woods might

8 be called Mantatukwet's, for he says he lived

9 at the foot of Nawshawtuck about 50 years

10 %Call it Woodis Park%

11 before 1684.)

12 ap. a good while

13 Hypopytis abundantly out (how long ?)^ in that

14 long wood path on the left side under the

15 oak wood--before you begin to rise going from the

16 river end--very little indeed is yet erect-- & that //

17 which is not is ap. as forward as the rest--

18 Not generally quite as high as the M. uniflora

19 which grows with it-- I see still in their midst

20 the dry upright brown spikes of last year's seed

21 vessels--{drawing}--The chimaphila is more of an umbel {drawing}

22 Where that dense young birch

23 grove--4 to 8 feet high was burned over in

24 I am pretty sure it was early in May.

25 the spring ^ I see now a yet more dense

26 green crop of of Solidago altissima 3 or 4 feet

27 high & budded to bloom. Where did all the

28 seed come from? I think the burning was

29 too late for any seed to have blown on since--

30 --Did it then lie in the ground so low as

31 to escape the fire? The seed may have

32 come from plants which grow in the

33 old path along the fence on the W side.

1 It is a singular fact at any rate--that
2 a dense grove of young white birches covering half
3 a dozen acres may be burned over in may--so
4 as to kill nearly all--& now amid the dead brown
5 trees--you see dense green crop of Solidago
6 altissima covering the ground--like grass 4 feet high.
7 Nature practices a rotation of crops--& always
8 has some seed ready in the ground.

9 Young white maples below dove rock--are
10 //1 1/2 inches high--& red maples elsewhere about 1 inch high

11 I came to get the now empty nests
12 of the Wood-pewees found June 27th--
13 In each case--on approaching the spot
14 I hear the sweet note of a pewee--lingering
15 about--& this alone would have guided
16 me within 4 or 5 rods. I do not know
17 why they should linger near the empty nests
18 but perhaps they have built again near
19 there--or intend to use the same nest again(?)--
20 their full strain is Pe--ah--e'eo
21 % (perhaps repeated) %
22 %^% rising on the last syllable & emphasizing
23 then
24 that--Pe'--ee emphasizing the first
25 & falling on the last--all very sweet &
26 rather plaintive suggesting innocence & confi--
27 dence in you. In this case the bird
28 uttered only its last strain--regularly
29 at ~~ab~~ intervals.

30 These 2 Pewee nests are remarkably alike
31 in their position & composition & form--
32 ~~They are~~ though 1/2 mile apart-- They are
33 both placed on a horizontal branch of a young

1 oak (one about 14--the other about 18ft from ground)
2 & 3 to ± 5 feet from main trunk in a young
3 oak wood-- Both rest directly on a hori--
4 zontal fork--& such is their form & composition
5 almost
6 that they have ^ precisely the same color & aspect
7 from below--& from above

8 The 1st is on a dead limb--(very much exposed) is
9 3 inch diameter outside to outside--& 2 inch diam.
10 within--the rim being about 1/4 of an inch thick
11 & it is now 1 inch deep within. Its frame work is
12 white pine needles (esp. in the rim) & a very little fine
13 grass stem--covered on the rim & all without
14 ~~wh~~ closely with small bits of lichen (cetraria ?)
15 slate colored without & blackish beneath & some brownish
16 or cocoon?
17 caterpillar ^ (?) silk with small seed vessels in it--

18 They are both now thin & partially open at the
19 bottom so that I am not sure they contain all
20 the original lining. This one has no distinct lining
21 unless it is a very little green usnea--amid
22 the loose pine needles-- The lichens of the nest
23 would readily be confounded with the lichens of the
24 limb. Looking down on it, it is a remarkably--round
25 & neat nest--

26 & 1/2 inch wider without
27 The 2nd nest is rather more shallow now ^ --is lined
28 with much more usnea--(the willow down which
29 I saw in it June 27 is gone--perhaps they cast it out
30 in warm weather--!) & shows, a little of some slender
31 brown catkin (oak:) beneath without.

32 These nests remind me of what I suppose to be the yel-throat
33 The lining of a nest is not in good condition--
34 vireo's--& humming birds' perhaps is partly gone--when the birds have done with it--
35 The remarkable difference between the 2
36 branches of our river kept up down to the very
37 junction--indicates a different geological region
38 for their channels--

1 Aug 14th 58

2 Pm to the One Arched Bridge

3 //Hardhacks are prob. a little past prime.

4 Stopped by the culvert opposite the

5 centaurea--to look at the sagittaria leaves--

6 //Perhaps this plant is in its prime (?) Its

7 leaves vary remarkably in form-- I see

8 in a thick patch 6 or 8 feet in diameter--

9 leaves nearly a foot long of this form--

10 {drawing} & others as long or longer of this

11 form {drawing} with all the various inter-

12 The very narrow ones perhaps around the edge

13 mediate ones of the patch being also of a darker green, are not

14 distinguished at first, but mistaken for grass

15 suggesting to C. an

16 perhaps {hiddicornots}

17 Indian name ^ for one of our localities, he

18 thought it had too many syllables for

19 a place so near the middle of the

20 more distant &

21 tow--As if the ^ less frequented place might

22 have a longer name--less understood & less

23 alive in its syllables.

24 The Canada thistle down is now begun

25 //to fly--& I see the goldfinch upon it.

26 Carduelis Often when I watch one go off,

27 he flies at first one way--rising & falling--

28 as if skimming close over unseen billows--

29 but directly makes a great circuit as

30 if he had changed his mind & disappears

31 in the opposite direction--or is seen to

32 be joined there by his mate--

33 We walked a little way down

1 the bank this side the Assabet
2 bridge-- The broad leaved panic grass
3 with its hairy sheathes or collars attracts
4 the eye now there by its perfectly fresh broad
5 leaf. We see from time to time many
6 bubbles rising from the sandy bottom when
7 it is 2 or more feet deep--which I suspect
8 to come from clams there letting off air--
9 I think I see the clams--& it is often
10 noticed there--

11 I see a pickerel nearly a foot long--
12 in the deep pool ~~this~~ under the wooden
13 bridge this side the stone one--where it has
14 been land locked how long?

15 There is brought me this pm a⁵⁸ thalictrum
16 cornuti--of which the club shaped filaments
17 (& sepals ?) and seed vessels--are a bright purple
18 & quite showy--

19 To speaK from recollection--
20 the birds'~~s~~ note⁵⁹ which I have chanced to hear
21 of late--are (Running over the whole list.)
22 The squealing notes of young hawks
23 Occasionally a red-wing's tchuck
24 The link of bobolinks.
25 The chickadee & Phebe note of the chickadees
26 5 or 6 together occasionally
27 The fine note of the cherry bird pretty often
28 The twitter of the king-bird " "
29 The Wood-Pewee--with its young⁶⁰ peculiarly
30 common & prominent--

⁵⁸"a": "a" altered from "t"

⁵⁹"birds": altered from "bird's note"

⁶⁰stray mark after "young" poss superscript

1 Only the peep of the robin
2 The Pine warbler occasionally
3 The Bay-wing pretty often
4 " Seringo " "
5 " Song-Sparrow ~~occasionally~~ often
6 The field sparrow often
7 The Goldfinch a prevailing note--with variations
8 with a fine song--
9 The Ground robin once of late
10 The flicker's cackle once of late
11 The night hawk--as usual
12 NB--I have not been out early nor late--
13 nor attended particularly to the birds--
14 The more characteristic notes would
15 wood
16 appear to be the ^ Pewee's & the goldfinche's
17 with the squeal of young hawks. V 3 ps
18 forward
19 These might be called The Pewee days--
20 Aug 15th
21 Pm Down River-- to Abner Buttricks--
22 // Rain in the night & dog-day weather again--
23 after 2 clear days-- I do not like the
24 name dog-days-- Can we not have a new
25 name for this season-- It is the season of
26 moul & ~~pr~~ mildew--& foggy-muggy often
27 rainy weather--
28 ~~+~~ The front-rank polygonum is ap. in prime
29 or perhaps not quite. v 19th Wild oats up
30 //
31 in prime-- This is quite interesting & handsome
32 so tall & loose--The lower spreading

1 dangling or blown one side like a flag--
2 & loosely drooping ^ ~~pistill~~ staminate branches
3
4 of its ample panicle are of a lively yel-
5 lowish green--contrasting with the very
6 distant up-right pistillate branches--sug-
7 small
8 gesting a spear with a ^ flag at the base of
9 its head-- It is our wild grain unharvested--
10 {drawing} The black willows are already being im- //
11 browned-- It must then be the effect of the water--
12 for we have had no drouth--
13 The smaller white maples are very generally
14 turned a dull red--& their long row seen against
15 the first green of Ball's Hill--is very surprising
16 the leaves evidently come to maturity or die sooner
17 in water & wet weather--they are redder now
18 than in autumn--& set off the landscape wonder- //
19 fully. The Great Meadows are not 1/4 shorn yet
20 The swamp white oaks--ash trees &c which
21 stand along the shore have horizontal
22 lines & furrows at different heights--on their
23 trunks where the ice of past winters has rubbed
24 against them--
25 Might not the Potamogeton be called
26 waving weed?
27 I notice the black-willows from my boat's
28 place to Abner Buttricks--to see where they grow
29 --distinguishing 10 places-- In 7 instances they
30 are on the concave or female side distinctly--
31 Then there is one clump just below mouth of Mill-
32 Brook on male side-- 1 tree at Simmonds Boat House male
33 side--& 1 by oak on Heywood Shore-- The principal
34 are on the sand-bars or points formed along the concave side

1 Almost the only exceptions to their growing
2 on the concave side exclusively-- are a few mouths
3 of brooks & edges of swamps--where ap. there
4 is an eddy or slow current.

5 Similar was my observation on the Assabet
6 as far up as Woodis Park.
7

8 The localities I noticed today were--
9 (& up it)
10 Mouth of Mill brook ^ --Sand-bar along shore
11 just below opposite--opposite Simmonds
12 Boast House--1 at Boat House-- Hornbeam
13 Cape--Flints meadow along opposite boys' bath place--
14 & by oak below bath place on S side--
15 at meadow fence S⁶¹ side-- Point of the
16 S side
17 Diving ash-- opposite Bath Place by Wall--

18 Up Assabet the places near % (The 13th) %
19 S side above Rock-- Willow Swamp--
20 Willow Bay (below Dove Rock)-- Willow Island--
21 Swift Place S side-- Mouth of Spencer⁶² Brook--

22 Wars are not yet over. I hear one
23 in the outskirts learning to drum every
24 night; & think you there will be no
25 field for him. He relies on his instincts.
26 He is instinctively meeting a demand.

27 Aug 16th

28 // Hear it raining again early when I awake
29 as it did yesterday--still & steady--as if
30 the season were troubled with a diabetes

31 Pm to Cardinal ditch

32 // I hear these birds on my way thither

⁶¹"S" written over dash

⁶²"Spencer": "S" altered from "s"

1 between 2 & 3 o'clock--Goldfinches twitter
 2 over--the song sparrow sings several times
 3 Hear a low warble from blue birds with ap. their
 4 young--the link of many bobolinks (& see
 5 large flocks on the fences & weeds-- They are
 6 largish looking birds with yellow throats).
 7 A large flock of Redwings goes tchucking over--
 8 A lark twitters--crows caw--a robin
 9 peeps--Kingbirds twitter as ever--
 10 (At sunset I hear a low short warble from a
 11 golden robin--& the notes of the wood-pewee)
 12 %v 2 ps forward%
 13 In my boating of late I have several
 14 times scared up a couple of summer ducks--
 15 of this year--bred in our meadows-- They al-
 16 lowed me to come quite near--& helped to people
 17 I have not seen them for some days
 18 the river-- ^ Would you know the end of our
 19 intercourse?⁶³ Goodwin shot them--& Mrs.
 20 ____ who never sailed on the river ate them.
 21 Of course, she knows not what she did.
 22 % % %Thus we share each others sins as
 23 I shall not eat her canary. well as burdens--%
 24 The lady who watches admiringly the matador shares his deed
 25 They belonged to me, as much as to anyone, when
 26 they were alive--but it was considered of more
 27 importance that Mrs. ____ should taste
 28 the flavor of them dead-- than that I should
 29 enjoy the beauty of them alive--
 30 A 3 ribbed golden rod on RR causeway 2 to 3 //
 31 feet high abundantly out before S. nemoralis.
 32 I notice that when a frog (a Rana halecina)
 33 jumps it drops water at the same instant
 34 --as a turtle often when touched as she is
 35 preparing to lay-- I see many frogs jump

⁶³"?" altered from dash

1 from the side of the RR causeway--toward
2 the ditch at its base & each drops some
3 water-- They ap. have this supply of water
4 with them in warm & dry weather at least
5 when they leave the water--& returning to
6 it leaves it behind as of no further use.

7 // Thalictum cornuti is now generally
8 done--

9 The hardhack commonly grows in low--
10 meadow--pastures--which are uneven with
11 grassy clods--or hummocks--such as the
12 Alms House pasture by Cardinal ditch--

13 I am surprised to find that where of later
14 years there have been so many cardinal
15 flowers--there are now very few-- So much
16 does a plant fluctuate from season
17 to season-- Here I found nearly white ones
18 rare Channing tells me that he saw

19 //a white bobolink in a large flock of
20 them today-- Almost all flowers & animals
21 found
22 may be ^ white-- As in a larger number of
23 cardinal flowers you may find a white
24 one--so in a large flock--of bobolinks

25 also, it seems, you may find a white one--

26 Talked with Minott--who sits in
27 his wood shed--having as I notice several
28 seats there for visitors--one a block on
29 the saw horse-- another a ~~cloth~~ patch-
30 work mat on a wheel barrow-&c &c
31 His half grown chicken which roost over

1 head perch on his shoulder or knee--
2 Ac to him--The Holt--is at the "diving
3 ash" where is some of the deepest water
4 in the river-- He tells me some of his hunting
5 stories again. He always lays a good deal
6 of stress on the kind of gun he used--as
7 if he had bought a new one every year--when
8 probably he never had more than 2 or 3 in his
9 life-- In this case it was a "half-stocked"
10 one--a little "cocking piece"--& whenever
11 he finished his game he used the word
12 "gavel"-- I think in this way--"gave him
13 gavel"--i.e made him bite the dust or
14 settled him--

15 Speaking of foxes--he said, "As soon as the
16 nights get to be cool--~~you'll~~ if you
17 at 9 or 10 o'clock when all is still
18 step out doors ^ you'll hear them bark
19 out on the flat behind the houses.
20 half a mile off
21 ^ or sometimes whistle thorough their noses--

22 I can tell 'em I know what that
23 I know all about that
24 means ^ They are out after something to
25 eat-- I suppose." He used to love to
26 hear the goldfinches sing on the hemp
27 which grew near his gate.

28 At sunset paddle to Hill
29 Goodwin has come again to fish with 3 poles
30 hoping to catch some more of those large eels.

31 A blue-heron with its great undulating //
32 wings ~~its~~ † prominent cut-water & leisurely
33 %cutting off the bend of the river west of our house%
34 flight-- goes over S. W. %^% Goodwin says he saw one
35 2 or 3 days ago-- //

1 //& also that he saw some black ducks

2 A muskrat is swimming up the stream
3 betrayed by 2 long diverging ripples or
4 ripple lines 2 or 3 rods long each--& in-
5 clining about 75°--methinks. {drawing}

6 ~~Am surprised~~ The rat generally
7 dives just before reaching the shore--& is
8 not seen again--probably entering some burrow
9 in the bank--

10 Am surprised to see that the snapping turtle
11 which I found floating dead June 16th & placed
12 to rot in the cleft of a rock-- Has been all
13 cleaned--so that there is no smell of carrion--
14 the scales have nearly all fallen off--&
15 the sternum fallen apart--& the bony frame of
16 the back is loose & dropping to pieces as if it
17 were many years old-- It is a wonderful piece
18 of dove tailing--the ends of the ribs (which are
19 narrow & rib-like) set in to sockets in the middle⁶⁴
20 of the marginal bones--whose joints are in each case
21 between the ribs-- There are many large
22 fish bones within the shell. Was it killed
23 by the fish it ~~dem~~ swallowed? The bones not
24 being dispersed I suppose it was cleaned by insects.

25 Aug 17--

26 // Still hear the chip-bird early in the morning-- Though
27 not so generally as earlier in the season--

28 Minott has only lately been reading Shattuck's
29 History of Concord--& he says that his account
30 is not right by a jug full--that he does

⁶⁴Written in the margin.

1 not come within half a mile of the truth

2 --not as he has heard tell.

3 Some days ago I saw a kingbird

4 2ce stoop to the water from an over hanging

5 oak--& pick an insect from the

6 C. saw pigeons today--

//

7 surface--

8 Aug 17th

9 Pm to Annursnack via Swimming Ford

10 The river is 12 to 18 inches deeper there

11 //

12 than usual at this season--even the

13 slough this side is 2 feet deep--

14 I notice in some meadows the great

15 brown panicles of the fresh water (?) docks

//

16 (I do not examine it) now ripe.

17 There has been so much rain of late

18 that there is no curling or drying of

19 the leaves & grass this year. The foliage

20 is a pure fresh green--the aftermath

21 on early mown fields is a very beautiful

22 green.

//

23 Being over taken by a shower--we took refuge

24 in the basement of Sam Barret's Saw Mill--

25 where we spent an hour--& at length

26 came home with a rainbow overarching the

27 road before us.

28 The dog day--the foggy & mouldy

29 days are not over yet. The clouds are

30 like a mildew which over spread the

31 sky-- It is sticky weather--or the air is

32 filled with the scent of decaying fungi--

1 Aug. 18th

2 Pm to F. H. Hill

3 Miss Car. Pratt saw the white bobo-

4 link yesterday when Channing saw it the day before
5 I hear also of a swallow (prob barn swallow) perfectly white killed
6 in the midst of a large flock-- I go by the
7 by John Flints son this year & set up by some one in the North quarter
8 place--this pm & see very large flocks

9 //of them--certainly several hundreds in all

10 & one has a little white on his back--but

11 I do not see the white one-- Almost every

12 bush along this brook is now alive with

13 these birds-- You wonder where they were

14 all hatched--for you may have failed to

15 find a single nest. I know 8 or 10

16 active boys who have been searching for

17 these nests the past season quite

18 busily--& they have found but 2 at most

19 Surely but a small fraction of these birds

20 will ever return from the south-- Have

21 they so many foes there? Hawks must

22 fare well at present. They go off in

23 a stragglng flock--& it is a long time

24 before the last loiterer has left the

25 bushes near you--

26 I also see large flocks of blackbirds

27 blackish birds with chattering notes--

28 It is a fine sight when you can

29 walk down on them just as they are settling

30 on the ground with outspread wings--a

31 hovering flock.

1 Having left my note book at home
2 I strip off a piece of birch bark for
3 paper. It begins at once to curl up
4 yellow side out--but I hold that
5 side to the sun & as soon as it is dry
6 it gives me no more trouble--
7 I sit under the oaks at the E end
8 of Hubbards' grove--& hear 2 wood
9 pewees singing close by-- They are are perched
10 on dead oak twigs 4 or 5 rods apart--
11 & they⁶⁵ their notes are so exactly alike
12 that at first I thought there was but one.
13 One appeared to answer the other--& some-
14 times they both sung together. ~~It was~~
15 Even as if the old were teaching her young--
16 It was not the usual spring note
17 of this bird--but a simple, clean, p-e-e-eeet
18 (not heard for a long time Oct. 15 57)
19 rising steadily with one impulse to the
20 end-- They were undistinguishable in tone
21 & rhythm--though one which I thought might
22 be the young--was feebler-- In the mean while
23 as it was perched on the twig it was incessantly
24 turning its head about looking for insects--&
25 suddenly would dart aside or downward
26 a rod or 2 & I could hear its bill snap
27 as it caught one-- Then it returned to the
28 same or another perch.
29 Heard a nuthatch (?) %& a week later%
30 %not heard since spring%

//

⁶⁵"they": "the" written over "they"

1 Last evening one of our neighbors
2 who has just completed a costly house
3 the most showy in the village
4 & front yard ^ illuminated in honor
5 Atlantic
6 of the telegraph. I read in great letters
7 before the house the sentence
8 "Glory to God in the highest"-- But
9 it seemed to me that that was not
10 a sentiment to be illuminated--but to
11 ~~be kept~~ keep dark about. A simple &
12 genuine sentiment of reverence would
13 not emblazon these words as on a sign
14 board in the streets. They were exploding
15 countless crackers beneath it--& gay
16 company passing in & out made it a
17 kind of house-warming. I felt a kind
18 of shame for I was inclined to pass
19 quickly by--the ideas of indecent exposure
20 & cant being suggested.
21 What is religion?⁶⁶ That which is never spoken.

22 Aug 19th

23 Pm Sail to Baker Farm shore--

24 // It is cool with a considerable N Westerly
25 wind--so that we can sail to F. Haven--
26 The dog-day weather is suddenly gone
27 and here is a cool clear & elastic air.
28 // You may say it is the first day of
29 Autumn. You notice the louder &
30 clearer ring of crickets--and the large
31 handsome red spikes of the polygonum

⁶⁶"?": "?" written over final "I" dot

1 amphibium are now generally conspicuous
2 along the shore-- The P. hydroperoides fairly
3 begins to show-- The front-rank polygonum
4 is now in prime-- //

5 We scare up a stake-driver several times--
6 The blue-heron has within a week reappeared //
7 in our meadows--& the stake-driver begins to
8 be seen oftener--& as early as the 5th I noticed
9 the same of hawks, owls & c
10 young summer ducks about ^ -- This occurs
11 young
12 as soon as the ^ birds can take care of
13 themselves--& some appear to be very early on
14 the return southwards--with the very earliest
15 prospect of fall-- Such birds are not
16 only more abundant--but methinks
17 more at leisure now--having reared their
18 family--& perhaps they are less shy.
19 more frequently
20 Yes bitterns are ^ seen now to lift themselves from
21 amid the pontederia or flags & take their
22 sluggish flight to a new resting place--
23 bitterns which either have got through the
24 labors of breeding or are now first able
25 to shift for themselves. & likewise blue-
26 herons which have bred or been bred
27 not far from us (plainly) are now
28 at leisure or are impelled to revisit
29 our slow stream. I have not seen
30 the last since spring.
31 When I see the first heron--like a dusky
32 blue wave undulating over our meadows

1 again--I think--since I saw their
2 going northward the other day--how many
3 of these forms have been added to the
4 landscape--complete from bill to toe--
5 I see two herons
6 while perhaps I have idled!

7 A small bird is pursuing the Heron as it
8 does a hawk-- Perhaps it is a black bird
9 & the herons gobble up their young!

10 //I see thistle down--grayish white--floating
11 low quite across Fair Haven Pond. There is
12 wont to be just water enough above the
13 surface to drive it along.

14 // The heads of the wool grass are now
15 brown & in many meadows lodged--
16 can hardly see a blossom
17 // The button bush is about done ^ -- The
18 //mikania not yet quite in prime.

19 // Pontederia has already begun to wane
20 i.e. the fields of them are not so dense

21 many seed vessels having turned down--&
22 // %water cool to bather%
23 some leaves are already withered & black--
24 but the remaining spikes are as fair as
25 ever-- It chances that I see no yellow lilies
26 //
27 they must be scarce now. The water is high for the season.

28 We have our first green corn today
29 // The saw-grass (pas-pelum?) of mown fields
30 //but it is late. not long

31 I noticed the localities of black willows
32 as far up as the mouth of the mouth of the
33 river in F. H. P. but not so carefully as
34 V. n. p.
35 elsewhere--& from the last observations ^
36 // It's so cool some apprehend a frost tonight.

1 Aug. 20

2 I infer that the willow grows especially
3 & almost exclusively in places where the drift
4 is most likely to lodge--as on capes & points
5 & concave sides of the river--though I
6 noticed a few exceptions to my rule--

7 Edward Hoar has found in his garden
8 2 or 3 specimens of what appears to be the
9 veronica Buxbaumii which blossomed //

10 at least a month ago. Yet I should
11 say the pods were turgid & though obcordate
12 enough-- I do not know in what sense they
13 are "obcordate triangular"

14 He found a Vib. dentatum with leaves some-
15 what narrower than common & wedge shaped
16 at base. He has also the Rudbeckia //
17 speciosa-- cultivated in a Concord garden.

19 Flannery tells me that at about

20 4 ° clock this morning he saw white frost //

21 on the grass in the low ground near Holbrooks
22 Up early enough to see a frost in August!
23 meadow--

24 Pm

25 To Poplar Hill & the Great Fields--

26 It is still cool weather with a NW wind--

27 There is more shadow in the landscape

28 than a week ago methinks--& the creak

29 of the crickets sounds cool & steady

30 The grass & foliage--and landscape generally

31 are of a more thought inspiring color--

32 --suggest what some perchance would call

33 a pleasing melancholy-- In some meadows

34 This weather is a preface to Autumn

1 as I look southwesterly the aftermath
2 looks a bright-yellowish green--in patches--
3 Both willows & poplars have leaves of
4 a light-color at least beneath--contrasting
5 with most other trees--
6 Generally there has been no drought this year--
7 --nothing in the landscape suggests it⁶⁷-- Yet no
8 doubt these leaves--are compared with
9 themselves 6 or 8 weeks ago--as usual--
10 %A horny {polix}%
11 "horny & dry" as one remarks by my side.
12 // You see them digging potatoes
13 with cart & barrels in the fields on all
14 hands--before they are fairly ripe--for fear
15 of rot or a fall in the price--& I see
16 the empty barrels coming back from market
17 already--
18 // Polygonum dumetorum how long?
19 Aug 21
20 Pm A-berrying to Conantum
21 // I notice hardhacks clothing their stems now
22 with their erected leaves--showing the whitish under sides
23 A pleasing evidence of the advancing season--
24 %C. perhaps {hylodes}%⁶⁸
25 How yellow that kind of hedge hog(?) sedge
26 ? in the Toad pool by Cyrus Hubbards' corner--
27 I still see the patch of epilobium on Bee Tree hill as plainly as ever
28 though only the pink seed vessels & stems are left--
29 ~~The~~
30 Aug. 22
31 Pm
32 I have spliced my old sail to a new one &
33 now go out to try it--in a sail to Baker Farm.
34 It is a "square sail"--some 5 feet by 6.
35 I like it much. It pulls like an ox

⁶⁷"it" inserted

⁶⁸very faint on microfilm

1 & makes me think there's more
2 wind abroad than there is-- The yard
3 goes about with a pleasant force
4 --almost enough I would fain imagine
5 --to knock me overboard How sturdily it
6 pulls--shooting us along--catching more
7 wind than I knew to be wandering in this river
8 valley-- It suggests a new power
9 in the sail like a Grecian God. I can
10 even worship it=after⁶⁹ a heathen fashion.

11 & then how it becomes my boat & the
12 river--a simple homely square sail--all
13 for use not show--so low & broad†⁷⁰ Ajacean⁷¹

14 The boat is like a plow drawn by a
15 winged bull. If I had had this a dozen
16 years ago my voyages ~~with~~ would
17 have been performed more quickly &
18 easily-- But then probably I should have
19 lived less in them. I land on a re-
20 mote shore at an unexpectedly early hour--
21 and have time for a long walk there
22 Before my sail was so small that

23 I was wont to raise the mast with the
24 sail on it ready set--but now I have
25 had to rig some tackling with which
26 to haul up the sail.

27 As for the beauty of the rivers brim--now
28 that the mikania begins to prevail the
29 button bush has done--the pontederia is waning
30 & the willows are already somewhat crisped
31 & imbrowned (though the last may be none the
32 worse for it)--(Lilies too {ar} as good as gone--

⁶⁹stray mark above "after"

⁷⁰exclamation written over dash

⁷¹"Ajacean": possible reference to Greek warrior Ajax

1 So perhaps I should say thus the brim
2 of the river was in its prime about
3 this year
4 //the 1st of August-⁷²when the Pontederia
5 white
6 & button bush--& ^ lilies were in their
7 The cyperus (phymatodes &c) now yellows edge of pools
8 //glory-- & half bare low grounds

9 // See 1 or 2 blue herons every day now
10 driving them far up or down the river
11 before me-- I see a mass of of
12 burr-reed &c which the wind & waves
13 are sweeping down stream-- The higher water
14 & wind thus clear the river for us--
15 At Baker Farm a large bird rose up near
16 us--which at first I took for a hen hawk--
17 but it appeared larger-- It screamed the
18 same & finally soared higher & higher till
19 it was almost lost amid the clouds--or
20 could scarcely be distinguished except when
21 it was seen against some white & glowing
22 cumulus. I think it was at least 1/2
23 a mile high--or 3/4 & yet I distinctly
24 heard it scream up there each time it
25 came round--& with my glass saw its
26 head steadily bent toward the ground-- looking
27 for its prey-- Its head seen⁷³ in a proper light was
28 distinctly whitish-- & I suspect it may have
29 //
30 been a white-headed eagle-- It did not once
31 flap its wings up there--as it circled &
32 sailed though I watched it for nearly
33 a mile. How fit that these soaring birds
34 should be haughty & fierce! not like doves
35 to our race--

⁷²caret written over dash

⁷³inserted

1 Aug 23d

2 Cooler than ever--some must have //
3 fires. & I close my window--

4 Pm Britton's Camp--via Hub. Close--

5 The rhexia in the field W of Clintonia
6 swamp makes a great show now though
7 a little past prime. I go through the swamp
8 wading through the luxuriant cinnamon
9 fern which has complete possession of the
10 swamp floor--its great fronds curving this
11 way & that remind me a tropical vegetation--
12 They are as high as my head & about a foot
13 wide--may stand higher than my head with-
14 out being stretched out-- They grow in tufts
15 of a dozen--so close that their fronds inter-
16 lace & form one green waving mass--
17 These in the swamp cellar under the maples
18 A forest of maples rises from a forest of
19 ferns-- My clothes are covered with the
20 pale brown wool which I have rubbed off
21 their stems. %V June 24--59%

23 See an abundance of pine sap on the right
24 of Pine-sap path--It is almost all erect
25 some 8 to 9 inches high--& all effete there //
26 some stems are reddish. It lifts the
27 leaves with it like the Indian pipe--but
28 is not as delicate as that. The Ind. pipe
29 is still pushing up. //

30 Everywhere in woods & swamps I am already
31 reminded of the fall-- I see the spotted sarsa-

1 parilla leaves & brakes--& in swamps the
2 withering & blackened skunk cabbage--&
3 Hellebore--& by the river the already blackening
4 Pontederias & pipes. There is no plateau
5 on which Nature rests at mid-summer but
6 she instantly commences the descent to winter.

7 I see a Golden Crowned Thrush--but
8 //
9 it is silent except a chip. sitting low
10 on a twig ~~with~~ nea{r} the main stem of a
11 tree in these deep woods--

12 // High blackberries now in their prime--
13 Their great racemes of ~~shiny~~ shining black
14 fruit mixed with red & green bent over amid
15 the sweet fern & sumac on sunny hill
16 sides--or growing more rankly with larger
17 fruit by rich road sides & in lower ground--

18 // The chewink note of a chewink --(not
19 //common) also a cuckoo's note--

20 Smooth sumac berries all turned crimson x
21 //
22 This fruit is now erect spear heads--rising
23 from the ample dark green unspotted leaves--pointing
24 in various directions--

25 I see dense patches of the pearly everlasting
26 maintaining their ground in the midst of dense
27 green sweet fern--a striking contrast of snow
28 white & green--

29 // Vib. nudum berries ap. but a day or 2
30 Epilobium augustifolium is abundantly shedding
31 its downy seed--wands of white & pink--

1 Emerson says that he & Agassiz &
2 Company broke some dozens of ale bottles
3 one after another with their bullets--in
4 the Adirondack country--using them for
5 marks! It sounds rather Cockneyish.
6 He says that he shot a peetweet for Agassiz
7 & this, I think he said, was the first game
8 he ever bagged-- He carried a double barrelled
9 gun--(rifle & shot gun) which he bought
10 for the purpose--which he says--received much
11 commendation--all parties thought it a
12 very pretty piece.
13 Think of Emerson shooting a peetweet (with shot)
14 for Agassiz--& cracking an ale bottle
15 (after emptying it)
16 ^ with his rifle at six rods! They cut several
17 pounds of lead out of the tree-- It is just
18 what Mike Saunders the merchant's clerk
19 did--when he was there.
20 The writer needs the suggestion & correction
21 that a correspondent or companion
22 is. I sometimes remember something
23 which I have told another as worth telling
24 to myself--i.e. writing in my journal.
25 Channing, thinking of walks & life in
26 the country--says you don't want
27 to discover anything new--but to ~~be~~ discover
28 something old--i.e. be reminded that
29 such things still are.

1 Aug 24th

2 Ed. Hoar brings Cassia Chamaecrista from

3 Greenport L. I. which must have been out

4 //

5 a good while.

6 Pm sail to Balls' (?) Hill

7 It is a strong but fitful N W wind--

8 stronger than before-- Under my new sail

9 the boat dashes off like a horse with the

10 bits in his teeth-- Coming into the main stream

11 below the island a sudden flow strikes me

12 & in my efforts to keep the channel I run

13 one side under--& so am compel to beach

14 my boat there--& bail it.

15 They are haying still in the Great meadows--

16 //indeed not half the grass in cut I think--

17 I am flattered because my stub sail frightens

18 a haymakers horse tied under a maple

19 while his masters are loading-- His nostrils

20 dilate he snorts & tries to break loose--

21 He eyes with terror this white wind steed.

22 No wonder he is alarmed at my introducing

23 such a competitor into the river meadows.

24 Yet large as my sail is--it being low--

25 I can scud down for miles through the

26 very meadows in which dozens of haymakers

27 are at work--& they may not detect me.

28 // The zizania is the greater part out

29 of bloom--i.e. the yellowish antheral stamens are

30 gone--the wind has blown them away--

31 // The Bidens Beckii has only begun a few days

1 it being rather high water--No hibiscus yet-- //

2 The white maples in a winding

3 row along the river & the meadows edge

4 rounded

5 are ^ hoary white masses, as if they showed only

6 the under sides of their leaves-- Those which

7 have been changed by water are less bright

8 than a week ago-- They now from this

9 point (Abner Buttrick's shore) are a pale

10 lake mingling very agreeably with the

11 taller hoary white ones-- This little color

12 in the hoary meadow edging is very exhilarating

13 to behold--& the most memorable phenomenon

14 of the day-- It is as when quarters of peach

15 of this color--are boiled with white apple

16 quarters-- Is this anything like murrey color?

17 some

18 In ^ other lights it is more red or scarlet.

19 Climbing the hill at the bend--I find //

20 gerardia pedicularia ap several days--or how long?

21 this sunny breezy pm

22 Looking up & down the river ^ --I distinguish

23 men busily haying --in gangs of 4 or 5--

24 revealed by their white shirts--some 2 miles below

25 toward Carlisle bridge--& others still further

26 up the stream-- They are up to their shoulders

27 in the grassy sea almost lost in it--

28 I can just discern a few white specks ~~whose~~ in the

29 sheeny grass where the most distant are at

30 work. What an adventure to get there

31 hay from year to year from these miles

32 on miles of river-meadow!

34 You see some carrying out the hay on poles--

35 loaded

36 where it is too soft for cattle--& ^ carts

1 are leaving the meadows for distant
2 barns in the various towns that border
3 on them--
4 I look down a straight reach of water to
5 the hill by Carlisle Bridge--& this I can
6 do at any season--the longest reach
7 we have. It is worth the while to come
8 here for this prospect--to see a part of
9 earth so far away over the water--that
10 it appears islanded between 2 skies--
11 If that place is real then the places
12 of my imagination are real.
13 Desmodium marilandicum ap in
14 //prime along this Ball's (?) Hill low shore--
15 & ap another kind Dillennii ? or rigidum(??)
16 (?)
17 the same-- These & lespedezas
18 now abound in dry places--
19 // Carrion flower fruit is blue how long?
20 // Squirrels have eaten hazel nuts & pitch
21 pine cones for some days.
22 Now & of late we remember hazel bushes
23 we become aware of such a fruit-bearing
24 bush-- They have their turn & every clump
25 & hedge seems composed of them--
26 the burrs begin to ~~lay~~ look red on their
27 edges.
28 I notice in the river opposite the end by
29 //the meadow path great masses of
30 ranunculus stems &c. ~~tw~~ 2 or 3 feet through
31 by a rod or more long--which look as

1 if they had been washed or rolled aside by the
2 wind & waves--amid the potamogeton--

3 I have just read of a woodchuck that
4 came to a boat on Long Island sound to be
5 taken in!

6 Pipes (Eq. limosum) are brown & half withered //
7 along the river--where they have been injured by water.

8 Aug 25th

9 It has been cool & esp. windy from the NW
10 since the 19th inclusive--but is stiller now-- //

11 The note of a warbling vireo sounds
12 very rare //

13 Pm to Lupine Hill & beyond--

14 I see a mouse on the dry hill side this side
15 of Clam-Shell-- It is evidently the short tailed
16 meadow mouse--or Arvicola hirsuta Generally //
17 above it is a very dark brown almost blackish
18 being browner forward-- It is also dark beneath--
19 tail but little more than 1 inch long.

20 Its legs must be very short for I can hardly
21 glimpse them. Its nose is not sharp. It endeavors
22 to escape down the hill to the meadow--&
23 at first glides along in a sort of path (?)
24 methinks. It glides close to the ground under
25 the stubble & tries to conceal itself.

26 I gather from Nut meadow Brook

27 not far below the road-- A Potamogeton
28 Heterophyllus of Gray
29 (perhaps P. Claytoni ^ --which Russell said was
30 the one by road at Jenny Dugan's) It is still out.
31 //
32 Has handsome broad grassy immersed leaves &

1 somewhat elliptic floating ones--

2 I distinguish these plants this pm

3 //Cyperus filiculmis (mariscoides or Tuberous Cyperus of
4 Big)
5 in arid sandy pastures--with globular green
6 commonly
7 heads & slender ^ slanting culms--5 to 12 inch long.

8 It is perhaps getting stale.

9 The prevalent grass in John Hosmers' meadow
10 no
11 //I take to be cut grass ? long since done & the
12 leaves now commonly purplish--reflecting that
13 color in the sun from a distance.

14 The Paspalum setaceum (ciliatifolium of
15 //
16 Big) my saw-grass--which I have seen for
17 %ap in prime or past%
18 some time, commonly cut off by the mowers
19 %pectinacea%⁷⁴
20 //Eragrostis capillaris⁷⁵ (Poa hirsuta) Hair

21 spear grass--perhaps not quite so bright
22 as heretofore. Money Diggers Hollow
23 %Say a week in prime%
24 has the most of it.

25 // Fimbristylis capillaris (Scirpus capillaris) that
26 that little scirpus turning yellowish in sandy
27 soil--as our garden--& Lupine hill sand
28 %same time in prime%
29 {drawing}

30 // Cyperus strigosus under ~~solidago~~ clam shell
31 hill--that yellowish fuzzy headed
32 plant 5 to 12 inch high now ap in prime.

33 Also in Mrs Hoar's garden-- Also
34 very much like last
35 //cyperus phymatodes ^ --Mrs Hoars garden--
36 which has little tubers at a distance from
37 the base.⁷⁶ %ap in prime%

38 // Cyperus dentatus (?) with flat spikelets
39 under solidago rigida bank ap in prime.
40 Also Pouts' nest with round fascicles of leaves amid spikes

⁷⁴ac. to 1906 edition

⁷⁵word cancelled in pencil

⁷⁶followed by canceled false start

1 Two interesting tall purplish grasses
2 appear to be the prevailing ones now
3 in dry & sterile neglected fields & hill
4 sides--Andropogon furcatus Forked
5 beard grass--& ap. Andropogon sco-
6 %put with this (Andropogon) ie Sorghum nutans V Sep. 6th%
7 parius %^% --purple-wood grass--(though the
8 last appears to have 3 awns like an Aristida)

9 The first is a very tall & slender culmed
10 {drawing}⁷⁹ grass--with 4 or 5 purple finger-like spikes
11 raying upward from the top-- It is very abundant
12 on the hill side behind Peters--

13 The other is also quite slender--2 to 3 or
14 4 feet high--growing in tufts & some-
15 what curving {drawing}⁸⁰ also commonly
16 Broom Grass perhaps
17 purple & with pretty purple stigmas
18 like the last--& it has purple anthers--
19 When out of bloom its appressed spikes are
20 recurving & have a whitish hairy or fuzzy look--

21 These are the prevailing conspicuous flowers
22 where I walk this Pm in dry ground--
23 I have sympathy with them because they
24 are despised by the farmer--& occupy
25 sterile & neglected soil. They also by
26 their rich purple reflections or tinges--seem
27 to express the ripeness of the year-- It is
28 high colored like ripe grapes--& expresses
29 a maturity--which the spring did not
30 suggest--only the august sun could
31 have thus burnished these culms & leaves.

⁷⁹A drawing appears in the left margin before "grass" and extends down to "purple."

⁸⁰A drawing appears in the center of the page between the words "curving" and "also". The drawing continues down to the next line and appears between the words "with" and "pretty."

1 Each humblest plant or weed, as
2 we call it, stands there to express
3 some thought or mood of ours--
4 & yet how long it stands in vain!
5 I have walked these Great Fields so many
6 augusts & never yet distinctly recognized
7 these purple companions that I have
8 there. I have brushed against them &
9 trampled them down forsooth--& now
10 at last they have as it were, risen up &
11 blessed me. Beauty & true wealth are
12 always thus cheap & despised. Heaven or
13 paradise might be defined as the place which
14 men avoid. Who can doubt that these
15 grasses which the farmer says are of no ac-
16 count to him--find some compensation in my
17 appreciation of them? I may say that I
18 never saw them before--& can only recall
19 a dim vision of them--& now wherever I go
20 I hardly see anything else-- It is the reign
21 only %v 6 ps forward%
22 & presidency ^ of the Andropogons.
23 I walk down the Great Meadows
24 on the upland side-- They are still
25 //mowing--but have not got more than
26 half--& prob will not get nearly all
27 I see where the tufts of Arum peltandrum
28 have been cut off by the mower & the
29 still green
30 leaves are all gone but the ^ fruit
31 which had curved down{-}ward close

1 to the ground amid the stubble on every side⁸²
2 was too low for his scythe & so escaped--
3 Thus this plant is perpetuated in such
4 localities, though it may be cut before
5 the seed is mature.
6 black bracted
7 The wool grass ^ of these meadows long long //
8 since went out of bloom & is now not merely
9 withered at top--but wasted half away--& is quite gray
10 While that which I examine in another
11 green bracted
12 meadow ^ has but recently ceased to bloom-- //
13 Looking from this side the meadow appears
14 to be filled almost exclusively with wool-grass
15 yet very little has any culm or has blossomed
16 this year-- I notice however one tract--
17 in the midst of the rest--an oblong square
18 with perfectly straight sides reaching from
19 the upland toward the river--where it has quite
20 generally blossomed & the culms still stand
21 as high as my head-- This plainly is because
22 the land a particular proprietor has been
23 subjected to a peculiar treatment.
24 Minott tells me that once one
25 very dry summer--when but part of
26 these meadows had been cut--Moore
27 quality of the
28 & Hosmer got the owners to⁸³ agree
29 in the expectation that it would improve the ^ grass
30 to have them burnt over ^ --& they
31 made quite an affair of it--had
32 a chowder--cooked by Moores' boys
33 &c--but the consequence was that
34 this wool-grass came in next year more than ever--

⁸²T draws line transposing "amid the stubble" with "on every side"

⁸³line after "to" connecting caret to "quality of the"

1 Some come a good way for their
2 meadow grass--even from Lincoln--
3 Geo. Baker has some in this meadow--
4 & some in the Sudbury meadows. But
5 Minott says they want to get rid of their
6 river meadow now since they can get more
7 & very much better grass off their redeemed
8 swamps or meadows of their own making near
9 home. Hardhack--meadowsweet--
10 alders maples & c & c--appear to be
11 creeping into the meadow. M. says they
12 used to mow clean up to the ditch by the
13 hard land.

14 He remembers how he used to suffer from
15 the heat working out in the sun on
16 these broad meadows--& when they took
17 their luncheon how glad he was to lie along
18 close to the water on the wet ground under
19 the white maples by the river side--

20 And then one would swim a horse over
21 at the holt, go up to Jack Buttricks
22 (Now Abner's) where there⁸⁴ was a well
23 of cool water--& get one or 2 great
24 with
25 jugs full ^ which he recrossed on
26 the horse. He tells of one fellow
27 ⁸⁵who trod water across {their} with
28 a jug in each hand!

29 He has seen young wood cocks in the
30 nest there (ie on the ground) where he
31 had mowed, the middle of August--
32 %Goodwin puts Holt lower down--where I did%

⁸⁴"there" written over "they"

⁸⁵penciled passage at bottom written vertically in the left margin beginning here.

1 & used to see the summer ducks perched
2 on the maples--on some large limbs
3 close up to the main stem--since they can-
4 not cling to a small twig.

5 A Helianthus well out (though ap not out so //
6 {long} as the divaricatus) ap. a var. of H. strumosus
7 (and also of the yet taller Corner spring one--yet
8 the petioles are not margined--nor more
9 than that the teeth appressed). It is whitish
10 & minutely downy beneath.

11 Is that very fine & dense growing spiked
12 rush--almost like an erect conferva--in
13 the meadow side {ditch} in Holbrooks meadow
14 the Eleocharis acicularis? (Scirpus //
15 trichodes--Hair club rush of Bigelow) ap.
16 in prime-- Also Dodd's shore⁸⁶

17 Is that almost equally slender but taller //
18 long
19 one, ~~now~~ ^ out of bloom, & out of water--in
20 the Fringed⁸⁷ Gentian meadow--The same? It
21 also of Pouts nest the 31st
22 appears to be 4 sided. It appears to be Eleocharis tenuis?⁸⁸

23 By the same ditch with the E. acicularis
24 %V. Aug 31%
25 Ap. juncus bufonius? %^% Toad rush--ap. //
26 some time Growing somewhat like
27 rosemary.

28 Aug 27

29 Pm to Walden-- Dog day weather again //
30 of which we had had none since the 18th
31 today-- ^ i.e. clouds without rain-- Wild carrot

32 on RR. ap in prime Hieracium canadense //
33 ap in prime & perhaps H. scabrum. Lactuca //
34 ap much past prime--or nearly done //

⁸⁶"Also Dodd's shore" inserted

⁸⁷"F" written over "f"

⁸⁸This line beginning with "It appears..." looks like it was added below the above interlining that begins "also {of parts}...". However, the placement of the former looks as if it is on the same line as the "appears to be 4 sided", but the script is definitely smaller than the latter.

1 The Nabalus albus has been out some 10 days
2 but N. {Fraseri} at Walden road will
3 //not open ap for some days yet.
4 I see Round-leaved cornel fruit on Hey-
5 // China
6 wood Peak--now half-blue & half white
7 each berry. Rhus toxicodendron there
8 //is half of it turned scarlet & yellow, as
9 if we had had a severe drought--when
10 it has been remarkably wet-- It seems
11 then that in such situations some plants
12 will always assume this withered ~~or~~ prematurely⁸⁹
13 Autumnal aspect-- Orchis lacera
14// // prob done some time. Robins fly in flocks
15 // Ap. juncus tenuis some time
16 i.e. bet S wood shed & good apple tree
17 out of bloom by depot wood piles--^ some
18 15 inches high.--more at my boat's shore
19 Aug 28th
20 // Soaking rain last night--straight down--
21 When the wind stirs after the rain--leaves that
22 were prematurely ripe or withered begin to
23 strew the ground on the leeward side-- Esp--
24 //the scarlet leaves of the cultivated cherry are seen
25 to have fallen-- Their change then is not owing
26 to drought--but commonly a portion of them
27 ripens thus early--reminding us of october &
28 november. When as I go to the P. O. this
29 morning--I see there bright leaves strewing
30 the moist-ground on one side of the tree--
31 & blown several rods from it into a neigh-
32 boring yard--I am reminded that

⁸⁹Thoreau indicates that these words be transposed to read "prematurely withered".

1 I have crossed the summit ridge of
2 the year--& have begun to descend the
3 other slope-- The prospect is now to-
4 ward winter--these are among the
5 first fruits of the leafy harvest--
6 %V. 29th {the} mind harvest%
7 The sharp whistling note of a downy woodpecker--
8 //
9 which sounds rare--perhaps not heard since spring.

10 Aug 29th

11 I hear this morning one eat it potter from
12 a Golden robin. They are now rarely seen-- //
13 %spectrum%
14 The ghost-horse %^% is seen nowadays--several of them //

15 All these high colors in the stems & leaves & other
16 portions of plants--answer to some maturity
17 in us. I presume if I am the wiser for having
18 lived this season through--such plants
19 will emblazon the truth of my experience
20 over the face of nature--& I shall be aware
21 of a beauty & sweetness there--

22 Has not the mind too its harvest--do
23 scarlet
24 not some ^ leaves of thought come scatteringly
25 down--though it may be prematurely--
26 somewhat, perchance, the summers drought
27 has ripened, & the rain loosened-- Are
28 there no purple reflections from the
29 culms of thought in my mind?

30 I remember when boiled green corn ~~sold~~ was
31 sold piping hot on a muster-field in this town--
32 & my father says that he remembers when it
33 used to be carried about the streets of Boston in
34 large baskets on the bare heads of negro women

1 & gentlemen would stop buy an ear & eat
2 it in the street.
3 Ah! what a voice was that hawk's or eagle's
4 of the 22d--think of hearing, as you walk
5 the earth--as usual in leaden shoes--a fine
6 shrill scream from time to time--which you
7 would vainly endeavor to refer to its true source
8 watched
9 if you had not ~~trailed~~ the bird in its upward
10 flight-- It comes from yonder black spot
11 on the bosom of a cloud-- I should not have
12 suspected that sound to have issued from the
13 bosom of a cloud if I had not seen the bird.
14 What motive can an eagle have for scream-
15 ing among the clouds--unobserved by terrestrial
16 creatures? We walk invested by sound--
17 the cricket in the grass--& the eagle in the
18 clouds, & so it {is} circled over--& I strained
19 my eyes to follow it--though my ears heard
20 it without effort.

21 Almost the very sands confess the ripen-
22 ing influence of the August sun--and
23 methinks, with the slender grasses waving
24 over them, reflect a purple tinge--

25 The empurpled sands-- Such is the
26 consequence of all this sun shine--absorbed
27 into the pores of plants & of the earth--
28 All sap or blood is wine-colored-- The
29 very bare sands methinks yield a purple
30 reflection-- At {last} we have not
31 only the purple-sea but the purple

1 land.
2 Pm
3 To J. Farmer's via Assabet
4 As standing, up in my boat, I am watching
5 some minnows at the Prichard bend
6 --steadily stemming the current in the sunny
7 water between the ^ potamogeton--right
8 under my face--I see a musquash
9 gliding along above the sand directly
10 beneath them--a perfect denizen of
11 the water--as much as they-- This rat
12 was a pale brown as light as pale
13 brown paper or perfectly withered ^ oak
14 leaves. Its coat is never of this color
15 out of water--& I suppose it was be-
16 cause it was completely coated with air.
17 This makes it less visible on a sandy bottom.
18 Is not that Eleocharis tenuis? //
19
20 long since out of bloom growing in
21 the water along the Merrick shore near
22 the oak--%round culms%
23 the oak--%^ 15 inch to 2 feet high-- A spiked
24 rush without a leaf & round--I can hardly
25 find a head left on it. Yet Flint says
26 this blooms in August! It grows in
27 dense fields like pipes. Did I find it
28 before this year?
29
30 The mikania is ap in prime or a little //
31 past. Perhaps the front rank Polyg is //
32 in prime now--for there is ap. more than before
33 I look along Mantatuket Field⁹⁰ hedge
34 there are
35 to see if ^ hazel nuts there--but am

⁹⁰"Mantatuket Field" written over "mantatuket field"

1 surprised to find that thereabouts.
2 // The bushes have been completely stripped
3 by squirrels already--and the rich brown
4 burrs are strewn on the ground beneath.
5 What a fine brown these dried burrs have already acquired--not
6 chestnut nor hazel--!
7 I fear it is already too late for me--
8 though I find some yet quite green
9 in another place. They must have
10 been very busy collecting these nuts &
11 {~~shell~~} husking them for a fortnight
12 past--climbing to the extremities of the
13 slender twigs. Who witnesses the gather-
14 ing of the hazel-nuts the hazel harvest?
15 Yet what a busy & important season
16 to the striped squirrel! Now if ever
17 he needs to get up a {tree}. Every nut
18 that I could find left in that field
19 By more frequented paths the squirrels have not worked yet
20 was a poor one. ^
21 Take warning from the squirrel, which is
22 already laying up his winter store.
23 // I see some Cornus sericea berries turning--
24 The Assabet Helianthus (ap var of
25 //Decapetalus) well out some days at
26 least. Are⁹¹ not the petals peculiarly reflexed?
27 //Small botrychium in the bobolink meadow
28 //not yet--Gentiana Andrewsii--~~ap~~ x
29 ~~though this~~ one⁹² not quite shedding pollen.
30 Before bathing at the Poke logan--I
31 see & hear a school of large suckers
32 which have come into this narrow bay--

⁹¹"A" poss written over "a"

⁹²"one" inserted

1 & are swiftly dashing about & rising to the
2 surface with a bubbling sound as
3 if to snatch something from the
4 They agitate the whole bay
5 surface-- ^ They great ruddy looking
6 fellows limber with life-- How intelligent
7 of all watery knowledge-- They seem
8 to measure the length--breadth & depth
9 of that cove--which perhaps they
10 never entered before--with every wave
11 of their fins. They feel it all at
12 once-- With what superfluous vigor
13 they seem to move about restlessly
14 in their element-- Lift them but 6
15 inches & they would quirk their tails in
16 They are poor soft fish however large as they are
17 vain. & taste when cooked at present much like boiled brown paper
18 fistulosa
19 The wild Monarda ^ is ap. nearly done //
20 Cicuta maculata ap generally done //
21 J. Farmer shot a sharp-shinned //
22 hawk this morning--which was endeavoring
23 to catch one of his chickens. I bring it
24 home & find that it measures 17 inches
25 in length & 30 in alar extent & the
26 4
27 tail extends 4⁹³ inches beyond the closed wings
28 It has a very large head & the wing is 6 1/2 inches wide at the 2ndaries
29 It is dark brown above skirted with
30 ferruginous--scapulars with white spots--
31 legs bright yellow--iris yellow-- Has
32 pendulous
33 those peculiar ^ ~~warts~~ lobes to the feet which
34 Farmer thinks are to enable it to hold a small
35 bone of its prey--between the nail & the lobe
36 as it feeds while perching.

⁹³"4" written over "3" and additionally corrected above

1 the night & thinks it may be a blue heron.
2 %V 5 ps forward%
3 We saw where many cranberries had
4 been frost bitten--F. thinks in the night of the
5 23d They are much injured.
6 Spiranthes cernua how long? Near //
7 the bittern nest grows what F. calls
8 Blue-joint grass--out of bloom //
9 Returning rather late p. m-- we saw
10 martins
11 some 40 ^ sitting in a row & twittering on the //
12 ridge of his old house--ap. preparing to
13 migrate. He had never seen it before. Soon they
14 all took to flight & filled the air in the neigh-
15 borhood.
16 The sharp-shinned hawk of to-day is much
17 larger than that of July 21st-- Though the
18 the colors &c. appear to be essentially
19 the same-- Yet its leg is not so stout as
20 %V Oct 11 '56%
21 that which Farrar %^% gave me--but is at
22 %which makes me think Farrar's is%
23 least 1/2 inch larger-- %^% The toes especially are
24 another species.%
25 longer & more slender--but I am not sure
26 %He said it had not a white rump%
27 whether Farrar's hawk has those pendulous
28 lobes--the foot is so dry--nor if it had a
29 sharp edged shin it being eaten away by
30 worms. The inner vanes of the primaries
31 of Farrar's bird are brighter white with
32 much narrower bars of blackish-- The longest
33 primary of Farrars bird is about 10 inches
34 that of to-day about 8 inches-- I find the outside
35 tail feathers of to-day's bird much harder to pull
36 %V July 21% %V May 17--60%

1 than the inside ones--!

2 Our black willow is of so peculiar & light
3 a green--so ethereal--that as I look
4 back 40 rods at those by the Heron
5 rock their⁹⁶ {~~are se~~} outlines are seen
6 with perfect distinctness against the
7 darker green of maples &c--3 or 4 rods
8 behind them--as if they were a green
9 blown by
10 cloud or smoke ^. They are seen as
11 distinctly against those other trees as
12 they would be against the sky.

13 Rice tells me a queer story--some
14 25 years ago he & his brother William
15 took a journey in their wagon into the
16 NW part of Maine--carrying their
17 guns & fishing tackle with them-- At
18 Fryeburg--they visited the scene of Love-
19 wells fight--& seeing some trout in
20 the stream there--they tried to dig some
21 fish worms for bait, but they could not
22 find any. So⁹⁷ they asked a boy where they
23 {get} fish worms--but he did not know what
24 they meant--long slender worms--angle
25 worms said they--but he only answered that
26 ~~they~~ he had seen worms in their manure heap
27 (which were grubs.) On inquiring further
28 they found that the inhabitants had
29 never seen nor heard of angle worms
30 And one old settler who had come from

⁹⁶"their" written over "they"

⁹⁷"So" written over "T"

1 Massachusetts & had lived there 30 years de-
2 clared that there was no such worm in that
3 neighborhood.

4 Mr Farmer gave me a turtle-shaped bug found
5 by Melvin on a board by the river--some time ago.

6 I hear A{biel} Wheeler complained of for
7 over-working his cattle & hired men--but
8 there is this to be said in his favor--that
9 he does not spare himself-- They say that
10 he made his horse %""Tom⁹⁸%"% draw 29 hundred
11 %or night%
12 of hay to Boston the other day %^%--but then
13 he put his shoulder to the wheel at
14 every hill-- I hear that since then
15 the horse has died-- But Wheeler is
16 alive & working.

17 How hard one must {work} in order
18 to acquire his language--words by which
19 to express himself. I have known a
20 particular rush--for instance--for at
21 least 20 years--but have ever been prevented
22 from describing some its peculiarities--because
23 I did not know its name--nor any one
24 in the neighborhood who could tell me it.
25 With the knowledge of the name comes
26 a distincter recognition & knowledge of
27 the thing. That shore is now more describable
28 & poetic even-- My knowledge was
29 cramped & confined before & grew rusty
30 because not used--for it could not be used--

⁹⁸"T" written over "t"

1 My knowledge now becomes communicable
2 & grows by communication. I can now
3 learn what others know about the same thing.
4 Aug 30
5 Pm To Bayonet rush by river--
6 Find at Dodd's Shore (some time out of bloom
7 {drawing}⁹⁹ Eleocharis obtusa (Fresh¹⁰⁰ still at Pratt's pool
8 also // juncus acuminatus (?)¹⁰¹ just done
9 also (also ap later & yet in bloom at Pout's nest
10 what I called juncus scirpoides (but which appears
11 ?
12 to be juncus scirpo paradoxus with seeds
13
14 tailed at both ends-- It is fresher than
15 not done
16 what I have seen before & smaller ^ -- Some
17 of it with few flowers! A terete leaf rises
18 above the flower--{it} looks like a small
19 ~~bya~~ bayonet rush.
20
21 The juncus militaris--has been
22 // long out of bloom the leaf is 3 feet
23 long the whole plant 4 or 5--
24 {drawing}¹⁰² It grows on edge of Grindstone meadow
25 & above. It would look more like
26 a ~~bya~~ bayonet if the leaf were shorter
27 than the flowering stem--which last
28 is the bayonet-part. This is my rain bow
29 rush.
30
31 All over Ammannia shore--& on bare
32 spots in meadows generally Fimbristylis¹⁰³
33 //autumnalis, ap in prime. Minute--2 to 5
34 inch high--with aspect of F. capillaris.
35 As I am returning over Lily Bay I
36 loud
37 hear behind me a singular ^ stertorous sound

⁹⁹A drawing appears in the left margin beginning at the line that starts "Eleocharis..." and ending above the question mark that appears in the left margin.

¹⁰⁰The underlining of "Fresh" is connected to the open parenthesis from the line above before the word "some".

¹⁰¹A dry stroke or a dash appears immediately after the closed parenthesis.

¹⁰²A drawing appears vertically in the left margin beginning at "It grows" and extending down to "rush".

¹⁰³"Fimbristylis" written over "Fimbrystylis"

1 On Grindstone meadow shore Spartina Cynosuroides (?) Fresh water cord grass. //
2 Also river side at Prichards & below esp. W side in prime¹⁰⁴
3 which I thought might have been made
4 by a cow--out of order--2ce sounded.
5 Looking round I saw a blue heron flying
6 low about 40 rods distant & have no
7 doubt the sound was made by him-- Prob this
8 is the sound which Farmer hears. %V 5 ps back% //
9 Is that tall grass now in prime about edge of dangleberry Swamp--Panicum virgatum???
10 Aug 31th 58

11 Pm To Flints Pond--
12 A hot Pm we have had but few warmer //
13 I hear & see but few bobolinks or blackbirds //
14 for several days--past-- The former at least
15 must be withdrawing. I have not heard
16 a seringo of late--but I see to-day one golden robin //
17 The birches have lately lost a great many
18 of their lower leaves which now cover & yellow //
19 some
20 the ground-- also ~~many~~ chestnut leaves //
21 have fallen. Many brakes in the woods //
22 are perfectly withered.

23 At the Pout's nest Walden--I find the
24 scirpus debilis ap in prime--generally aslant //
25 {drawing} Also the Cyperus dentatus with some
26 spikes changed into leafy tufts. Also here less
27 advanced what I have called juncus Acuminatus

28 What I called on the 26th juncus bufonius
29 grows here & with more flowers in a head-- I now
30 see that the leaves are {tufted}--& some has
31 rudimentary leaves in ~~tu~~ tufts so I think it
32 juncus Conradi (?) with 3 stamens still in bloom //
33 Ludwigia alternifolia still //
34 Seriocarpus about done //

¹⁰⁴These sentences were added at the top of page.

1 High blackberries are abundant in
 2 //
 3 Britton's field. At a little distance
 4 you would not suspect that there were
 5 any--even vines--for the racemes are
 6 bent down out of sight amid the
 7 dense sweet ferns & sumacs &c--
 8 the berries still not more than half black
 9 or ripe--keeping fresh in the shade. Those
 10 in the sun are a little wilted & insipid.
 11 The smooth sumac's lower leaves are
 12 //bright scarlet on dry hills.
 13 // Lobelia dortmanna is not quite done--
 14 //Some ground nuts are washed out--
 15 The Flint's Pond rush appears to be
 16 Twig rush--(or in Big Water-Bog-Rush--
 17 //Cladium mariscoides ^, a good while out
 18 of bloom--style 3 cleft--it is about 3 feet
 19 high. This with Eleocharis palustris
 20 dense
 21 which is nearest the shore--forms the ^ rushy
 22 border of the pond-- It extends along the
 23 at least
 24 whole of this end-- ^ about 4 rods wide
 25 & almost every one of the now dry & brown
 26 flower heads--has a cobweb on it.
 27 I perceive that the slender¹⁰⁵ semicircular
 28 branchlets so fit to the grooved or flattened
 29 culm--as still when pressed against it to
 30 make it cylindrical--! very neatly--
 31 // The monotropa is still pushing up.
 32 //Red choke berry--ap. not long.
 33 At Goose¹⁰⁶ Pond--I scare up a
 34 small green bittern-- I plods along

¹⁰⁵"t" cross cancelled
¹⁰⁶"G" written over "g"

1 a few feet
2 low ^ over the surface with limping flight
3 & alights on a {lender} (water killed)
4 stump & voids its excrement just as
5 it starts again--as if to lighten itself.

6 Ed Bartlett brings me a nest
7
8 found 3 feet from the ground in an arbor vitae--
9 %V. the nest%
10 (in or near¹⁰⁷ the New Burying Ground) %^% with one
11 long since addled egg in it-- It is a very thick
12 substantial nest 5 or 6 inches in diameter--&
13 rather deep--Outwardly of much coarse stubble
14 with its fine root fibres attached--loose & dropping
15 off--around a thin casing of withered leaves
16 ¹⁰⁸--Then finer stubble within--& a lining of
17 fine grass stems & horse hair-- The nest is
18 most like that found on Cardinal shore with
19 an addled pale bluish egg--which I thought
20 a wood thrush's at first--except that that
21 has no casing of leaves-- It is somewhat like
22 a very large purple finches nest--or
23 perchance some redwing's with a hair lining.

24 The egg is 3/4 inch long rather broad at
25 one end (~~ap for~~ length) greenish white with brown
26 dashes or spots--becoming a large conspicuous
27 purple-brown blotch at the large end--Almost
28 exactly like--but a little greener (or bluer--)
29 a little
30 & ^ smaller ~~than~~--the egg found in the
31 ground in R. W. E's garden.

32 Do the nest & egg belong together?--was not
33 the egg dropt by a bird of passage in another's
34 nest? Can it be an indigo bird's nest?--

¹⁰⁷"or near" cancelled in pencil

¹⁰⁸cancelled false start

1 I take it to be too large.
2 Sep 1st
3 Pm to Botrychium swamp
4 // Aster miser not long--but the leaves turned
5 red. At the pool by the oaks behind
6 ambiguum
7 //Pratts--I see the myriophyllum ^ still
8 & going to seed--greening the surface{s} of the
9 //water-- The Leersia oryzoides--False
10 Rice--or Rice Cut-grass--is abundant
11 & in prime on the shore there--(also find it
12 It has very rough sheathes
13 on the shore of Merrick's pasture)
14 //Am surprised to see frog (?)¹⁰⁹ spawn just laid
15 neither in spherical masses nor in a
16 string--but flatted out thin on the surface
17 some 8 or 9 inches wide--A small black
18 spawn--white one side as usual--. I saw
19 one or 2 F. fontinalis on the shore. Was
20 it Toad spawn?
21 // Ranunculus¹¹⁰ repens in bloom--as if begun again?
22 at the violet wood sorrel spring--Chelone
23 //glabra well out how long?-- In the same
24 //meadow Aster Longifolius well out not
25 long. That meadow is white with
26 ap.
27 //the Eriophorum polystachyon var. Augusti-
28 folium ? v. it pressed.
29 On dry land common--but ap getting stale
30 //Panicum clandestinum
31 // Dangle berries now ready for picking--
32 At Botrychium swamp Nabalus altissimus
33 //of 20 plants (all in shade) only one out ap.
34 2 or 3 days.

¹⁰⁹The question mark within parentheses appears to have been added later between "frog" and "spawn" slightly above the line but clearly between those two words.

¹¹⁰"Ranunculus" written over "R."

1 Else where in open land N. Fraseri--ap. several days
2 say 5--but not a very rough one. //

3 Ledum telephium how long? //

4 In the evening by the roadside near R. W. Es
5 gate--find a glow worm--of the common //

6 kind. Of 2 men Dr. Bartlett & Ch. Bowen--neither
7 had ever seen it!

8 Sep. 2d

9 Up Assabet-- The common light-sheathed
10 Scirpus Eriophorum still. //

11 At the Poke logan--Ap. Cinna Arundinacea (?) //

12 in prime (1 stamen) also Elymus virginicus (?)

13 Lyme grass on hill Rye ap. lately done. //

14 That rich close erect paniced grass of the meadows
15 ap. for a month in bloom seems to be Glyceria //

16 obtusata. Very common in the meadow W. of Brook's Clark's

17 Sep 3d Pm up Assabet--

18 a-hazel nutting--

19 I see a small striped snake some 15 or 18 inches long
20 swallowing a toad--all but the head & one
21 fore leg taken in-- It is a singular sight that
22 of the little head of the snake directly above the
23 great solemn granitic head of the toad--whose
24 eyes are open--though I have reason to think
25 that he is not alive. for when I return
26 some hours after I find that the snake
27 has disgorged the toad--& departed. The
28 toad had been swallowed with the hind legs stretched
29 compressed &
30 out & close together--& its body is ^ elongated¹¹¹

¹¹¹"elongated" written over "elongaged"

1 to twice its length--while the head which had not been
2 taken in, is of the original size & full of blood.
3 The toad is quite dead--ap killed by being
4 so far crushed--& its eyes are still open-- The
5 regularly
6 body of the snake was enlarged, from near
7 the middle, to its jaws. It appeared to have
8 given up this attempt at the eleventh hour--
9 probably the toad is very much more elongated
10 when perfectly swallowed by a small snake.
11 It would seem then that snakes undertake
12 to swallow toads which are too big for them.
13 I see where the bank by the Poke logan
14 is whitewashed--ie the grass, for a
15 thin
16 yard or 2 square--by the ^ droppings of
17 some bird which has roosted on a dead
18 limb above-- {It} was prob a blue heron
19 slate
20 for I find some ^ blue feathers dropt.
21 --ap. curving breast feathers--broadly¹¹² shafted
22 with white.
23 I hear a faint warble--from time to time from
24 //some young or old birds--from my window
25 these days. It is the purple-finch again--young
26 birds practicing ?? %V sep. 6th%
27 // Zizania still.--
28 The hazel nut bushes up this way are
29 chiefly confined to the ~~dry~~ drier river bank--
30 At least they do not extend into the lower
31 somewhat meadowy land--further inland--
32 They¹¹³ appear to be mostly stripped-- The
33 most I get are left {hanging} over the

¹¹²"broadly" written over "sha"

¹¹³"They" poss written over stray mark

1 water at the swimming ford

2 How important the hazel-nut to the ground-
3 squirrel! They grow along the walls where
4 the squirrels have their homes--they are the
5 oaks that grow before their doors--they have
6 not far to go to their harvesting. These
7 bushes are generally stript--but isolated
8 ones in the middle of fields--away from the
9 squirrel walks--are still full of burrs
10 The wall is highway & rampart to these
11 little beasts--they are almost inaccessible in
12 their holes beneath it--& on either side
13 of it spring up--also defended by the wall--
14 the hazel bushes on whose fruit the squirrels
15 in a great measure depend. Notwithstanding
16 the abundance of hazel nuts here--very little
17 account is made of them--& I think it
18 is because pains is not taken to collect them
19 before the squirrels have done so--

20 Many of the burrs are perfectly green--yet
21 though others are brightly red ~~top~~ edged.
22 The squirrel lives in a hazel-grove--

23 There is not a hazel bush--but some
24 squirrel has {his} eye on its fruit--& he
25 will be pretty sure to anticipate you--
26 As we say the tools to those who can
27 use them--so we may say--"The
28 nuts to those who can get them."

29 That floating grass by the river side--
30 whose lower leaves--so flat & linear float on

1 the surface of the water--though they are
2 at least
3 not now ^ lake-colored--is {ap.} the
4 //Glyceria fluitans Floating fescue grass
5 still blooming & for a good while.
6 I got it yesterday{--}at Merrick's shore--
7 At the sand bar by the swimming
8 ford-- I collect 2 small juncuses
9 not knowing but I have pressed them
10 before-- One appears to be the Juncus scirpoides?
11 small as it is-- The other " articulatus??
12 At Pritchards shore I see where
13 they have plowed up & cast into the
14 river a pile of elm roots--which
15 interfered with their laying down the
16 adjacent field-- One which I picked
17 up--I at first thought was a small
18 lead pipe--partly coiled up & muddy in
19 the water--it of being ap. of uniform
20 size. It was just 19 feet & 8 inches
21 long-- The biggest end was 21/40 of an
22 inch in diameter & the smallest 19/40
23 This difference was scarcely obvious to the
24 eye-- No doubt it might have been
25 taken up very much longer.
26 & flexible
27 It looked as if when green ^ it might
28 answer the purpose of a ~~cord~~ rope
29 --of a cable for instance when
30 you wish to anchor in deep water--
31 The wood is very porous.
32 %sheathes%¹¹⁴
33 The narrow brown scales¹¹⁵ from the base of white pine leaves--now strew the ground
34 //& are washed up on the edge of puddles after the rain.

¹¹⁴Ac. to 1906 edition

¹¹⁵poss cancelled in pencil

1 Sep. 4th

2 Much--rain with thunder & lightening //

3 Our large fruited sparganium is evidently
4 at least
5 S. ramosum--still a little ^ in flower //

6 My large grass of the river side with
7 a narrow or spike like appressed panicle
8 {drawing}¹¹⁶ long since out--at the end of a ^ bare
9 {drawing} long

10 {~~si~~} culm--leafy below--is ap. Phalaris //

11 arundinacea

12 Was that Calamagrostis coarctata
13 which I found in a dry place--i.e on Holbrooks
14 path about a week since then perhaps hardly //

15 out--? V. pressed--

16 Is that purple culmed grass now in prime
17 some 2 feet high which I found Sep. 1st In
18 Clarke's orchard near my house--(that was) //

19 apparently--
20 Sorghum nutans? ^ (a short one) ~~or a {Muh}~~
21 also common at Clam-Shell ditch
22 Hill side & {larger}

23 {~~lengeria~~}? V Sep 6th

24 Piper grass is ap. Triticum repens now
25 done--

26 What I called Panicum capillare--
27 (after Hoar without examining) is P. sanguinale //

28 Crab grass--Finger¹¹⁷ Grass--or Purple Panic
29 Grass.

30 Panicum capillare (very different & like {——})
31 fine
32 {——} Eragrostis capillaris The ^ purple grass) is
33 now in prime in garden. //

34 Our Amaranthus hybridus (?) leaves are not ?
35 "bright green" yet it cannot be A Retroflexus
36 for the fruit is not "rugose"--nor {chloros}-

¹¹⁶A drawing in the left margin begins next to the word "long" and extends down to "arundinacea".

¹¹⁷"F" written over "f"

1 {tachys} for the fruit is not nearly so long
2 as the calyx.

3 Sep 5th

4 Pm to Walden

5 Prinos verticillata berries reddening. I
6 // wood
7 hear 2 or more ^ Pewees this Pm--but
8 had not before for a fortnight or
9 more-- The Pewee days are over for some
10 time.

11 Went down to the pond hole behind
12 where I used to live-- It is quite full
13 of water. The middle or greater part
14 is densely covered with target leaves--
15 crowding one another & curling upon
16 their edges--then there is a space or
17 canal of clear water 5 to 20 feet wide
18 quite around them--& the shore is thickly
19 covered with Rattlesnake grass now
20 ripe.

21 // I find many high-blueberries quite
22 fresh--over hanging the S. shore of Walden

23 I find all about Walden close to the
24 edge on the steep bank--& at Brister's
25 spring--a fine grass now generally
26 past prime--~~between~~ Agrostis perennans
27 v Sep. 7
28 // ~~& scabra~~ ^ Thin grass or Hair Grass¹¹⁸--

29 on moist ground or near water. The branches
30 of the panicle are but slightly purplish.

¹¹⁸"Hair Grass" written over "hair grass"

1 Sep 6th

2 6 Am to Merrick's Shore--

3 Hear a warbling vireo sounding very //

4 rare--& rather imperfect-- I think this is

5 what I have mistaken for the young

6 purple finch-note (?) Also hear ap

7 a yel. throat-vireo. //

8 That fine spreading panicled dark

9 purple grass now rising all along the river

10 near the water side--is Panicum agrostoides //

11 in prime.

12 That finer & narrower panicled--now out of

13 bloom--is Red top or else White Bent--with //

14 the former--

15 River risen still higher & weeds covered-- //

16 Pm to Ledum Swamp--

17 Going over Clam Shell Plain I see

18 a very large flock of a hundred or more

19 cow-birds about some cows-- They //

20 whirl away on some alarm & alight on

21 a neighboring rail fence--close together

22 on the rails one above another-- Then

23 away they whirl & settle on a white

24 oak top near me--half of them are

25 evidently quite young birds having glossy

26 black breasts with a drab line down middle

27 The heads of all are light colored perhaps

28 a slaty drab--& some ap wholly of this color--

29 On the hill side above Clam Shell

30 ditch grows that handsome grass of

1 sep 1st (V Sep 4th) evidently Sorghum
2 nutans (Andropogon of Big.) Chestnut
3 Beard Grass--Indian Grass--Wood Grass
4 It is much larger than what I
5 saw before--is still abundantly in flower
6 4 1/2 feet high--leaves perhaps arundi-
7 naceous--18 inch long--panicle 9 inches
8 long. It is a very handsome wild looking
9 grass--well enough called Indian
10 Grass--& I should have named it with
11 the other andropogons Aug. 26.

12 With its narrow one sided panicle
13 {—} bright
14 of ^ purple & yellow (I include the
15 yellow anthers) (~~it~~) often waving¹¹⁹--raised
16 high above the leaves-- It looks like
17 a narrow banner-- It is of more vivid
18 colors than its congeners--& might well
19 have caught an Indian's eye. These
20 bright banners are now advanced on
21 the distant hill sides--not in large
22 armies--but scattered troops or single
23 file like the red men themselves--
24 They stand thus fair & bright in our
25 midst--as it were representative of
26 the race which they are named after--
27 but for the most part unobserved.

28 It stands like an Indian chief
29 taking a last look at his beloved
30 hunting grounds-- The expression of
31 this grass haunted me for a week

¹¹⁹ac. to 1906

1 after I first paused & noticed it--like
2 Aster patens past prime at money diggers hill //
3 the glance of an eye-- Polygonum tenue how long? //
4 Solidago nemoralis is ap in prime //
5 on Lupine hill--some of it--past-- It
6 is swarming with butterflies--yellow small
7 red--& large--fluttering over it--
8 At Ledum pool edge--I find the
9 %wardia%
10 Woodsia¹²⁰ virginica fern--its fruit mostly //
11 turned deep reddish brown. It appears to grow
12 only close to the pool--part of the fruit forming
13 2 lines parallel with the mid rib.
14 A 3d part of the nesaea there is turned scarlet //
15 Kalmia glauca is again in bloom //
16 The hairy huckle berries are rather scarce //
17 & soft-- They are insipid & leave a hairy skin
18 in the mouth. That swamp is a
19 singularly wild place--without any
20 natural outlet-- I hear of a marsh-
21 hawk's nest there this summer--
22 I see great spiders there of an uncommon
23 kind whose webs--the main supporting
24 line--stretch 6 feet in the clear from
25 spruce to spruce as high as my head--
26 with a dense web of the usual form
27 some 15 inches in diameter beneath--
28 Stopped & talked with Wm Wheeler
29 & ate a watermelon with him in the
30 grass-- Once his senseless democracy appeared
31 He spoke with an ignorant pride of
32 Buchanan's telegraphic message--of

¹²⁰"sia" cancelled in pencil

1 which most of us were ashamed said
 2 He supposed he had more learning than
 3 Victoria.! But the less said about them
 4 the better. Seeing a stake driver
 5 flying up the river--he observed that
 6 when you saw that bird flying about
 7 it was a never failing sign of a storm
 8 approaching. How many of these sayings
 9 like this
 10 ^arise not from a close & frequent obser-
 11 vation of the phenomena of nature
 12 --but from a distant & casual one--!
 13 I find very common in prime by
 14 road sides--in dry ground & {c.} Vilfa
 15 //vaginaeflora--Rush grass--Hidden
 16 flowered vilfa.¹²¹ Also by corner
 17 //road side¹²²--beyond brooks--Panicum filiforme
 18 with & like P. sanguinale--ap in prime
 19 fills the old Mullein field in front of Bear garden Hill--
 20 & with last.
 21 Is that narrowly linear leaved potamogeton
 22 all immersed & now forming dense beds
 23 in the Assabet--a distinct species or
 24 ?
 25 only the immersed leaves of one ? %V. pressed%
 26 A year ago last spring I gave
 27 to Edith Emerson & to Sophia¹²³ some clasping
 28 Hound'stongue seeds--It being very rare
 29 hereabouts--wishing to spread it-- Now &
 30 for a long time it has been a pest
 31 in the garden (It does not bloom till the 2d
 32 year) by its seeds clinging to our clothes--

¹²¹ in. space between "vilfa." and "Also".

¹²²"side" inserted

¹²³"S" written over "s"

1 Mrs E. has carried it to Boston thus--
2 & I have spent 20 minutes at once in clearing
3 myself of it-- So it is in a fair way to
4 be dispersed.

5 Sep 7th

6 Pm to Assabet Bath--

7 I turn Anthony's corner-- It is an early
8 September afternoon--melting warm
9 & sunny--the thousands of grasshoppers
10 leaping before you reflect ~~bright~~ gleams
11 of light-- A little distance off the field
12 is yellowed with a Xerxean army of Solidago
13 nemoralis between me & the sun--the
14 earth song of the cricket comes up through
15 all--& ever & anon the hot Z-ing of
16 the locust is heard-- (Poultry is now fattening
17 on grasshoppers--) The dry deserted fields
18 are one mass of yellow--like a color
19 shoved to one side on Nature's palette--
20 You literally wade in yellow flowers knee
21 deep--& now the moist banks & low
22 hollows are beginning to be abundantly sugared //
23 with A. tradescanti.

24 J. Farmer calls those Rubus sempervirens
25 (berries now abundant) snake black berries

26 I find in Colt path by the S. lanceolata--
27 ap. juncus marginatus ap about done //
28 the stems are flattish--leaves grassy but
29 thickish--& concave--whole plant dark green

1 Looking for my Maryland Yel--
2 throats nest--I find that ap. a
3 snake has made it the portico to his
4 dwelling--there being a hole descending
5 into the earth through it!--
6 In shadbush meadow the prevailing
7 grasses (not sedges) now--are
8 the slender Panicum clandestinum
9 //whose seeds are generally dropt now--Pani-
10 cum virgatum in large tufts--& blue
11 joint. (The last of course long since done) These
12 are all the grasses that I notice there.
13 What a contrast to sink your head
14 so as to cover your ears with water--&
15 hear only the confused noise of the
16 rushing river--& then to raise ~~it~~ your
17 ears above water & hear the steady creaking
18 of crickets in the aerial universe!
19 While dressing I see 2 small hawks
20 prob partridge hawks soaring and circling
21 about 100 feet above the river--
22 suddenly one drops down from that
23 height almost perfectly perpendicularly--
24 after some prey till it is lost behind the
25 bushes--
26 Near the little bridge at the foot of
27 //{Turtle} bank Eragrostis capillaris in small
28 ap. in prime
29 but dense patches (the Poa capillaris
30 of Bigelow) What I have thus called in
31 press is E pectinacea (P. hirsuta of Big)

1 I should say that swifter currents are
2 here & there bursting up from below--
3 & spreading out on every side--as if this
4 river were breaking over a thousand concealed
5 rocks. The surface is broken & dimpled
6 with up swelling currents--
7 Red oak acorns yet green--are
8 //abundantly cut off by the squirrels--
9 The yellow-legs is nodding its head
10 //
11 along the edge of the meadow-- I hear
12 v. 18th
13 also its creaking te te te
14 // Gather half my grapes--which
15 for some time have perfumed the house
16 Pm To Owl Swamp
17 I perceive the dark crimson leaves--
18 quite crisp--of the White maple on the
19 meadows--recently fallen-- This is their
20 //first fall--i.e. of those leaves which
21 changed long ago-- They fall then
22 with birches & chestnuts &c (lower leaves)
23 before red maples generally begin
24 to turn.
25 The Corallorhiza is ap half done or
26 //
27 more¹²⁸ Find a peculiarly long linear
28 Ind.
29 leaved aster in the swamp beyond the ^ rock
30 (V press) which is ap. a var of A longifolius
31 long
32 //Carex¹²⁹ Comosa (possibly pseudo--cyperus) ^ gone
33 to {seed} but green.
34 Is that short grass of the Poke-
35 logan meadow {~~bu~~} just E. of the grove

¹²⁸A long space appears between "more" and "Find".

¹²⁹"Carex" written over "C."

1 Danthonia spicata?--or Avena striata?

2 mostly quite done--

3 It is good policy to be stirring about
4 your affairs--for the reward of
5 activity & energy is that if you do
6 not accomplish the object you had
7 professed to yourself--you do accomplish
8 something else. So in my botanizing
9 or natural history walks--it commonly
10 turns out that going for one thing--
11 I get another thing. "Though man
12 proposeth--God disposeth all"--

13
14 Sep 9th

15 Pm to Waban Cliff.

16 A very hot day--90°+ as I hear-- yesterday //
17 was hot too-- Now it is about time
18 to gather elderberries. Many Viola //
19 cucullatas have opened again. //

20 What is that short squeaking note heard
21 from time to time from amid the weeds
22 on the W side the river at Hubbards Bath?--
23 %May it not be a meadow hen?%
24 There are broad patches sometimes of
25 several acres on the edge of the meadow
26 where it is wettest & weediest--which
27 the farmers do not mow-- There especially
28 stands the brown-headed wool-grass.
29 These are small tracts still as it
30 were in their primitive condition--

1 wild tracts where the bittern rises
2 & where no doubt the meadow hen
3 lurks. (was it the note of the last I heard?)
4 Heard a short plover-like note from
5 //
6 a bird flying high across the river--
7 %V. 30th%
8 //Watched a little dipper %??% some 10 rods
9 %^%
10 off with my glass--but I could see no
11 white on the breast-- It was all black
12 & brownish--& head not enlarged.
13 Who knows how many little dippers are
14 sailing & sedulously diving ~~a~~ now along
15 the edge of the pickerel weed & the
16 button bushes on our river! Unsuspected
17 by most. This hot September Pm all
18 may be quiet amid the weeds--but
19 the dipper & the bittern & the yellow-
20 legs--& the blue heron & the rail--
21 are silently feeding there. At length
22 the walker who sits meditating on a
23 distant bank--sees the little dipper sail
24 out from amid the weeds--& busily
25 dive for its food along their edge--
26 Yet ordinary eyes might {range} up
27 & down the river all day--& never detect
28 its small black head above the water--
29 It requires a different intention of the
30 eye in the same locality to see different
31 plants--as e.g. juncaceae & gramineae
32 even--i.e. I find that when I am

1 looking for the former, I do not see the latter
2 in their midst. How much more then it
3 requires a different intentions of the eye
4 & of the mind to attend to different de-
5 partments of knowledge! How differently
6 the poet & the naturalist look at objects!

7 A man sees only what concerns him.
8 A botanist absorbed in the pursuit of grasses
9 does not distinguish the finest¹³⁰ pasture
10 oaks. He as it were tramples down oaks
11 unwittingly in his walks--

12 Bidens cernua how long //
13 The river is about at its height to-day or //
14 yesterday-- Much burr-reed & heart leaf{--} //
15 is floating & washed up--ap the first
16 important contribution to the river wrack--

17 The sportsman will paddle a boat
18 now 5 or 6 miles--& wade in water
19 up to his knees--being out all day
20 without his dinner--& think himself
21 amply compensated if he bags 2 or
22 3 yellow-legs. The most persistent
23 & sacrificing endeavors are necessary to
24 success in any direction.

25 Wood bine scarlet--like a brilliant //
26 scarf on high wrapped around the stem
27 %By a blush betrays where it hangs upon an elm%
28 of a green tree.

29 I find an abundance of beaked hazel-nuts
30 1 to 3 burrs together
31 at Blackberry steep ^ --but gathering them

¹³⁰The 1906 version interprets this word as "grandest".

1 I get my fingers full of fine shining bristles
2 --while the common hazel burrs are either
3 smooth or covered with a softer glandular
4 down--i.e. its horns are brazen tipt{;}
5 Under the rocks near the Slip
6 elm--The Gymnostichum hystrix--Bottle
7 //
8 Brush Grass--Hedge hog Grass--long done.
9 Also--there & further¹³¹ along 2
10 Muhlenbergias belonging to the {1st}
11 *
12 ap M. Mexicana (?) but ~~much branched~~
13 // in dry ground
14 & M. sobolifera (?) (but much branched)
15 ap the same & less now only under cave at Cliffs.
16 both in prime ^ & called Dropseed Grass--
17 //Is that Poa compressa--(Blue Grass
18 Wine¹³² grass) with a small panicle--now
19 done--there?
20 Rice says he saw 2 meadow hens
21 when getting his hay in Sudbury some
22 2 months ago & that they breed there--
23 The kept up a peculiar note. My egg (named
24 sep 7th) was undoubtedly a meadow hen's R.
25 virginica. R says that he has
26 caught pigeons which had ripe grapes
27 in their crops long before any were ripe
28 here--& that they came from the S. W.
29 We live in the same world with
30 the orientals--far off as they may seem--
31 Nature is the same here to a chemists
32 tests. The weeping willow (Salix Baby
33 lonica) will grow here-- The peach
34 too has been transplanted & is agreeable

¹³¹"further" poss underlined

¹³²poss "W" written over "w"

1 to our palates--So are their poetry & phi-
2 losophy near & agreeable to us.
3 Sep 10th
4 Tower mustard in bloom again-- //
5 %A musquash house begun% %//%
6 Sunday sep. 12th
7 Pm to Cliffs--
8 The handsome crimson tipped hazel //
9 nut burrs now & for some time have
10 reminded us that it was time to gather
11 these nuts-- They are worth gathering
12 if only to see the rich color of the fruit
13 brought together in a quantity.
14 Lycopodium complanatum how long? ? //
15 Have seen the pigeon's egg fungus in pastures //
16 some time. Yew berries still hold on. //
17 The cinnamon fern has begun to yellow & wither //
18 How rich in its decay--sic transit-gloria mundi. //
19 Die like the leaves, which are most glo beau-
20 tiful in their decay. Thus gradually & suc-
21 cessively each plant lends its richest color
22 to the general effect--& in the fittest place
23 & passes away-- Amid the October woods
24 we hear no funeral bell--but the
25 scream of the jay. Coming to some shady
26 meadow's edge you find that the cinnamon
27 fern has suddenly turned this rich yellow.
28 Thus each plant surely {acts} its part
29 & lends its effect to the general impression
30 See petty-morel berries ripe--
31

1 woodsia ilvensis under the cave at Cliffs in
2 //fruit--
3 // Is that the Panicum dichotomum var pubescens
4 now done--(but some green) from 1 to 3 (!) feet
5 high on top of cliffs? Can that very
6 delicate & slender grass--(somewhat flexuous
7 now in prime
8 branched panicle) ^ in the grape swamp under
9 // Cliffs be Agrostis perennans--instead of
10 the one I have so named?
11 // Very heavy rain all yesterday Pm
12 //& to-day it is somewhat cooler & clearer &
13 the wind more N. Westerly. & I see the unusual
14 sight of ripples or waves curving up stream
15 {off} Cardinal shore {drawing}¹³³ so that
16 the river might seem to be flowing
17 that way. The mts are of a darker
18 blue.
19 The spring on the W side of F. H. Hill is
20 nearly dry--there is no stream flowing from
21 it. What a disappointment to a herd of
22 cows to find their accustomed spring dry!
23 Even in that little hollow on the hill side
24 commonly moistened by the spring--grow the
25 soft rush--rhynco{spora} &c.-- What
26 an effect a little moisture on a hill
27 side produces!--though only a rod square--
28 The juncacae & cyperaceae soon find it
29 out & establish themselves there.
30 The Polyg. articulatum (is that in the
31 //peach tree one--) abundantly out how long?

¹³³This drawing appears vertically between "shore" and "so" and continues below between "seem" and "too".

1 The Panicum filiforme is very abundant
2 in that old mullein field of Potters by
3 the cor. road-- Its slender culms are
4 purple--& seen in the right light where
5 they stand thick--they give a purple gleam //
6 to the field. More purple far than The P.
7 sanguinale. Some small red maples
8 by water begin to redden. //

9 In Hubbard's ditched meadow this side
10 his grove-- I see a great many large
11 spider webs stretched across the ditches--
12 about 2 feet from bank to bank--though the
13 thick woven part is 10 or 12 inches--

14 They are parallel a few inches or a foot
15 or more apart & more or less vertical
16 & attached to a main cable stretched
17 from bank to bank. They are the yellow backed
18 spider--commonly large & stout--but of
19 various sizes-- I count 64 such webs-- //
20 there & in each case the spider occupies
21 the center--head-downward. This is enough
22 methinks to establish the rule. They are
23 not afraid of turning their brains then.
24 Many insects {must} be winging their way
25 over this small river-- It reminds me of
26 the Indian catching ducks at Green¹³⁴ Bay
27 with nets in 'old times'.

28 Sep. 13th Pm

29 To Anurnsnack-- solidago puberula-- //
30 ap in prime & handsome roadside Colburns Hill--

¹³⁴"G" written over "g"

1 // I noticed the black willows quite imbrowned
2 on the 10th ult & the button bushes beginning
3 //to look yellowish.

4 A. Hosmer is pleased because from the cupola
5 of his new barn he can see a new round topped
6 mt in the N. W. Is curious to know what
7 one it is. Says that if he lived as near Anur-
8 snack as Heywood does, he should go up it
9 once a week--but he supposes that Heywood
10 does not go up it more than once a year.

11 What is that grass still in bloom a foot
12 //
13 or more in height in Heywoods potato field
14 some 50 rods W of House¹³⁵-leek? It is some-
15 ^{%{wrongly}%¹³⁶}
16 what like what I have ^{%^%} called Danthonia
17 spicata--but with a longer & a round spike &c &c
18 V. press-- There is a man there mowing
19 the Panicum crus galli--which is exceedingly
20 rank & dense--completely concealing the
21 it was so wet
22 potatoes which have never been hoed ^{^137} He
23 saves this grass & says the cattle like it
24 well.

25 I notice that the large ant hills though
26 they prevent bushes & ferns from growing where
27 they are built--~~creating~~ keeping open a
28 space 4 to 7 feet wide in their midst--
29 do not keep out grass--but they are
30 commonly little grassy mounds with bare
31 tops.

32 Looking from the top of Anursnack--
33 the aspect of the earth generally is still

¹³⁵poss "H" written over "h"

¹³⁶ac to 1906 version

¹³⁷line connects caret to interlineation

1 a fresh green--esp. the woods--but
2 many dry fields ~~are~~ where ap. the June
3 grass has withered uncut are a very pale
4 It is fit that some animals should be nearly of this color. The cougar would hardly¹³⁸
5 be observed stealing across these plains
6 tawny or lighter still ^ In one place I still
7 detect the ruddiness of Sorrel.
8 Euphorbia hypericifolia still & gone to seed on //
9 the top of Anurnsnack.
10 From many a barn these days I hear the sound
11 of the flail-- For how many generations this
12 sound will continue to be heard here!--at least
13 until they discover a new way of separating
14 the chaff from the wheat.
15 Saw one raking cranberries on the 10th rather //
16 early.
17 A small dense flock of wild pigeons dashes //
18 by over the side of the hill from W to E--
19 perhaps from Wetherbee's to Brook's--for I
20 see the latter's pigeon place. They make
21 a dark-slate gray impression--
22 Fringed gentian out well--on Eastern most //
23 edge of the paint-cup meadows--by wall.
24 Car. Pratt tells me the 20th that her father found it out full a fortnight before that
25 date!!¹³⁹
26 Saw a striped snake run into the wall--
27 & just before it disappeared heard a loud
28 sound like a hiss! I think it could
29 hardly have been made by its tail among leaves.
30 The squirrels know better than to
31 open unsound hazel nuts-- At most they only
32 peep into them-- I see some on the walls
33 with a little hole gnawed in them--enough to
34 show that they are empty--

¹³⁸Due to limited space, this line appears here to begin in the margin; in the manuscript, this line is actually indented, and the script is very small.

¹³⁹Due to limited space "date!!" was forced to wrap to the next line; it should appear on the same line as "Car. Pratt tells me..." (the previous line).

1 & squashes are
2 musk melons ^ turning¹⁴⁰ yellow in the gardens
3 & ferns in the swamps
4 // Hear many warbling vireos these morn-
5 Many yel. butterflies in road & field all
6 //ings--the country over--
7 Sep. 14th
8 // Half a dozen Bidens chrysanthemoides in
9 river not long-- picked 11 of these great
10 //potato worms, caterpillars of the Sphinx
11 moth--off our privet. The Glyceria
12 obtusa--about 18 inches high--quite
13 common--in the meadow W of Brooks Clarks
14 has turned a dull purple--prob. on ac.
15 of frosts.
16 Sep 15th
17 I have not seen nor heard a bobolink
18 //
19 for some days at least--numerous
20 as they were 3 weeks ago & even {a} 15 days--
21 They depart early. I hear a nuthatch
22 //
23 occasionally--but it reminds me of winter--
24 Pm to Walden
25 I paddle about the Pond--for a
26 rarity-- The eriocaulon still in bloom
27 there--standing thinly about the edge
28 where it is stillest & shallowest--in the
29 color of its stem & radical leaves is
30 quite in harmony with the glaucous
31 water. Its radical leaves & fine root
32 fibers form a peculiar loose but thick
33 & continuous carpet or rug on the
34 sandy bottom--which you can lift
35 up in great flakes exposing the fine

¹⁴⁰"ing" inserted

1 white beaded root fibers. This evidently
2 affords retreats for the fishes, musquash(es)
3 &c. &c.--& you can see where it has been
4 lifted up into galleries by them. I see 1 or 2
5 pickerel poised over it. They too are
6 singularly greenish & transparent--so
7 as not to be easily detected {——} Only
8 a little more yellowish than the water
9 & the eriocaulon--etherial fishes--not
10 far from the general color of heart leaf
11 & target weed--unlike the same fish
12 out of water.

13 I notice as I push round the pond close to
14 the shore with a stick, that the weeds
15 are eriocaulon--2 or 3 kinds of pota-
16 mogeton (one with a leaf an inch or 2 long--
17 one with a very small floating leaf--a 3d
18 all ~~imm~~ immersed 4 or 5 inches high &
19 this (v press) is ap. an immersed form of P. hybridus. //
20 yellowish green ^ --) target weed--heart
21 leaf--& a little callitriche. There
22 is but little of any of them however in
23 the pond itself. It is truly an ascetic
24 pond--& lives very sparingly on vegetables
25 at any rate--

27 I gather quite a lot of perfectly
28 fresh high blueberries overhanging the
29 S side--& there are many green ones among
30 them still. They are all shrivelled now
31 in swamps commonly--

1 The target weed still blooms a little in
2 //
3 the pout's nest--though half the leaves
4 are sadly eaten &
5 have turned a reddish-orange ^ --Ðand

6 have lost nearly all their gelatinous coat-
7 ing. But perfect fresh green leaves
8 have expanded & are still expanding in
9 their midst-- The whole pool is covered
10 as it were with one vast shield of reddish
11 & green scales-- As these leaves change
12 & decay--the firmer parts along the veins
13 retain their life & color longest, as with
14 the heart leaf, the leaves are eaten in
15 winding lines about 1/10 of an inch wide
16 --scoring them all over in a curious
17 manner--& also in spots-- These look
18 dark or black because they rest on the dark
19 water.

20 Looking closely I am surprised to
21 find how many frogs--mostly small--
22 are resting amid these target leaves with
23 their green noses out. Their backs &
24 noses are exactly the color of this weed.
25 They retreat when disturbed--under
26 this close shield. It is a frog's para-
27 dise.

28 I see in the path pitch pine twigs
29 //
30 gnawed off--where no cones are left on
31 the ground. Are they gnawed off in order to
32 come at the cones better?
33 I find just rising above the target weed

1 at Pout's Nest scirpus subterminalis //

2 ap recently out of bloom-- The¹⁴¹ culms 2 to 3

3 feet long--appearing to rise 1/2 inch above the

4 long

5 spikes. The ^ linear immersed leaves coming

6 off & left below.

7 At entrance of the path (on Brister's path)

8 near staple & Jarvis bound--ap the

9 true Danthonia spicata still green //

10 It is generally long out of bloom & turned

11 straw color. I will call the other (which

12 of Hosmer's meadow)

13 I had so named)^--for the present meadow

14 oat grass--as indeed I did at first

15 A Humming bird in the garden //

16 There is a SE wind--with clouds //

17 & I suspect a storm brewing. It is

18 very rare that the wind blows from this

19 quarter.

20 Sep 16

21 When I awake I hear the sound of steady

22 heavy rain-- A S. E. storm. Our peach //

23 tree limbs are broken off by it-- It lasts

24 all day--rains a great deal--& scatters

25 many elm boughs & leaves over the street.

26 This wind does damage out of propor-

27 tion to its strength. The fact is, the

28 trees are unprepared to resist a wind

29 from this quarter--& being loaded with

30 foliage & fruit suffer so much the more

31 There will be many wind falls--& fruit

32 be cheap for a while--

¹⁴¹"The" written over text or corrected

1 It rained as hard as I remember
2 to have seen it for about 5 minutes
3 at 6 o clock Pm when I was out--

4 And then suddenly--as it were in an--
5 instant the wind whirled round to the
6 westward--& clear sky appeared there
7 & the storm ended--(which had lasted
8 all day & part of the previous night)
9 All this occurred while I was coming
10 from the P. O. The street is strewn with
11 a great many perfectly green leaves
12 esp. of elms--and branches large & small
13 also for the most part quite sound--
14 It is remarkable that these tough &
15 slender limbs can be thus twisted off--

16 Sep. 17th

17 Pm ride to Beaver Pond & beyond--
18 I see several apple trees that were blown
19 down yesterday--& some pretty large elm
20 limbs. The orchards are strewn with
21 wind falls--mostly quite green.

22 Paddle round Beaver Pond in a boat
23 which I caulked with newspaper--
24 It has a very boggy & generally inac-
25 cessible shore--now more inaccessible
26 than usual on ac. of the rain & high-
27 water-- A singularly muddy hole--

28 There grows on its north edge a
29 sedge much like--if not same with--

1 the Owl swamp C. comosa?--but
2 the staminate spikes are very long.
3 Also find ap. recently out of bloom--
4 what appears to be Muhlenbergia glomerata(?) //
5 do I not see the same in Ministerial Swamp Nov. 25--58?
6 with now purplish spikes-- I tried at
7 first to make it an Alopecurus--but in
8 vain. It grows near the edge in the bog.
9 See Elicampane quite out of bloom //
10 Also the Solidago odora which I see has
11 just done-- //
12 River rising fast--from yesterday's rain //
13 Cooler weather now for 2 or 3 days--so //
14 that I am glad to sit in the sun on
15 the E. side of the house--mornings--
16 Methinks too that there are more sparrows
17 in flocks now about in the garden &c--
18 Sep 18 '58
19 Pm Sail to F. H. Pond.
20 It is a fine September day-- The river is
21 still rising on ac. of the rain of the
22 16th & is getting pretty well over the meadows
23 As we paddle westward toward College
24 meadow--I perceive that a new season
25 has come The air is incredibly clear--
26 the surface of both land & water is bright
27 as if washed by the recent rain &
28 then seen through a much finer clearer
29 & cooler air-- {The} surface of the
30 river sparkles. I am struck by the

1 //soft yellow brown--or brown yellow
2 of the black willows--stretching in
3 cloud shaped wreathes far away along
4 the edge of the stream--of a so
5 much mellower & maturer tint than
6 the elms & oaks--& most other trees seen
7 above & beyond them-- It is remarkable
8 that the button-bushes beneath & mingling
9 with them are of exactly the same tint
10 & in perfect harmony with them-- They
11 are like 2 interrupted long brown yellow
12 masses of verdure resting on the
13 water--a peculiarly soft & warm yellow.
14 This is perhaps the most interesting autum-
15 nal tint as yet--
16 Above the RR. bridge with our sail
17 set-- wind N. N. W. we see 2 small
18 %too large V 30th%
19 ducks--dusky--perhaps dippers? or
20 summer ducks?--& sail within 4 rods
21 before they fly-- They are so tame that for
22 a while we take them for tame ducks
23 The pads are drowned by the flood
24 but I see one pontederia spike
25 //rising blue above the surface-- Else
26 where the dark withered pontederia
27 leaves show themselves & at a distance
28 look like ducks & so help conceal
29 them-- For the ducks are now
30 //back again in numbers--since

1 the storm & freshet--
2 We can just go over the Ammania //
3 meadow
4 It is a wonderful day-- As I look west-
5 ward this fine air "{gasey}"¹⁴² C calls
6 it brings out the grain of the hills
7 I look into the distant sod. This air
8 & sun too bring out all the yellow
9 that is in the herbage-- The very
10 grass or sedge of the meadow
11 is the same soft yellow with the
12 willows & the button bush har-
13 monizes with them. It is as if the
14 earth were one ripe fruit--like
15 a musk melon yellowed in the Sep-
16 tember sun--i.e. the sedges being brought
17 between me & the sun are seen
18 to be ripe like the muskmelon--&
19 cucumbers¹⁴³ in the garden-- The
20 earth is yellowing in the September
21 sun-- It occurs to me to put my knee
22 on it--press it gently & hear if it
23 does not crack within as if ripe. Has
24 it not too a musty fragrance--as a
25 melon?
26 At Clam Shell we take the wind again
27 and away we glide-- I notice along
28 the edge of the eastern meadow wood
29 some very light colored & crisped looking leaves
30 {maybe swamp white grass}¹⁴⁴
31 ap. on small maples--as if some vine

¹⁴²1906 version uses "gassy".

¹⁴³Thoreau indicates with a symbol that these words be transposed to read, "cucumbers & muskmelon".

¹⁴⁴Unreadable penciled interlining. 1906 version reads "or else swamp white oaks".

1 ran over the trees--for the leaves are
2 of a different color from the rest--
3 This must be the effect of frost I think
4 The sedge & wool grass all slant
5 strongly Southward or up the stream
6 now--which makes a strange impression
7 on the sailor--but of late the wind
8 has been north & stronger than the
9 sluggish current of the river--
10 The small white pines on the side of
11 Fair Haven Hill now look remarkably
12 //green by contrast with the surrounding shrubbery
13 which is recently imbrowned. You are
14 struck by their distinct liquid green
15 as if they had but just sprung up there.
16 All bright colors seem brighter now
17 for the same reason--i.e. from contrast
18 with the duller browns & russets--
19 The very cows on the hill side are
20 a brighter red--amid the pines--the
21 brown hazels. The perfectly fresh spike
22 of the polygonum amphibium attracts
23 //every eye now-- It is not past its prime
24 C. thinks it is exactly the color of some
25 candy-- Also the Polygala sanguinea
26 on the bank looks redder than usual.
27 Many red maples are now partly turned
28 //dark crimson along the meadow edge--
29 Near the pond we scare up 20 or
30 30 ducks--& at the pond 3 blue-

1 herons-- They are of a hoary blue--
 2 One flies afar & alights on a limb
 3 of a large white pine near Well meadow
 4 head--bending it down-- I see him standing
 5 there with out-stretched neck.
 6 Finding grapes we proceeded to pluck them
 7 tempted more by their fragrance & color--than
 8 their flavor--though some were very palatable.
 9 We gathered many without getting out of
 10 the boat as we paddled back--& more
 11 on shore close to the waters edge--piling
 12 them up in the prow of the boat--till
 13 they reached to the top of the boat
 14 a long sloping heap of them & very hand-
 15 some to behold--being of very various colors
 16 & sizes--for we even added green ones
 17 for variety--some however were mainly
 18 green when ripe. You cannot touch
 19 some vines without bringing down
 20 more single grapes in a shower around
 21 % { } %¹⁴⁵
 22 you than you pluck in bunches % ^ %. But
 23 it is a pity to break the handsome clusters.
 24 Thus laden--the evening air wafting
 25 the fragrance of the cargo back to us--
 26 The cooler air is so clear that we see Venus plainly some time before sundown
 27 we paddled homeward-- ^ The wind had
 28 all gone down & the water was perfectly
 29 smooth-- The sunset was uncommonly
 30 fair. Some long amber clouds in
 31 the horizon all a fire with gold
 32 were more glittering than any¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁵The 1906 version notes unreadable interlining as, "& such as strike the water are lost, for they do not float".

¹⁴⁶bottom corner of page torn

1 jewelry-- An Orient city to adorn
2 the plates of an annual could
3 not be contrived or imagined more
4 gorgeous--and when you looked
5 with head inverted the effect was
6 increased 10 fold--till it seemed a
7 world of enchantment. We only re-
8 gretted that it had not a due moral
9 effect on us--scapegraces

10 Nevertheless, when turning my head I
11 looked at the willowy edge of Cyanean
12 meadow--& onward to the sober colored
13 but fine grained Clamshell Hills--
14 about which there was no glitter. I
15 was inclined to think that the truest beauty
16 was that which surrounded us--but which
17 we failed to discern--That the forms
18 & colors which adorn our daily life
19 not seen afar in the horizon--
20 are our fairest jewelry-- The beauty
21 of Clam Shell Hill near at hand with
22 its sandy ravines, in which the cricket
23 chirps. This is an occidental city--
24 not less glorious than that we dream of
25 in the sunset sky.

26 It chanced that all the front
27 //rank polygonum with its rosaceous spikes
28 was drowned by the flood--but now, the
29 sun having some time set--with
30 ¹⁴⁷our backs to the west--we saw the

¹⁴⁷bottom corner of page torn. "30" shows through from earlier page

1 slender
2 light reflected from the ^ clear white

3 spikes of the P. hydropiperoides (now in its //
4 in large patches or masses
5 prime) which ^ rise about a foot above

6 ¹⁴⁸the surface of the water & the other polygonum--
7 Under these circumstances this polygonum
8 was very pretty & interesting--only its more pre-
9 sentable part rising above the water--

10 Mr. Warren brings to me
11 3 kinds of birds which he has shot on the
12 Great meadows this Pm--viz 2--
13 Such as I saw the 8th
14 Totanus flavipes ^ (there are 8 in the flock
15 & he shot 7) One Rallus Carolinus //
16 & 1 peetweet.

17 I doubt if I have seen any but the T. flavi-
18 %or very likely I have V 25th% ?
19 pes here--since I have measured this %^%-- Wilson
20 says that this does not penetrate far inland--
21 though he sees them near Philadelphia after
22 a N. E. storm

23 The above rail--corresponds to the Land
24 or corncrake
25 Rail ^ of Europe--in form & habits-- In Virginia
26 it is called the Sora-- In S. Carolina the Coot.
27 It is the game rail of the South & the only
28 species of the genus Crex in America--note
29 kuk kuk kuk-- Go to Hudson's Bay &
30 thereabouts to breed. This was a male--having
31 a black throat & black about base of bill

32 Peabody says that they are seen
33 here only in the Autumn only on their re-
34 turn from the north--though Brewer
35 thinks their nest may be found here--

¹⁴⁸To the left is a vertically placed binding string, which ends below at the line that begins "thereabouts".

1 In the Genus *Crex* the bill is stout
2 & shorter than the head-- In Rallus
3 (As in *R. virginicus*) it is longer than
4 the head & slender-- In the latter too
5 the crown and whole upper parts are
6 black streaked with brown--the throat
7 breast & belly orange brown--sides &
8 vent black tipped with white--legs &
9 feet dark red brown-- none of which is
10 true of the *R. Carolinus*.

11 I notice that the wing of the peet-
12 weet, which is about 2 inches wide--
13 has a conspicuous & straight-edged
14 white bar along its middle on the
15 under side--for 1/2 its length
16 it is 7/8 of an inch wide--& being
17 quite parallel with the darker
18 parts or sides
19 edges ^ of the wing--it produces that
20 singular effect in its flying which I
21 line
22 have noticed. This ^ by the way is not
23 mentioned by Wilson--yet it is perhaps
24 the most noticeable mark of the bird when
25 flying! The under side of the wings is
26 commonly slighted in the description--
27 though it is at least as often seen by us
28 as the upper-- Wilson says that the ~~lower~~
29 whole lower parts are beautifully marked
30 with roundish spots of black "-- --"but the
31 young are pure white below"-- May I
32 ? not have made the young the *T. solitarius*?
33 %but the { } young are white spotted on wings%

1 I think that I saw a white-throated sparrow?
2 this Pm. //

3 Sunday 19th--

4 Pm to Cassandra Ponds.

5 We go through Sedge Hollow. See a
6 small hole, perhaps a skunk's, in that
7 hollow & about the mouth fragments of
8 a hornets' or wasp's nest. I knew that foxes
9 were said to tear in pieces these nests for the
10 sake of the sake of the grubs or old
11 hornets left in them. Perhaps the skunk
12 does--

13 These dry sedgy hollows are peculiar &
14 interesting to me. The¹⁴⁹ fine thick sedge makes
15 a soft bed to recline on, & is recurved &
16 lodging like a curly head. These dry hollows,
17 side by side with the deeper & wet ones
18 --are surrounded by hazel bushes & pani-
19 cled andromeda instead of alders & willows,
20 There is this sort of analogy to the wet
21 ones or ponds. In the lowest part, even
22 here, I perceive that a different & coarser
23 kind of sedge grows. Along the middle &
24 bottom of the hollows is the indistinct trail
25 of wild animals, foxes & c., & sportsmen--

26 C. thinks this might be called Fox Path.
27 As I stand on the shore of the most

28 westerly Cassandra Pond but one--I see

29 in the air between me & the sun--Those

30 ap. male tipulidae or crane-flies V. Lib-- Ent. Knowl.-- Transformations p 363 //

31 interesting swarms of minute light colored

32 gnats--looking like motes in the sun--

¹⁴⁹"T" written over "t"

1 These may be allied to the winter gnat of
2 Kirby & Spence-- Do they not first appear
3 with cooler & frosty weather. When
4 we have had a slight foretaste of
5 winter-- Then in the clear cool air
6 These
7 they are seen to dance-- They are about
8 1/8 of a inch long with a greenish body
9 & 2 light colored plumes in front. The
10 wings not so long as the body-- So I think
11 they are different from those over the river in
12 the spring. I see a dozen of these choirs
13 within 2 or 3 rods their centers about
14 6 feet above the surface of the water
15 andromeda. These separate communities
16 are narrow horizontally & long vertically
17 about 18 inches wide--& densest in the
18 middle, regularly turning to nothing at the
19 edges. The individuals are constantly gyrating
20 up & down--cutting figures of 8 {drawing}
21 like the water bug--but keeping nearly about
22 the same place-- It is to me a very agreeable¹⁵⁰
23 reminder of cooler weather.
24 // Hear a chewink's--{che} wink. But how
25 ineffectual is the note of a bird now!
26 We hear it as if we heard it not--& for-
27 get it immediately. In spring it makes
28 its due impression--& for a long time
29 will not have done echoing, as it were,
30 through our minds. It is even as if the
31 atmosphere were in an unfavorable con-
32 dition for this kind of music--



¹⁵⁰"agreeable" written over "agreeably"

1 Every musician knows how much depends on
 2 this.¹⁵¹ Going through low woods
 3 I see a white dusty or mealy looking mildew
 4 on the leaves--oaks &c--the effects of
 5 the dog days--or mould season.

6 Sep. 20th
 7 river
 8 The ^ probably reaches highest since June //
 9 to-day-- The maryland Yel-Throat is here //
 10 Hear warbling vireos still--in the elms //
 11 Miss Pratt shows me a small luminous bug
 12 found on the earth floor of their shed (I think
 13 a month ago)--had 2 bright points in //
 14 its tail--as bright or brighter than the glow
 15 worm. v. it in paper-- It is now dried--3/8
 16 of an inch long by somewhat more than 1/8 wide
 17 ovate oblong with a broad & blunt head--dull
 18 straw color--clear rose red on the sides--composed
 19 of many segments--which give it a dentate ap-
 20 pearance on the edges-- A broad flattish kind of
 21 shield in front--also red & straw color.

22 Sep 21st
 23 Go to Cape Ann
 24 A very warm day //
 25 Am Go with Russell to the rooms
 26 of the Essex Institute--if that is the
 27 name-- See some In. pottery from the
 28 {Cayuga} Reservation--fragments--very
 29 pale brick color 3/8 inch thick with a
 30 rude ornament--(ap. made with the end of
 31 a stick--) of this form & size {drawing}
 32 The lines representing slight hollows in a row around it--

¹⁵¹bleedthrough in space after word.

1 Saw a stone--ap. slate--shaped
 2 like the small "sinkers" but 6 inch x
 3 3 1/2 with a small handle--. found near
 4 here--was it a sinker or pestle?
 5 ¹⁵²On the 24th at the E. Ind. Marine Hall
 6 about
 7 saw a circular stone mortar ^ 6 inch in
 8 diameter--& a stone exactly like the above
 9 in it--described as a pestle & mortar found
 10 in making Salem Turnpike. Were they together?
 11 Also at the last place--what was called
 12 the blade of an Ind. knife found on
 13 Gov. Endicott's Farm--broken 3 or 4 inches
 14 long--of a light colored kind of slate--
 15 quite thin with a back-- 
 16 ¹⁵³It might have been for¹⁵⁴ skinning.
 17 At the Essex Institute (?) if that's the name
 18 the eggs of the Rallus Virginianus
 19 labelled by Brewer--but much smaller
 20 than those I have seen & nearly white
 21 Can mine be the
 22 ? with dull brown spots!! egg of the R. crepitans
 23 though larger than mine?
 24 Their eggs of the Sterna Hirundo look like
 25 mine--which I have so called--also
 26 do those of the Black-headed Gull--which
 27 I do not perceive in Peabody. Can
 28 Looked over the Asters Golden rods--& willows
 29 in their Herbarium collected & named by Oakes.
 30 Lapham Russell--& Cassi--something)
 31 Oak's Salix sericea--also Marshall's &.
 32 ? What O. calls Grisea of Willd is
 33 the same I so call by the White maple at
 34 Assabet.

¹⁵²A horizontal line appears starting in the left margin and above "On the 24th...".

¹⁵³A curved horizontal mark appears beginning in the left margin and beneath "It might have been...".

¹⁵⁴The drawing that is noted in the line above separates the word "for" far from "skinning".

1 What O. calls *S. phyllicifolia* from White mts
2 having only sterile catkins--his sp--is ap.?
3 The one I have from there together with
4 the repens.
5 The *S. petiolaris* of the collection is ap. {my}?
6 W. of {Rock} {one}--
7 Pm walked with Russel to Marble head
8 above RR.
9 Saw in Salem¹⁵⁵ *Solidago Canadensis* consid. past prime
10 " our 3 ribbed one done
11 *Spartina cynosuroides*
12 (was that the *S. juncea* 7 feet high
13 with a broad leaf--which I mistook for the
14 above--? very common on edge of marshes.)
15 *Ap. scirpus pungens* 2 to 4 feet high
16 Polygonum aviculare--ap-- peculiar--
17 Swamp-thistle still abundant--
18 *Trifolium procumbens* still--"
19 *A. Nov Angliae*--dark violet or
20 lilac purple--in prime or a little past
21 3/4 mile down RR also by shore
22 in Manchester the 22d
23 *Ruppia maritima* in a ditch
24 In Marblehead Aster cordifolius abundant RR.
25 Woodsia Ilvensis
26 R. pointed out *j. bufonius*??--(but did not know it)
27 it was tenuis like--& prob. that--
28 juncus Greenii (?) (*tenuis* like) dense
29 high
30 flowered on ^ sea bank sea side
31 of Marblehead
32 Herb. Robert near shore (done
33 Datura Stramonium (var *Tatula done*)
34 got seeds there
35 but out at
36 Rockport
37 Also various lichens
38 Got *P. parietina*--*elegans*, & *rubina* on the rocks
39 saw, but did not get, *P. murorum*

¹⁵⁵The indentations of this list have been regularized.

1 Sep 22d 58
2 A clear cold day-- wind NW
3 Leave Salem for the Cape on foot--
4 Near Beverly Bridge crossed over that low
5 & flat part of Salem where the first settle-
6 ment was made--and Arabella Stewart is
7 supposed to have been buried.
8 Soon struck off to the shore in Beverly--
9 see the discolor thistle on a sandy beach--&
10 Phaseolus diversifolius (3 lobed Bean vine) with
11 pretty terete long pods--some ripe--but a few
12 flowers still-- Aster linifolius--perhaps still
13 in prime--though it has a flexuous stem-- in a marsh¹⁵⁹
14 & Lyme grass sp. like ours along edge of marsh--
15 Dined on the edge of a {-----} high rocky cliff--quite perpendicular on the west
16 side of entrance to Manchester Harbor--
17 One mile SE of the village of Manchester
18 struck the beach of "musical sand"--
19 just this side of a large high Rocky
20 Point called "Eagle Head." This is a curving
21 sandy beach may be 1/3 of a mile long. (We also
22 found it on a similar but shorter beach
23 on the E side of Eagle Head) X some 12 rods
24 wide. We first perceived the sound when
25 we scratched with our umbrella or finger
26 swiftly & forcibly through the sand-- Also
27 still louder when we struck forcibly with
28 our heels "scuffing" along. The wet or damp
29 sand yielded no peculiar sound--nor did
30 that which lay loose & deep next the
31 bank--but only the more compact &
32 dry-- The sound was not at all musi-

¹⁵⁹"in a marsh" added in margin

1 cal, nor was it loud. Fisher men might
2 walk over it all their lives, as indeed
3 they have done, without noticing it.
4 R--, who had not heard it, was about right
5 when he said it was like that made by
6 rubbing on wet glass with your fingers--
7 I thought it as much like the sound made
8 in waxing a table as anything. It was
9 a squeaking sound--as of one particle
10 rubbing on another. I should say it was
11 merely the result of the¹⁶⁰ friction of peculiarly
12 formed & constituted particles. The surf
13 was high & made a great noise--yet
14 I could hear the sound made by my com-
15 panions heels 2 or 3 rods distant--&
16 if it had been still--probably could have
17 heard it 5 or 6 rods.

18 We kept thence along the rocky shore to Kettle
19 Cove--where however I did not find any
20 rocks like Lewis's.

21 Somewhere thereabouts Scirpus maritimus
22 with its great spikes now withered-- In
23 the marsh at Kettle Cove--Gerardia mariti-
24 ma ap in prime 4 or 5 inch high--Euphor-
25 bia polygonifolia 6 inch in diameter--
26 Spartina glabra in the salt water of the cove--

27 The shore thus far from Beverly Bridge
28 had been a succession of bold rocky points
29 half a mile apart--with sometimes
30 curving sandy beaches between--or else rocky

31 We now kept the road to Gloucester leaving
32 the shore a mile or more to the right

¹⁶⁰"the" inserted

1 wishing to see the magnolia swamp.

2 This was perhaps about 1 1/2 miles beyond Kettle¹⁶¹
3 Cove After passing over a sort of height of
4 land in the woods we took a path to the left
5 which within a few rods became a corduroy road
6 in the swamp--within 3 or 4 rods on the W side
7 of this & perhaps 10 or 15 from the high road
8 --was the Magnolia. It was 2 to 7 or 8 feet
9 high--but distinguished by its large & still
10 part green leaves--which had not begun to fall
11 I saw last year's shoots which had died down
12 several feet--& prob. this will be the fate
13 of most which has grown this year-- The swamp
14 was an ordinary one. Not so wet but we got
15 about very well-- The bushes of this swamp were
16 not generally more than 6 feet high--
17 There was another locality the other side of
18 the road.

19 Cooked our supper in a salt marsh some
20 2 miles this side of Gloucester--in view of the
21 town-- We had cooked our tea for dinner with
22 & bark
23 dead bayberry bushes-- now we used the chips ^ which
24 the tide had deposited in little parcels on the marsh¹⁶²
25 having carried water in our dippers from a brook 1/4 of a mile
26 There was a large patch of samphire
27
28 turned a bright crimson very conspicuous //
29 near by in the flat marsh. The more
30 conspicuous because large & in the midst of
31 the liquid green of the marsh. We sat
32 on some stones which we obtained flat in
33 the marsh till starlight

¹⁶¹"K" written over "k"

¹⁶²Word is blotted.

1 I had seen in this day's walk--an
2 abundance of Aster cordifolius (but
3 no A undulatus) Also saw A corymbosus
4 which is a handsome white wood aster.
5 & very common what I called A longi-
6 folius--with shorter thick clasping leaves--
7 ? & growing in drier ground than ours me-
8 thinks--Also all along the road--the up-
9 country hard small mulberry shaped high-
10 blackberry--& many still holding on. This
11 may be due to the cool air of the Cape.
12 They were quite sweet & good. V. a specimen--
13 The foliage had but just fairly begun to change
14 put up in Gloucester--

15 Sep 23d

16 Another fair day--& wind N. W. but rather
17 warmer. We kept along the road to
18 Rockport some 2 miles or more to a
19 "thundering big ledge" by the road as
20 a man called it--there turned off toward
21 the S shore at a house with 2 very
22 large & old pear trees before it. Part
23 of the house was built by a Witham
24 one of the first settlers--& the place
25 or neighborhood used to be called "the
26 //Farms" Saw the F. Hiemalis flitting
27 along the walls--& it was cool enough
28 for them on this cape. In a marsh
29 curving sandy
30 by the shore, where was a very broad ^ beach
31 the shore of a cove--found the Ranunculus

1 Cymbalaria still in bloom--but mostly in fruit
 2 Glaux maritima ? nearly prostrate with oblong
 3 leaves--
 4 Triglochin palustris in fruit
 5 An eleocharis ap. marine with lenticular¹⁶³ fruit
 6 & a wrinkled mitre shaped beak
 7 {drawing}
 8 Spergularia rubra &c samphire &c

9 The narrow road (where we followed it) wound
 10 about big boulders--past {~~north of~~}
 11 small often bevel roofed cottages--where
 12 small
 13 some times was a ^ flag flying for a vane-- The
 14 number & variety of bevelled roofs on the cape
 15 is surprising. Some are so nearly flat--that
 16 they reminded me of the low brows of monkeys.

17 We had already seen a sort of bare
 18 rocky ridge--a bare boulder covered back
 19 of the cape running N. E.asterly from Gloucester
 20 toward Rockport--& for some 3 miles quite
 21 The E. extremity of the cape being wooded--
 22 bare ^ That would be a good place to walk.

23 In this marsh saw what I thought the
 24 solitary tattler quite tame.

25 Having reached the shore sat under the
 26 lea of the rocks on the beach--opposite
 27 Salt Island-- A man was carting sea weed
 28 along the shore between us & the water--the
 29 leather apron kind--which trailed from his
 30 cart like the tails of oxen--& when it came
 31 between us & the sun was of a warm purple
 32 brown glow. Half a mile further beyond
 33 a rocky head, we came to another curving

¹⁶³"c" written over "y"

1 sandy beach--with a marsh between it
2 & the Cape on the N. Saw there in
3 the soft sand with beach-grass ap. juncus
4 Balticus (?) very like but not so stout (!) as
5 juncus effusus

6 Met a gunner from Lynn on the beach
7 who had several pigeons which he had
8 killed in the woods by the shore-- Said
9 that they had been blown off the main-
10 {2d} 3d
11 land. Also a king-fisher--what he
12 called the "ox-eye"--about size of peet-weet but
13 but with a short bill & a blackish brown crescent
14 on breast--& wing above like peet weets, but
15 no broad white mark below could it be Charadrius
16 semipalmatus? ---- 4th What he called
17 a sandpiper--very white with a long bill--was
18 this Tringa arenaria? ---- 5th What I took
19 to be a solitary tattler--but possibly it was this
20 pectoral sand piper which I have seen since--

21 On the edge of the beach you see
22 or fawn colored
23 small dunes with white ^ sandy sides--
24 crowned with now yellowish smilax & with
25 bayberry bushes-- Just before reaching Loblolly
26 cove--near Thatchers Island--sat on
27 a bench composed entirely of small paving
28 stones lying very loose & deep

29 We boiled our tea for dinner on the main
30 land opposite Straight Mouth I. just this
31 under the lea of a boulder
32 side the middle of Rockport-- ^ using as
33 usual dead bay berry bushes for fuel--
34 This was indeed all we could get-- They make
35 a very quick fire--& I noticed that their
36 smoke covered our dippers with a kind

1 of Japan which did not crack¹⁶⁴ or come off nearly
2 so much as ordinary soot--

3 We could see the Salvages very plainly--ap
4 extending N & S--the Main Rock--some
5 15 or 20 rods long & .E. N. E of Straight-
6 ap 1 1/2 or 2 mis dist.
7 Mouth¹⁶⁵ I. ^ with half sunken ledges N &
8 S of it over which the sea was breaking in
9 white foam. The ledges all together 1/2 mile
10 long. We could see from our dining place
11 Agamenticus some 40 miles distant in the N.

12 Its two sides loomed thus {drawing} so that
13 about 1/3 the whole was lifted up--while a small
14 elevation close to it in the East, which
15 afterward was seen to be a part of it--was
16 wholly lifted up.

17 Rockport well deserves its name--several
18 little rocky harbors protected by a break water--
19 The houses at Rockport village backing directly
20 on the beach. At Folly Cove a wild rocky point
21 running N covered with beach grass-- See
22 now a mt on the E of Agamenticus. Isle{s}
23 of shoals too low to be seen--Prob. land at
24 Boars Head seen on the W. of Agamenticus
25 --& then the coast all the way from N.H.
26 to Cape Ann plainly-- Newburyport included.
27 & Plum Island-- Hog Island looks like
28 a high {hill} on the main land.

29 It is evident that a discoverer having got
30 as far W as Agamenticus off the coast of Maine

¹⁶⁴The 1906 edition reads this word as "crock".

¹⁶⁵A dot appears after "Mouth" that is probably not a period or dash.

1 would in clear weather discern the coast
2 trending southerly beyond him as far round
3 as Cape Ann--& if he did not wish to
4 to be embayed would stand across to Cape Ann--
5 where the Salvages would be the outmost
6 point.

7 At Annis squam we found ourselves in the
8 midst of boulders scattered over bare
9 hills & fields--such as we had seen on
10 the ridge northerly in the morning--i.e
11 the abound chiefly in the central & NWesterly
12 part of the Cape-- This was the most pec-
13 {uliar} scenery of the Cape. We struck
14 inland Southerly just before sundown &
15 boiled our tea with bay berry bushes by a swamp
16 on¹⁶⁶ the hills in the midst of these great bowlders
17 having carried our water 1/4 of a mile from a swamp--spilling a part in
18 treading swamps & getting over rough places
19 about half way to Gloucester ^ -- 2 oxen
20 feeding in the swamp came up to reconnoitre
21 our fire. We could see no house--but
22 hills strewn with bowlders--as if they had rained
23 down--on every side--We sitting under
24 a shelving one-- When the moon rose
25 what had appeared like immense bowlders
26 half a mile off in the horizon now looked
27 by contrast no larger than nutshells or
28 burinut against the moon's disk--&
29 she was the biggest¹⁶⁷ boulder of all--
30 When we had put out our bay berry fire--
31 we heard a squawk & looking up saw
32 5 geese fly low in the twilight over our
33 heads-- We then set out to find our

¹⁶⁶"on" written over "in"

¹⁶⁷"bigest" written over "bou"

1 way to Gloucester over the hills--& saw the
2 comet very bright in the N. W. After going astray
3 a little in the moonlight--we fell into a
4 road which at length conducted us to the town.

5 As we bought our lodging & breakfast
6 a pound of good ship bread which cost 7cts
7 and 6 herring which cost¹⁶⁸ 3 "
8 with sugar & tea--supplied us amply the rest
9 of the ² ^ days.
10

11 The selection of suitable spots to get our dinner
12 or supper led us into interesting scenery--& it was
13 amusing to watch the boiling of our water for tea.
14 There is a scarcity of fresh water on the cape
15 so that you must carry your water {a} good
16 way in a dipper. Sep 24¹⁶⁹

17 What that singular spiny plant
18 --otherwise like chenopodium which I found
19 on a wharf in salem? ?

20 Saw at the E. India{n} Marine Hall
21 a Bay Lynx killed in Danvers July 21st
22 (I think in 1827) another killed in Lynnfield
23 in March 1832-- These skins were now
24 at any rate quite light dirty whitish or
25 white woolfish color--with small ^ brown
26 spots--The animals much larger than
27 I expected. Saw a large fossil turtle
28 some 20 inches in diameter--with the
29 plates distinct in a slate colored stone
30 from western N.Y.

31 Also a sword in its scabbard found in
32 the river near Concord Ap. 19. 1775 &
33

¹⁶⁸A long blank space appears between "cost" and "3")

¹⁶⁹A horizontal line appears to have been drawn under the phrase "way in a dipper" and continues after "Sep 24" to designate the separation between entries.

1 supposed to have belonged to a British officer--

2 I got these plants on this excursion¹⁷⁰

3 {viz}-- Solidago Canadensis--

4 Aster Nov-angliae

5 Ap. Scirpus pungens

6 Trifolium procumbens

7 NB (Bradford says the potentilla {trifida} is found at

8 Eastern Point in Gloucester--& Russell says in

9 the college yard at Amherst)

10 A var of Door Grass

11 Woodsia Ilvensis

12 Ruppia Maritima

13 juncus tenuis--like

14 " Greenii (?)

15 Leaf of Herb. Robert

16 Utricularia intermedia

17 Squirrel Corn (the {true or¹⁷¹ bulb})

18 Parmelia elegans

19 " Panetina

20 " Rubina

21 Cetraria Islandicus

22 Endocarpon miniatum (some of ours prob. fluviatile)

23 Peltigera polydactyla

24 Umbilicaria Muhlenbergii¹⁷²--

25 Phaseolus diversifolius

26 Aster Linifolius

27 Lyme Grass

28 Scirpus Maritimus

29 Gerardia Maritima

30 Euphorbia polygonifolia

31 Spartina glabra

32 Magnolia glauca leaves

33 {Mt} country high blackberry leaves &c

34 {An} Eleocharis

35 Triglochin palustre

¹⁷⁰The indentations in the list that follows on this page and the following have been normalized.

¹⁷¹"or" poss written over ")"

¹⁷²"b" written over "g"

1 of the 1st primary is conspicuously white above.

2 The catbird still mews occasionally--
3 //
4 & the chewink is heard faintly.

5 Melvin says he has found the Pigeon
6 NB hawks nest here (distinct from Partridge hawk's)
7 also that he sometimes sees the larger yellow
8 //legs here-- Goodwin also says the last--
9 Sep. 26th '58

10 // Another smart frost--making
11 dry walking amid the stiffened grass in the
12 morning. The purple grass (Eragros-
13 tis pectinacea) done--perhaps the first
14 smart frost finished its purple--

15 I observe that the seeds of the
16 Panicum sanguinale & filiforme
17 //are perhaps half fallen--evidently
18 affected by the late frosts as chestnuts
19 &c will be by later ones--& now is the
20 time too when flocks of sparrows begin
21 to scour over the ^{weedy} ^ fields. esp in the morn-
22 ing. Methinks they are attracted to some
23 extent by this their harvest of panic
24 seed. The spikes of P. crus galli also
25 are partially bare. Evidently the small
26 granivorous birds abound more after
27 these seeds are ripe. The seeds of
28 pig weed are yet ap. quite green-- May
29 be they are somewhat peculiar for hanging on
30 all winter.

32 Is not that a distinct species of
33 //
34 Aster by the Hub. Bridge Causeway--N side

1 1/2 the way along--now in prime--& perhaps
2 with A. longifolius--heads middle sized
3 about clear white--scales generally appressed
4 & slender pointed--leaves & stem pale green
5 compared with A longifolius (which is dark
6 green) close by-- V. pressed one. Call it A.
7 Tenuifolius for want of another name.
8 ⁷
9 Sep 29th

10 Pm By boat to F. H. Pond--
11 Wind N. E. Sail most of the way
12 The river has gone down from its height
13 //
14 on the 20''--& is now some 18 inches
15 lower--or within its banks-- The front rank
16 polygonum is uncovered & in bloom still--
17 a dull
18 but its leaves generally¹⁷⁴ turned ^ red. //

19 The P. hydropiperoides is ap-- past prime. //
20 The P. amphibium spikes still in prime.?? //

21 When close to the bushes you do not notice
22 any mark of the recent high water--
23 but at a little distance you see
24 a perfectly level line on the button
25 bushes & willows--about 18 inches above
26 the present surface--it being all dark
27 below & warm sunny yellow above--
28 The leaves that have been immersed
29 are generally fallen or withered--
30 Though the bushes may be loose & open
31 this water line is so perfectly level--that
32 it appears continuous.

¹⁷⁴"generally" poss cancelled in pencil

1 loves moist shady banks--and its transcendent
2 blue shows best in the shade & suggests cool-
3 ness--contrasts there with the fresh green-- --
4 {and} splendid blue--light in the shade--turning
5 to purple with age-- They are particularly
6 abundant under the N side of the willow
7 row in Merrick's pasture. I count 15 in
8 a single cluster there--& afterward 20 at
9 Gentian Lane near Flint's Bridge--& there
10 were other clusters below. Bluer than the
11 bluest sky, they lurk in the moist & shady
12 recesses of the banks--
13 Acalypha is killed by frost--& rhexia //
14 I compare Mrs Simmond's red osier with
15 our sericea-- 1st not changed-- 2d dark
16 purplish brown-- 1st twigs light red-- 2d dark
17 {dull} red or purplish. 1st leaves pale green
18 above whitish beneath. 2d darker green & more
19 glossy above--& perhaps thicker--not particularly whitish
20 beneath. 1st larger & flatter 2d curled.
21 Both smooth beneath, but 2d a little more
22 hairy or downy beneath along the sides of the veins
23 & also at the ends of the twigs--
24 The main distinctions of the former are the
25 light red twigs--& whitish undersides of leaves.
26 Liatris done ap. some time. //
27 When Gosnold & Pring--& Champlain
28 coasted along our shores--even then
29 the small shrub oak grew on the main-
30 land with its pretty acorns striped dark &
31 light alternately. %The black acorns also slightly marked thus%

1 Sep 29th
2 // Fine weather--
3 Pm to White Pond--
4 //One or 2 myrtle birds in their fall
5 dress. with brown head & shoulders--2 whitish
6 bars on wings--& bright yellow rump--
7 Sit on Clam¹⁷⁶ Shell looking up the
8 smooth stream. 2 blue herons or
9 "herns" as Goodwin calls them fly
10 sluggishly up the stream. Interesting
11 even is a stake with its reflection left
12 standing in the still river by {some}¹⁷⁷ fish-
13 erman.
14 Again we have smooth waters--yellow
15 birds
16 foliage--& faint warbling ~~sparrows~~ &c
17 as in spring. The year thus repeats itself.
18 Catch some of those little fuzzy gnats dancing
19 in the air there over the shelly bank--
20 & these are black{--}with black plumes
21 not like those last seen over the Cassandra
22 pond.
23 // Brushed a spectrum ghost horse off
24 my face in a birch wood--by the J. P.
25 Brown Cold Heart¹⁷⁸ Leaf Pond. Heads some-
26 what like a striped snake
27 That Pond is drier than I ever saw it--
28 No--have see it so before
29 perhaps???"-- ^ all but a couple of square
30 rods in the middle--& now covered
31 with cyperus &c-- The mud is cracked
32 into large polygonal figures ap 4 to 6
33 sides & 6 to 12 inches across--with cracks
34 1/2 to 3/4 of an inch wide--
35 // See what must be a solitary tatler

¹⁷⁶"C" written over "c"

¹⁷⁷"some" in 1906, written over text

¹⁷⁸"H" written over "h"

1 feeding by waters edge--& it has tracked
2 the mud all about-- It cannot be
3 the Tringa pectoralis--for it has no conspic-
4 uous white chin nor black dashes on the
5 throat--nor{--}brown on the back & wings--
6 -- --& I think I see the round white spots
7 on its wings. It has not the white on wing
8 of the peet weet--yet utters the peet weet note!
9 short & faint not protracted--& not the
10 "sharp whistle" that Wilson speaks of.

11 The lespedeza leaves are all withered & //
12 ready to fall in the frosty Hollows near
13 Nut meadow--& the swamps the
14 ground is already strewn with the first maple
15 leaves--concealing the springyness of the soil.

16 & many plants are prostrate there--november-
17 High up in Nut-Meadow--the very brook--push aside the
18 like. {half} withered grass which (the farmer disdaining to cut it) conceals
19 it is as cool as a spring--being near its sources--
20 Take perhaps {our} last bath in White Pond¹⁷⁹ //

21 for the year--¹⁸⁰ Half a dozen F. hiemalis //

22 about. Looking toward the sun some fields
23 reflect a light sheen from low webs of

24 gossamer which thickly cover the stubble & grass //

25 On our way--near the Hosmer moraine--

26 let off some pasture thistle down-- One

27 steadily rose from my hand freighted with its

28 seed till it was several hundred feet high--

29 & then passed out of sight eastward--

30 Its down {was} particularly spreading or open

31 Is not here a hint to balloonist's? Astronomers

¹⁷⁹"p" written over "p"

¹⁸⁰"year-- Half" written over "year--half"

1 can calculate the orbit of that thistle
2 down called the comet--now in the
3 N. W. sky--conveying its nucleus which
4 may not be so solid as a thistle's seed--
5 somewhither--but what astronomer can
6 calculate the orbit of my thistle down
7 & tell where it will deposit its precious
8 freight at last? It may still be travelling
9 Some lobelia inflata leaves peculiar hoary white
10 //when I am sleeping.

11 Sep 30 '58

12 A large flock of grackles amid the
13 // willows by the river side--or chiefly concealed
14 low in the buttonbushes beneath them though
15 quite near--me-- There they keep up their
16 spluttering notes--though somewhat less loud
17 methinks than in spring-- These are the
18 first I have seen--& now for some
19 time. I think the red wings have been
20 gone-- These are the first arrivers from
21 the north where they breed.

23 I observe the peculiar steel-bluish purple
24 // of the nightshade--i.e. the tips
25 of the twigs--while all beneath is
26 green dotted with bright berries over
27 the water. Perhaps this is the most
28 singular color of any autumnal tint.
29 It is almost black in some lights--
30 distinctly steel blue in the shade--& con-
31 trasting with the green beneath--but
32 seen against the sun--it is a rich
33

1 purple--its veins full of fire. The form
2 {drawing}¹⁸¹ of the leaf too is peculiar.
3 The pearly everlasting is an
4 interesting white at present--
5 Though the stem & leaves are
6 still green it is dry & un-
7 withering like an artificial
8 Its white flexuous stems & branches too like wire wound
9 with cotton
10 flower-- ^ Its amaranthine quality
11 neither is there any scent to betray it--
12 is instead of high color. Its very brown center
13 now affects us as a fresh & original color--
14 It monopolizes a small circle in the
15 midst of sweet fern perchance on a dry
16 hill side--
17 I see undoubtedly the little dipper by the edge of //
18 the pads this pm & I think I have not
19 seen it before this season-- It much smaller
20 than I have seen this season--& is hard to detect
21 even within 4 or 5 rods-- It warily dives
22 & comes up a rod or 2 further off amid
23 the pads--scarcely disturbing the surface--
24 The wind is northerly these afternoons
25 blowing pretty strong early in the pm so
26 that I can sail up the stream--but later
27 it goes down leaving the river glassy-smooth //
28 & only a leaping fish or an insect dimples
29 it--or makes a sparkle on it--
30 Some young black cherry leaves
31 are completely changed some time--to their //

¹⁸¹A drawing occupies the left third of the page beginning next to "of the leaf..." and extending down to the interlined text below "flower".

1 deep cherry red-- {Above}¹⁸² they are rather dull
2 --but beneath quite lively like the juice
3 of a freshly crushed cherry.

4 In our late walk on the cape
5 we entered Gloucester each time in
6 the dark at mid-evening--travelling
7 partly across lots till we fell into a
8 road--& as we were simply seeking
9 a bed--inquiring the way of villagers
10 whom we could not see--the town
11 seemed far more homelike¹⁸³ to us than
12 when we made our way out of it
13 in the morning. It was comparatively
14 still & the inhabitants were sensibly or
15 {practically} employed--too--& then we
16 {we} went straight to our chamber--
17 & saw the moonlight reflected from
18 the smooth harbor--& lighting up the
19 fishing vessels--as if it had been the
20 harbor of Venice. By day we went
21 remarking on the peculiar angles of the
22 bevelled roofs--of which there is a
23 remarkable variety there. There are
24 also many large square 3 story houses
25 with short windows in the upper story--as
26 if the 3d story were as good as a gig
27 for respectabil{ity}.

28 When entering the town in the moonlight
29 we could not always tell whether

¹⁸²1906 interprets this word as 'also'.

¹⁸³stray mark above "homelike"?

1 the road skirted the back yards or
2 the front yards of the houses--& the houses
3 did not so impertinently stare after the
4 & watch his coming
5 traveller ^ as by day--
6 Walking early in the day & approaching the
7 rocky shore from the north--the shadows of the
8 cliffs were very distinct & grateful--as our spirits
9 were buoyant-- Though we walked all
10 day--it seemed the days were not long enough
11 to get tired in--¹⁸⁴ Some villages we
12 went through or by without communicating
13 with any inhabitant--but saw them as quietly
14 & distantly
15 ^ as in a picture--

16 Oct 1st '58

17 Pm to Hub's Close-- Clintonia Maple
18 swamp is very fair now--esp. 1/4 of a //
19 mile off--when you get the effect of the
20 bright colors without detecting the im-
21 perfections of the leaves-- Look now at
22 such a swamp--of maples mixed with
23 the ever green pines, at the base of a
24 pine-clad hill--& see their yellow & scarlet
25 & crimson fires of all tints--mingled
26 & contrasted with the green. Some maples
27 are yet green only {yelly} tipped on the
28 edges of their flakes--as the edges of a
29 hazel nut burr-- Some are wholly brilliant
30 scarlet--raying out regularly & finely every way

¹⁸⁴A long space appears between "to get tired in." and "Some villagers we".

1 {drawing} others of more irregular form--
2 seem to rest heavily flake on flake
3 like yellow or scarlet snow drifts--
4 // The cinnamon ferns are crisp &
5 sour in open grounds--
6 // The fringed gentians are now in prime
7 %no. V forward%
8 These are closed in the pm but I saw
9 them open at 12 am a day or 2 ago--
10 & they were exceedingly beautiful--esp. when
11 there was a single one on a stem. They
12 or
13 who see them closed ^ in the pm only--do
14 not suspect their beauty.
15 // Viola lanceolata again
16 // See larks in small flocks
17 Was over taken by a sudden gust & rain
18 from the west. It broke off some limbs
19 & brought down many leaves
20 Took refuge in Minott's house at last.
21 He told me his last duck shooting exploit
22 for 5th or 6th time-- Says that Jake
23 Potter who died over 80 some dozen years
24 since--told him that when he was
25 a boy & used to drive his father Ephraim's
26 cows to pasture in the meadows near
27 Fair Haven--after they were mown in
28 the fall--returning with them at
29 evening he used to hear the wild
30 cats yell in the F. H. woods.
31 Minott tells of a great rise of the
32 river once in August--when a great
33 many "marsh birds" as peeps--kill-

1 dees--yellow legs &c came inland--&
2 he saw a flock of them reaching from
3 Flint's Bridge a mile down stream over
4 the meadows--& making a great noise.
5 Says the "Kill-dees" used to be common here
6 & the yellow legs-- called "humilities" used
7 commonly to breed here on the tussocks in
8 the meadows. He has often found their nests--
9 Let a full grown but young cock
10 stand near you. How full of life he
11 is from the tip of his bill through his trem-
12 bling com & wattles¹⁸⁵ & his bright eye to the
13 extremity of his clean toes! How alert
14 & restless--listening to every sound--& watching
15 every motion. How various his notes from the
16 finest & shrillest alarum as a hawk sails
17 surpassing the most accomplished violinist on the short strings
18 over^--to a hoarse & terrene voice or cluck
19 He has a word for every occasion--for the dog that rushes past
20 And then how flapping his wings & elevating
21 and the partlet cackling in the barn
22 himself¹⁸⁶ he gathers impetus--& air & launches
23 forth that world-renowned ear-piercing
24 strain. {Not} a vulgar note of defiance
25 like the bursting of a bubble in a wine cup
26 --but the mere effervescence of life ^ Is any
27 gem so bright as his eye?
28 The elms are now great brownish
29 yellow masses hanging over the street-- //
30 Their leaves are perfectly ripe. I wonder if
31 there is any answering ripeness in the lives
32 of those who live beneath them-- The harvest
33 of elm leaves is come--or at hand

¹⁸⁵Thoreau indicates with a symbol that this line be transposed to read "wattles & com".

¹⁸⁶Thoreau indicates with a symbol that this line be transposed to read "elevating himself & flapping his wings".

1 The cat sleeps on her head!--what does
2 this portend? It is more alarming than a dozen comets.
3 How long prejudice survives! The big-bodied
4 fisherman asks me doubtfully about the
5 comets--seen these nights in the¹⁸⁷ N. W.--if there
6 is any danger to be apprehended from that side!!
7 I would fain suggest that only he is dangerous
8 to himself.

9 Oct. 2d

10 A dark & windy night the last-- It is a
11 // new value when darkness amounts to
12 something positive.
13

14 Each morning now after rain & wind, is
15 fresher & cooler--& leaves still green--reflect
16 a brighter sheen.

17 Minott told me yesterday that he had never
18 seen the sea shore but once & that was Noddles
19 island in the war of 1812.

20 The garden is alive with migrating sparrows
21 these mornings-- The cat comes in from an
22 early walk amid the weeds-- She is full of
23 sparrows & wants no more breakfast this morn-
24 ing--unless it be a saucer of milk--the {dear}
25 creature. I saw her studying ornithology
26 between the corn rows

27 As I approached perch pool the other
28 day half a dozen frogs leaped into it &
29 buried themselves in the mass of Calli-
30 triche at the bottom-- I stood looking for
31 perch a minute or two--when one after another
32 up came the frogs from out the callitriche
33 just as a piece of cork would rise by
34 mere boyancy to the surface--&
35

¹⁸⁷"the" inserted

1 %let go all drop anchor%
2 then by a distinct effort they %^% elevate
3 or let float up their heels & lie spread
4 out on the surface. They were prob. R. fontinalis
5 ~~Oct 3d~~
6 Sailed to Baker Farm with a strong
7 NW wind-- Got a peck of the small long-
8 bunched grapes now turned purple under Lee's
9 cliff-- One or 2 vines bear¹⁸⁸ very plentifully-- The
10 bunches are about 6 inches long by 1 1/2 & quite
11 dense & cylindrical commonly. They are now
12 ap. just in prime (to judge from color) //
13 consid. later than the V. Labrusca--but are
14 Mother a nice jelly of them afterward--
15 not good.
16 A large chocolate colored puff ball "{} smokes" //
17 d
18 Oct 3¹⁸⁹^^--
19 One brings me this morning a Carolina
20 rail alive--this years bird evidently from
21 its marks-- He saved it from a cat in
22 the road near the Battle Ground. On being
23 taken up it pecked a little at first--
24 but was soon quiet. It staggers about
25 as if weak on my window sill & pecks at
26 the glass--or stands with its eyes shut half
27 & its back feathers hunched up.
28 asleep. ^ possibly it is wounded-- I suspect
29 it may have been hatched here! //
30 Its feet are large & spreading--qualifying
31 it to run on mud or pads. Its crown is
32 black but chin white & its back feathers are
33 distinctly edged with white in streaks.
34 I compare my hazel nuts gathered
35 some time ago-- The beaked are

¹⁸⁸"b" written over "v"

¹⁸⁹An illegible symbol or letter appears to be struck out next to the "3" and before the "d" and the carats.

1 {two drawings} pointed nuts--while the
2 common~~t~~ are blunt--&
3 the former one a much paler brown
4 much
5 also have a yellower & ^ sweeter meat.

6 A fringed gentian plucked day before
7 yesterday--at length this forenoon untwists
8 & turns its petals partially in my chamber

9 // Have noticed a very brilliant scarlet black-
10 berry patch within a week--

11 The red maples which changed first
12 //along the river are now faded & partly
13 fallen-- They look more pink--but
14 others are lit & so there is more
15 color than before-- Some particular
16 maple among a hundred--will be of
17 a peculiarly bright & pure scarlet--& by
18 its difference of tint & intenser color
19 attract our eyes even at a distance
20 in the midst of the crowd. Looking all
21 around Fair Haven Pond yesterday--where
22 the maples were glowing amid the ever-
23 greens--my eyes invariably rested on a
24 particular small maple of the purest &
25 intensest scarlet.

26 Pm Paddle about Walden--
27 As I go through the Cut--I discover
28 a new locality--for the Crotalaria--being
29 //attracted by the pretty blue-black pods now
30 ripe & dangling in profusion from these low
31 plants--on the bare sandy & gravelly

1 slope of the Cut-- The vines or plants are
2 but half-a-dozen times longer (or higher) than
3 the pods-- It was the contrast of these black
4 pods with the yellowish sand which betrayed
5 them.

6 How many men have a fatal excess of
7 manner--! There was one came to our house
8 the other evening & behaved very simply &
9 well--till the moment he was passing out
10 the door-- He then suddenly put on the airs
11 of a well-bred man--& consciously described
12 some arc of beauty or other with his head
13 or hand-- It was but a slight flourish--
14 but it has put me on the alert

15 It is interesting to consider how that cro-
16 talaria spreads itself--sure to find out the
17 suitable soil-- One year I find it on the
18 Great Fields & think it rare--the next I
19 find it in a new & unexpected place. It flits about
20 like a flock of sparrows--from field to field.

21 The maples about Walden are quite
22 handsome now--

23 Standing on the R. R. I look across the pond to
24 Pine Hill--where the outside trees--&
25 the shrubs scattered generally through
26 the wood--glow through the green--yellow
27 & scarlet--like {-} fires just kindled
28 at the base of the trees--a general
29 conflagration just fairly underway, soon
30 to envelop every tree.

1 The hill-side forest is all a-glow along its
2 edge--& in all its cracks & fissures--
3 & soon the flames will leap upward to the
4 tops of the tallest trees.

5 About the pond I see maples of all
6 their tints--& black birches (on the S
7 W side)--clear pale yellow-- And on the
8 peaks young chestnut clumps & walnuts
9 are considerably yellowed.

10 I hear out toward the {middle}, or a dozen
11 rods from me, the plashing made ap.
12 by the shiners (for they look & shine like them)
13 leaping in schools on the surface-- many
14 lift themselves quite out for a foot or
15 2--but most rise only part way out--
16 20 black points at once-- There are
17 several schools indulging in this sport
18 from time to time as they swim slowly along.
19 This I ascertain by paddling out to them.
20 Perhaps they leap & dance in the water--
21 just as gnats dance in the air--at present
22 I have seen it before in the fall. Is it pe-
23 culiar to this season?

24 // Hear a hylodes peeping on shore.

25 A general reddening now of young &
26 some chinquapin bright red--
27 //scrub oaks--White pines fairly begin to

28 //change-- The large leaves of some black
29 oak sprouts are dark purple--almost
30 blackish above--but greenish beneath--

31 // See locust leaves all crisped by frost
32 in laurel-glen hollow--but only part
33 way up the bank--as on the shore of a

1 lake
2 Oct 4th
3 Going by Dr Barrett's just at the edge
4 of evening I see on the side-walk--something
5 bright like fire--as if molten lead were
6 scattered along {—} & then I wondered if
7 a drunkard's spittle were luminous & proceeded
8 to poke it onto a leaf with a stick. It
9 was rotten wood-- I found that it came
10 from the bottom of some old fence posts
11 which had just been dug up near by-- &
12 there glowed for a foot or 2--being quite
13 it suggested that a lamp-post might be more luminous
14 at bottom than at top.
15 rotten & soft-- ^ I cut out a handful &
16 carried it about. It was quite soft &
17 some almost white
18 spongy--& a very pale brown ^ in the light
19 quite soft & flaky
20 ^ & as I withdrew it gradually from the
21 light--it began to glow with a distinctly
22 blue fire in its recesses--becoming more uni-
23 versal and whiter as the darkness increased.
24 Carried toward a candle it is quite a
25 blue light. One man whom I met in
26 the street was able to tell the time by his
27 watch holding it over what was in my hand.
28 The posts were oak (prob. white). Mr--
29 Melvin, the mason, told me that he
30 heard his dog barking the other night
31 & going out found that it was at
32 the bottom of an old post he had dug
33 up during the day--which was all a-glow.

1 Pm (before the above)
2 Paddled up the Assabet Strong
3 //N Wind--bringing down leaves--
4 Many white & red maple--bass, elm,
5 //
6 & black willow leaves are strewn over the
7 surface of the water--light-crisp-colored
8 skiffs. The bass is in the prime of its
9 change--a mass of yellow--
10 See B--a-fishing--notwithstanding the
11 wind. A man runs down fails, loses
12 Though he were never seen on the river before
13 self-respect, & goes a-fishing ^ Yet
14 methinks his "misfortune" is good for him, &
15 he is the more mellow & humane. Perhaps
16 he begins to perceive more clearly that
17 the object of life is something else than
18 aquiring property--And he really stands
19 in a truer relation to his fellow men
20 than when he commanded a false
21 respect of them. There he stands--
22 at length--perchance better employed
23 than ever--holding communion with
24 nature & himself--& coming to understand
25 his real position & relation to men in this
26 world. It is better than a poor debtors
27 prison--better than most successful money-
28 getting.
29 I see some rich-weed in the shade of the
30 hemlocks--for some time a clear almost
31 //
32 ivory white-- & the boehmeria--is also
33 whitish. R toxicodendron in the shade
34 //is a pure yellow--in the sun more scarlet or
35 reddish

1 Grape leaves ap. as yellow as ever-- //
2 Witch hazel ap. at height of change--yellow //
3 below green above-- The yellow leaves by their
4 color concealing the flowers. The flowers too are
5 ap. in prime. The leaves are often richly //
6 spotted reddish & greenish brown.

7 The White maples that changed first are about //
8 bare The brownish yellow clethra leaves //
9 thickly paint the bank. Salix lucida leaves //
10 are 1/3 clear yellow. The osmunda regalis //
11 is yellowed & partly crisp & withered, but a little
12 later than the cinnamon &c.

14 Scare up 2 ducks which go off with a
15 sharp creaking a r-r-week, a r-r-week{,}
16 a r-r-week. Is not this the note of the
17 wood duck?--

18 Hornets are still at work in their nests. //
19 Ascend the hill. The cranberry meadows
20 are a dull red. See crickets eating the //
21 election cake toadstools. The Great Meadows,
22 where not mown, have long been brown with
23 wool-grass.

24 The hickories on the N. W side of this hill
25 are in the prime of their color--of a rich //
26 orange--some intimately mixed with green
27 handsomer than these that are wholly changed.
28 The outmost parts and edges of the foliage
29 are orange--the recesses green--as if the out-
30 most parts being turned toward the sunny

1 fire were first baked by it
2 Oct 5th
3 I still see large flocks ap. of chip birds
4 //
5 on the weeds & ground in the yard-- --without
6 very distinct chestnut crowns--& they are divided by
7 a light line-- They are eating seeds of the Amaranthus
8 hybrius. &c--
9 8 Am I go to Hubbards Close to see
10 when the Fringed Gentians open-- They begin
11 to open in the sun about 8 1/2 Am--or
12 say 9
13 // Chewink note still--grackles in flocks--
14 phebe note of chicadee often these days.
15 Much green is indispensable for maples--
16 hickories birches &c to contrast with--as
17 of pines oaks--alders &c.-- The former
18 are fairest when seen against these--
19 %say yesterday%
20 // The {—} maples being in their prime %^% before
21 the pines are conspicuously particolored.
22
23 Pm to Easterbrook's Country--
24 White pines in low ground & swamps are
25 the first to change--some of these have
26 //lost many needles-- Some on dry ground
27 have so far changed as to be quite handsome--
28 but most only so far as to make the
29 misty glaucous (green) leaves more
30 soft & indefinitely--
31 The fever bush is in the height of its change
32 //
33 & is a strong clear lemon yellow--contrasting
34 //with its scarlet berries.
35 The yellow birch is ap at the height of
36 //
37 its change--clear yellow like the black--

1 I think I saw a white ash which was all
 2 turned clear yellowish--& no mulberry,
 3 in the botrychium swamp.

4 Looking on the Great meadows from beyond
 5 Nathan Barrett's-- The wool grass--where
 6 uncut is a very rich brown--contrasting with
 7 the clear green of the portions which are
 8 all
 9 mown-- ~~commonly~~ rectangular.

10 The staghorn sumac--ap. in the prime of its change

11 In the evening I am glad to find that
 12 my phosphorescent wood of last night still
 13 glows somewhat--but I improve it much
 14 by putting it in water. The little chip{s} which
 15 remain in the water or sink to the bottom are
 16 like so many stars in the sky.

17 The comet makes a great show these nights
 18 at least
 19 Its tail is ^ as long as the whole of the

20 Great Dipper, to whose handle, till within a
 21 %{It finally reaches between 1/4 & 1/3 from the horizon to the zenith}%
 22 night or 2--it reached--in a great curve--
 23 and we plainly see stars through it--
 24 Huckleberry bushes generally red--but dull Ind. red not scarlet--
 25 %{ cannot have}%
 26 %{ }%
 27 %{ }%

28 The red maples are generally past their
 29 prime (of color) They are duller or faded-- Their
 30 first fires, like those of genius, are brightest.
 31 In some places on the edge of swamps many
 32 of their tops are bare--& smoky. The dicksonia
 33 fern, is for the most part, quite crisp & brown
 34 along the walls--

1 The leaf stalks are commonly drooping--being bent
2 short downward near the base in a peculiar
3 manner

4 Several {drawing}¹⁹⁰ species of ferns are faded quite
5 white in the swamp--Dicksonia & another &
6 some brakes--for in moist woods--& swamps they
7 are preserved longer than in dry places.

8 Solidago latifolia in bloom still--but always sparingly. //
9 Cinnamon ferns are generally crisped--but in the
10 swamp I saw some handsomely spotted green & yellowish--
11 & one clump--the handsomest I ever saw--perfect{ly}
12 in outline following over each way from the center--
13 of a very neat drab color--quaker like--fit
14 to adorn an oriental drawing-room.

15 The evergreens seem positively greener, owing to
16 the browning of other leaves. I should not
17 suspect that the white birches had changed so
18 much & lost so many leaves--if I did not
19 see them against the unchanged pitch
20 pines on the hill side.

21 I notice Hieracium¹⁹¹ paniculatum & scabrum
22 in dark low wood paths--turned {a} hoary white //

23 The medeola leaves are a pale straw-color with //
24 a crimson center--perhaps getting stale now--

25 The tupelo at wharf rock--is completely //
26 scarlet--with blue berries amid its leaves

27 Leaves now have fairly begun to rustle //
28 under foot in wood paths--esp. in chest-
29 nut woods--scaring the ducks as you

¹⁹⁰This majority of this drawing appears between "several" and "species"; it also occupies some space after "manner" in the preceding line above.
¹⁹¹"H" written over "h"

1 approach the pond{s}--& what is that
2 //common scent there so much like fragrant
3 everlasting?
4 The smooth sumacs--which are in their prime
5 //
6 or perhaps a little past--are methinks the
7 most uniform & intense scarlet of any
8 shrub--or tree. They stand perfectly distinct
9 with slender spreading arms
10 amid the pines-- ^ their leaflets drooping &
11 though fresh
12 somewhat curled-- ^ Yet high colored as they
13 are--from their attitude & drooping--like
14 scarfs on rather ~~bark~~ bare & dark stems--
15 They have a funereal effect-- as if you
16 were walking in the cemetery of people who
17 mourned in scarlet
18
19 most
20 Most S. nemoralis & ^ other golden-rods now
21 //
22 look hoary killed by frost--
23 //
24 The corn stands bleached¹⁹² & faded--(quite
25 white in the twilight) in the fields--no
26 greenness there has the frost & sun left
27 Seen against the dark earth--
28
29 My phosphorescent wood still glows a little,
30 though it has lain on my stove all day--
31 & being wet, it is much improved still.
32
33 Oct 8th
34
35 Fine pasture grass seen in the sun begins
36 //to like¹⁹³ faded & bleached like the corn--
37 //
38 Strong NW wind. The button bushes
39 //& black willows are rapidly losing leaves--&
40 the shore begins to look Novemberish
41 %of ash%
42 // Mulberry leaves %^% are ap. dulled.
43
44 Oct. 9th
45 //
46 Cold & N. W. wind still-- The maple
47 //swamps begin to look smoky They

¹⁹²"bleached" might also be read as "blanched".

¹⁹³This word appears to be "like", but would make more sense as "look". The 1906 edition reads "look".

1 are already so bare-- Their fires so faded
2 are pale scarlet or pinkish--
3 Some Cornus sericea--looks quite greenish yet--
4 Huckleberry leaves falling fast //
5 //
6 I go to the cliffs. The air is clear with
7 a cold NW wind--& the trees beginning to
8 be bare-- The mts are darker & distincter--
9 & Walden (seen from this hill) darker blue. //
10 //
11 It is quite Novemberish-- People are
12 %some time after%
13 %making haste to gather the remaining apples %^%
14 this cool eve. Bay wings flit along road-- //
15 %Crows fly over & caw at you now-- -- -- --% //
16 Methinks hawks are more commonly seen now //
17 //
18 the slender marsh hawk for one-- I see 4 or
19 5 in dif-- places. I watch 2 marsh hawks
20 which rise from the woods before me--as I sit
21 on the Cliff-- {gra} at first plunging at
22 each other--gradually lifting themselves as
23 they come round in their gyrations higher &
24 higher & floating toward the S. E. Slender
25 dark notes they are at last--almost lost to sight--
26 but every time they come round eastward I see
27 the light of the westering sun reflected from
28 the undersides of their {wings}.
29 Those little bits~~le~~ of phosphorescent wood
30 which I picked up on the 4th--have glowed
31 each evening since--but required wetting
32 to get the most light out of them-- This eve-
33 ening only one--about 2 inches long, shows
34 any light-- This was wet last evening--but
35 is now ap. quite dry-- If I should wet it again

1 it would no doubt glow again consider-
2 ably.

3 Sunday Oct 10th

4 Pm to Annursnack--

5 November has already come to the river
6 //with the fall of the black willow & the
7 buttonbush-- & the fall & blackening
8 of the pontederia-- The leaves of the
9 two former are the greater part fallen
10 letting in the Autumn light to
11 the water-- & the ducks have less
12 shelter & concealment--

13 As I go along the Groton road--
14 the middle of
15 I see afar in ^ E. Wood's field what
16 looks like a stone jug or post--but
17 my glass reveals it a wood chuck.
18 --a great plump gray fellow--& when
19 I am nearly half a mile off--I can
20 still see him nibbling the grass there--
21 & from time to time when he hears
22 perchance a wagon on the road--
23 sitting erect & looking warily around
24 for approaching foes-- I am {glad}
25 to see the woodchuck so fat in the or-
26 chard-- It prove{--}that is the same nature
27 that was of yore.

28 The autumnal brightness¹⁹⁴ of the foliage
29 //
30 generally--is less ~~or~~¹⁹⁵ faded--since the fading
31 of the maples & hickories--which {began} about
32 the 5th {% but the oaks became brighter v 15 %}

¹⁹⁴"brightness" poss double underlined in pencil

¹⁹⁵"or" could be struck out or it could merely contain an unintentional blot.

1 Oak leaves generally (perhaps except scarlet¹⁹⁶?)
2 begin to wither soon after they begin to turn--
3 And large trees (except the scarlet) do
4 not generally attain to brilliancy %?%
5 Ap. Fringilla {pusilla}, yet //
6 The Salix humilis leaves are falling //
7 fast in wood turtle path (A Hosmer's) a
8 dry wood path--looking curled & slaty colored
9 about the half bare stems. Thus each
10 humbler shrub is contributing its mite to
11 the fertility of the globe-- I find the
12 undersides of the Election cake fungi--
13 there covered with pink colored fleas--ap //
14 poduras--skipping about when it is turned
15 up to the light.
16 The simplest & most lumpish fungus has
17 a peculiar interest to us--compared with
18 a mere mass of earth--because it is so
19 obviously organic--& related to ourselves--
20 however mute. It is the expression of an
21 idea--growth according to a law--
22 Matter not dormant--not raw--but inspired
23 appropriated by spirit-- If I take up a handful
24 of earth--however separately interesting the
25 particles may be--their relation to one another
26 appears to be that of mere juxtaposition
27 generally-- I might have thrown them together
28 thus. But the humblest fungus betrays
29 a life akin to my own. It is a successful

¹⁹⁶"S" poss written over "s"

1 poem in its kind. There is suggested some-
2 thing superior to any particle of matter--
3 in the idea or mind which uses
4 & arranges the particles.

5 Genius is inspired by its own works--it is
6 hermaphroditic--

7 I find the Fringed¹⁹⁷ gentian abundantly
8 open--at 3 & at 4 Pm (in fact it
9 must be all the afternoon--) Open
10 to catch the cool October sun & air in
11 its low position-- Such a dark blue!
12 surpassing that of the male blue bird's back
13 color who must be encouraged by its presence
14 or in
15 Enclosing it in a mass of the sphagnum near ^ which it often grows--
16 I carry them home--& they open for several days in succession.
17 ¹⁹⁸The Indigo weed now{--}partly turned
18 //
19 black--& broken off--blows about the
20 pastures like the fly-away grass--

21 I find some of those little rooty tubers (?)
22 now woody--in the Turtle field of A. Hosmer's
23 by Eddy Bridge--

24 Pulling up some Dip. linariifolius¹⁹⁹ now done--
25 I find many bright purple shoots 1/2 to 3/4
26 of an inch long freshly²⁰⁰ put forth under-
27 ground--& ready to turn up ward & form
28 new plants in the spring.

29 Oct 11 '58

30 Pm to Conantum--

31 The Aut. tints have not been so bright
32 this year %If perhaps they were later (?)%
33 as usual--²⁰¹ %^% but why--it is hard to sa{y}--
34
35 The summer has been peculiarly cool as
36 well as wet--& it may be that the

¹⁹⁷"F" written over "f"

¹⁹⁸False start before "The"

¹⁹⁹ Looks like "linanoliuss"

²⁰⁰This word might also be read as "partly".

²⁰¹In Thoreau's manuscript, this carat appears on the line but directly below the dash (shown as preceding the carat here).

1 leaves have been more inclined to decay
2 before coming to maturity. Also apparently
3 ^{mere}
4 many leaves are killed by the ^ frosts before
5 ripening--the locust for instance--& the frost
6 came early this year--just as melons
7 & squashes--before they have turned yellow--
8 --ie the leaves fade while they are still green.

9 I observe the small cornel or bunch-
10 berry--conspicuously green now--like
11 winter green & evergreen in the woods amid
12 the changed or withered foliage of the forest
13 floor-- Yet I have seen it purple (?) in the //
14 winter methinks.

15 See a small flock of cow-birds (?) with //
16 at any rate conspicuously drab head &
17 shoulders--the rest black-- What were
18 these slender sparrow-like birds--which went //
19 off singly from the sides of Conantum hills--with
20 ^{nuthatch ?}
21 a sharp--chit-chit--%^ a peculiar note--
22 flying somewhat like a goldfinch but not
23 quite so ricochet? They are quite shy.

24 Witch-hazel--grape--smooth sumac--
25 & common hazel are partly fallen--some //
26 of the first named wholly--yet full of bloom.

27 It is a cool seat under the witch hazel
28 The leaves are greenish & brownish yellow
29 in full bloom--which has lost its leaves!

30 White pines are ap. ready to fall--some
31 are much paler brown than others.

32 The small botrychium has shed pollen //
33 ap. within 10 days.

34 The vib. lentago is generally a dull red--

1 on a green ground--but its leaves are yet
2 quite fresh-- See a white-throat
3 //sparrow-- %Ap yes%
4 Oct 12 '58
5 Pm up Assabet--
6 Most exposed Button bushes²⁰² & black
7 //willows are 2/3 bare-- & the leaves which
8 remain on the former are for the most
9 part brown & shrivelled. The balls stand
10 out bare ruddy or brown-- The coarse
11 //grass of the river side Phalaris? is bleached²⁰³
12 as white as corn--
13 // The cornus sericea begins to fall--though
14 some of it is green-- & the C. Florida at Island
15 shows some scarlet tints--but it is not much
16 exposed. I believe that this was quite showy
17 at Perth Amboy.
18 There are many maple--birch &c leaves
19 on the Assabet--in stiller places along
20 the shore--but not yet a Leaf Harvest
21 // Many swamp white oaks look crisp & brown
22 I land at Pinxter Swamp-- The leaves
23 //of the azaleas²⁰⁴ are falling--mostly fallen--
24 & revealing the large blossom buds--
25 So prepared are they for another year--
26 with man all is uncertainty. He does not
27 confidently look forward to another spring.
28 But examine the root of the savory leaved
29 aster & you will find the new shoots--
30 fair purple shoots--which are to curve
31 upward & bear the next years' flowers
32 already grown 1/2 inch or more in
33 the earth.. Nature is confident.

²⁰²poss "B" written over "b"

²⁰³"bleached" might also be read as "blanched".

²⁰⁴poss "azalias"

1 pear to be fallen or falling. They are
2 so fair & plump & glossy--that I love
3 to handle them & am loth to throw
4 away what I have in my hand.

5 // I see a squirrel nest of leaves-- made
6 now before the leaves are fallen

7 I have heard of judges accidentally
8 met at an evening party--discussing the
9 efficacy of the laws & courts,--& deciding
10 & deciding that with the aid of the
11 jury system "substantial justice was
12 done." But taking those cases in which
13 honest men refrain from going to law
14 to-gether with those in which even honest
15 & dishonest do go to law-- I think that
16 the law is really a "humbug"--& a benefit
17 principally to the lawyers. This town has
18 made a law recently against cattle--
19 going at large--& assigned a penalty of
20 5 dollars. I am troubled by an Irish neigh-
21 bors cow & horse & have threatened to have
22 them put in the pound. But a lawyer
23 tells me that these town laws are
24 hard to put through--there are so many
25 quibbles-- He never knew the complainan{t}
26 to get his case--if the defendant were
27 a-mind to contend. However the
28 cattle were kept out several
29 days--till a Sunday came &--

1 then they were all in my ground again--
2 as I heard-- but all my neighbors tell
3 me that I cannot have them impounded
4 on that day. Indeed I observe that
5 very many of my neighbors do for this
6 reason regularly turn their cattle loose
7 on Sundays.

8 The judges may discuss the question of
9 the courts & law over their nuts & raisins
10 & mumble forth the decision that "sub-
11 stantial justice is done"--but I must
12 believe they mean that they do really get
13 paid a "substantial" salary.

14 Oct 13th

15 Rain--all day more or less--which //
16 the cloudy & rather still yesterday threatened--

17 Elm leaves thickly strew the street now &
18 rustle under foot--the dark brown pavement
19 The elms are at least half bare. //

20 Oct 14th--

21 Pm Sail to Balls Hill²⁰⁷

22 The White maples are now ap. on their autum-
23 nal dress-- The leaves are much curled--& of a //
24 pale hoary or silvery yellow--with often a rosaceous
25 cheek--though not so high colored as 2 months
26 ago. They are beginning to lose their leaves //
27 Though they still hold on they have lost much of
28 their vitality. On the top of Ball's Hill
29 --nearly half way its length-- The red Pine²⁰⁸ sap--

²⁰⁷"H" written over "h"
²⁰⁸"P" written over "p"

1 //quite past--ap not long in bloom--the flower
2 recurved-- As last year I suspect that
3 this variety is later than the yellowish one--
4 The last--in E. Hubs wood is all brown & withered.
5 of which I have seen none for a long time.
6 deep
7 This is a clear & distinct ^ red from the
8 ground upward all but the edges & tips
9 of the petals--& is very handsome amid
10 the withered lower leaves--as it were the
11 ?latest flower of the year-- The roots have
12 not only a sweet earthy--but decidedly
13 checkerberry scent-- At length this fungus
14 like plant--bursts red-ripe stem & all--
15 from the ground-- The²⁰⁹ deep redness re-
16 minds me of the deeper colors of the western-
17 sky--after the sun has set--a sort
18 of after glow in the flowery year-- I suspect
19 that it is eminently an autumnal flower--
20 The tufts of Andropogon scoparius--
21 which is common on the sandy shore under
22 Balls Hill--& yet more on the Hill
23 just behind Reuben Brown's place--are now
24 //in their Autumnal state-- {It} curved. %(?)%
25 culms adorned with--white fuzzy spikes.
26 The culms still are of a dull red color--
27 quite agreeable in the sun.
28 Paddling slowly back--we enjoy at
29 length very perfect reflections in the
30 still water-- The blue of the sky--& in
31 deed all tints--are deepened in the re-
32 flection

²⁰⁹"The" written over "It"

1 //scarlet-- The Black O--is yellowish
2 --a half decayed or brownish yellow &
3 already becoming brown & crisp--though
4 not so much so as the white--

5 The scarlet is the most brilliant of the
6 //
7 oaks--finely fingered--especially noticeable
8 in sproutlands--& young woods-- The larger
9 ones are still altogether green, or
10 show a deep cool green in their recesses--

11 If you stand fronting a hill side covered
12 with a variety of young oaks--the brightest
13 uniformly
14 scarlet ones--^deep-dark scarlet will be
15 the--scarlet oaks-- The next most uni-
16 formly reddish--a peculiar dull crimson
17 (or salmon?) red--are the White oaks--
18 Then the large leaved & variously tinted red--
19 oaks--scarlet--yellow--& green--& finally
20 the yellowish & half decayed brown leaves of the
21 black oak--

22 The colors of the oaks are far more dis-
23 //tinct now than they were before-- See that
24 white & that black oak side by side--
25 young trees-- The 1st that peculiar dull
26 crimson (or salmon) red--with crisped edges
27 the 2d a brownish & greenish yellow--much
28 sun still in its leaves--

29 Looking at a young white oak--you see
30 2 distinct colors-- --the brighter or glossier
31 red {inner} of the upper surfaces of
32 the inner leaves as yet not much
33 affected by frost & wind-- --contrasting
34 with the paler but still crimson-tinged

1 under sides of the outmost leaves blown
2 up by the wind--& perhaps partly crisped--
3 I notice thorn bushes in sproutlands //
4 quite bare-- The lower leaves of huckleberry
5 %black%
6 bushes & young wild %^% cherries fall first-- //
7 but for the most part the upper leaves of apple trees
8 The high blueberries are still a bright or
9 red scarlet-- //
10 %for shrub oak color V. Oct 2 '57²¹¹%
11 Golden rods now pretty generally show their
12 dirty white pappus together with the still //
13 yellow scales--the last preserving some semblance
14 of the flowers-- Small hickories are
15 the clearest & most delicate yellow
16 in the shade of the woods
17 Cinnamon ferns in Clintonia swamp are
18 fast losing their leaflets-- Some large //
19 dicksonias on the moist hill side there //
20 are quite green yet, though nearly prostrate
21 in a large close patch slanting down
22 the hill--& with some faded nearly white--
23 The yellow-lily in the brook--by the
24 turnpike is still expanding fresh leaves
25 with wrinkled edges as in the spring
26 The Salix humilis falls expanding its
27 great cones like a fruit
28 On the sandy slope of the cut close by the
29 pond-- I notice the chips which some Indian
30 fletcher has made-- Yet our poets & philosophers
31 regret that we have no antiquities in America--
32

²¹¹"2 '57" poss "2d 57"

1 in the reflection as they would if viewed from
2 that point on the surface from which they
3 are reflected to my eye--so that it is as if
4 I had another eye placed there to see for
5 me. Hence too we are struck by the prevalence
6 of sky or light in the reflection--& at twilight
7 dream that the light has gone down into
8 the bosom of the waters-- --for in the re-
9 flection the sky comes up to the very shore or edge--
10 & appears to extend under it--while the substance
11 being seen from a more elevated point--the actual
12 horizon is perhaps many miles distant over
13 the fields & hills. In the reflection you have
14 an infinite number of eyes to see for you & report
15 %each% %its%
16 the aspect of things from their²¹² point of view.
17 %The statue in the meadow which actually is seen obscurely against the meadow%
18 %in the reflection appears dark & distinct against the sky--%
19 {drawing}²¹³
20 The mikania--golden rods--& Andropogon
21 scoparius--have now their November aspect //
22 the former showing their dirty white pappus
23 the last its white plumose hairs. The year
24 is thus acquiring a grizzly look--before
25 the snows of winter-- I see some P. amphibium--
26 --front rank--& hydropiperiodes--still-- //
27 At Clam Shell--the large black oaks
28 are brownish & greenish yellow-- The swamp- //
29 white at a distance a yellowish green-- Though
30 many of the last (which are small) are already

²¹²"their" cancelled in pencil

²¹³This horizontal drawing spans the middle of the page from below "appears" to below "sky" and is slightly less than an inch in height.

1 withered pale brown with light undersides--
2 even to the little sage willow the smallest of all our species
3 but a foot or 2 high
4 Willows generally turn yellow ^ --(though

5 the S. alba--hardly attains to more than
6 v 18th
7 a sheeny polish ^)-- But one willow at
8 varies from yellow to
9 //least the S. cordata ^ --(is now) a
10 in wet places.
11 light scarlet-- ^ ~~like~~ (or reddish orange)
12 ~~like the~~ which would be deeper yet--
13 were it not for its lighter under sides--

14 This is seen afar in considerable low patches

15 in the meadow. It is remarkable among
16 & I can distinguish this species now by this
17 our willows for turning scarlet ^--i.e part
18 the rest is yellow
19 of it in perhaps the wettest places ^ -- It
20 though
21 is as distinctly scarlet as the gooseberry--
22 it may be lighter--
23 The oak sproutland on the hill side

24 N of Puffers is now quite brilliant--red.
25 There is a pretty dense row of White birches
26 along the base of the hill near the meadow
27 & their light yellow spires are seen against
28 the red & set it off remarkably. The red being
29 also seen a little below them between their bare
30 stems. The Green white pines seen here
31 and there amid the red are equally im-
32 portant.

33 The tupelo by staple's meadow is completely
34 //
35 bare-- Some high blue berry is a deep
36 dark crimson-- In sproutlands you
37 see now & then great mellow yellowish
38 leaves of aspen sprouts here & there--

39 See a large flock of gracles
40 //
41 steering for²¹⁴ a bare elm top near the
42 meadow{s}-- As they fly athwart my

²¹⁴"for" might be read as "from"

1 view-- They appear successively rising 1/2 a foot
2 or a foot above one another--though the flock
3 is 'moving' straight forward. I have not seen
4 red wings a long while--but these birds which
5 went so much further north to breed--are still
6 arriving from those distant regions--fetching
7 the year about.

8 Oct 17th 58

9 Pm up Assabet--

10 There are many crisped but colored leaves
11 resting on the smooth surface of the
12 Assabet--which for the most part is not
13 stirred by a breath. but ^{in some places}
14 is rippled by a slight [^] where the middle
15 is rippled by a slight {~~the~~} breeze no leaves are
16 seen--while the broad & perfectly smooth
17 portions next the shore--will be covered with
18 them, as if by {~~a~~}current they were prevented
19 from falling on the other parts--

20 These leaves are chiefly of the--red maple
21 --with some white maple &c-- To be sure
22 they hardly begin to conceal the river unless
23 in some quiet coves--yet they remind me
24 of ditches in swamps--where surfaces are
25 often quite concealed by leaves now-- The waves made
26 by my boat causes them to rustle-- & both
27 by sounds & sights I am reminded that
28 I am in the very midst of the fall

29 Methinks the reflections are never purer &
30 more distinct--than now at the season

²¹⁵"but" written over "&"

1 of the fall of the leaf--just before
2 the cool twilight has come--when the
3 air has a finer grain-- Just as our
4 mental reflections are more distinct--at
5 this season of the year when the evenings
6 grow cool & lengthen--& our winter
7 with their brighter fires
8 evenings ^ may be said to begin. And
9 painted ducks too, often come & sail
10 or float amid the painted leaves--
11 Cattle are seen these days turned into
12 the river meadows--& straying far and
13 wide--they have at length reached these
14 "pastures new" they dreamed of--
15 // I see one or 2 large white maples quite
16 bare-- Some late red-maples
17 //are unexpectedly as fair & bright as
18 ever {—} both scarlet & yellow--
19 & still distance all competitors-- There
20 is no brighter & purer scarlet--(often run-
21 ning with crimson) & no {~~ele~~} softer & clearer
22 ^{now}
23 yellow than theirs ^-- Though the greater
24 part have quite lost their leaves--
25 The fires I thought dulled if not put out
26 a week ago--seem to have burst forth again--
27 This accounts for these red maples which
28 were seen to be green while all around
29 them were scarlet-- They but bided their
30 time-- They were not so easily affected.
31 I distinguish one large red oak--(the
32 most advanced one) from black ones, by its

1 red-brown--though some others are yellow
2 brown & greenish-- The large red oaks
3 are about in their prime--some //
4 are a handsome light scarlet (with yellow
5 & green-- %V 28th%
6 The C. sericea† is a very dark crimson //
7 though it has lost some leaves-- The S. lucida
8 //
9 lower leaves are all fallen--(the rest are yellow)
10 so too it is the lower leaves of the willow generally
11 which have {~~lost~~} fallen first--
12 Saw a small hawk come flying over the //
13 Assabet--which at first I mistook for
14 a dove--though it was smaller-- It was
15 blunt or round shouldered like a ~~hawk~~ dove--
16 It alighted on a small elm--& did not mind
17 a wagon passing near by--seen through my
18 glass 20 rods off-- It had a very distinct
19 black head--with ap. a yellowish brown
20 breast & beneath--& a brown back--(both
21 however quite light) and a yellowish tail with
22 a distinct broad black band at the tip-- This
23 I saw when in pruning itself it was tilted or
24 flirted up-- Could it have been a sparrow
25 hawk--?
26 One reason why I associate perfect reflections
27 from still water with this & a later season--
28 may be that now by the fall of the leaves
29 so much more light is let in to the water--
30 The river reflects more light--therefore

1 in this twilight of the year, as it were an
2 after glow--
3 Oct 18th--'58
4 Pm to Smith's Chestnut Grove & Saw
5 Mill Brook--
6 The large sugar maples on the the com-
7 // mon are now at the height of their
8 one--the earliest to change is partly bare-- This turned so
9 // beauty-- Also the one at the head
10 early & so deep a scarlet that some thought that it was surely going to die
11 of the turnpike reveals its character
12 now as far as you can see it. Yet
13 about 10 days ago all but one of these
14 was quite green--& I thought they would
15 not acquire any bright tints-- A delicate
16 but warmer than golden yellow is the
17 %²¹⁶{v The farmer}%²¹⁶
18 prevailing color--with scarlet cheeks ^--
19 ²¹⁷They are great regular oval masses
20 of scarlet & yellow. All the sunny
21 warmth of the season seems to be
22 There is an auction on the common but its old flag is hard to be
23 absorbed in their leaves--^ The²¹⁸ lowest
24 discerned amid this blaze of color--
25 & inmost leaves next the bole are
26 of the most delicate yellow & green--
27 as usual--like the complexion of
28 young men brought up in the house.
29 Little did the fathers of the
30 town anticipate this brilliant success
31 when they caused to be imported from
32 farther in the county--some straight
33 poles ~~the~~ with the tops cut off which
34 they called sugar maple trees--
35

²¹⁶1906 reads "Vide [pp.226, 227]"

²¹⁷"They are great" and "& yellow" on the following line are circled, poss with transposition lines

²¹⁸"T" poss written over "t"

1 and a ~~sugar~~ neighboring merchant's
2 clerk, as I remember--by way of jest planted
3 beans about them. Yet these which,
4 were then jestingly called bean poles,
5 are; these days, far the most beautiful
6 objects noticeable in our streets-- They
7 are worth all & more than they have
8 cost--though one of the selectmen did
9 take the cold which occasioned his death
10 in setting them out--if only because
11 they have filled the open eyes of children
12 with their rich color so unstintedly so
13 We will not ask them to yield us sugar in the spring--while
14 many autumns--^ Wealth may be the in-
15 they²¹⁹ yield us so fair a prospect in the autumn
16 heritage of few in the houses but it
17 is equally distributed on the Common--²²⁰
18 All children alike can revel in this
19 golden harvest-- These trees, through-
20 out the street--are at least equal to
21 % { } %
22 an annual festival & holiday or a
23 % { } %
24 week of such--(%^%not requiring any special
25 to keep the peace
26 police ^.) & poor indeed must be that
27 N. E. "village's" October which has not the
28 maple in its streets-- This October festi--
29 val--costs no powder no ringing of
30 % {living} %
31 bells--but every tree is a %^% liberty pool²²¹
32 on which a thousand bright flags are
33 run up. Hundreds of children's eyes
34 are steadily drinking in this color--& by
35 %>%²²² these teachers even the truants are caught

²¹⁹An inkblot partially obscures "they"

²²⁰"C" written over "c"

²²¹Possibly "post"; 1906 has "pole"

²²²illegible vertical pencil text in left margin, connected to caret

1 the moment they step abroad--
2 and educated ~~by these teachers~~. It is as
3 if some cheap & innocent gala day
4 were celebrated in our town every autumn--
5 --a week or 2 of such days--

6 What meant the fathers by establishing
7 this living institution before the Church--
8 --this institution which needs no repairing
9 re-
10 ²²³nor painting--which is continually "en-
11 larged & repaired" by ~~nature~~ its growth--?
12 Surely trees should be set in our streets
13 with a view to their October²²⁴ splendor-- Do
14 you not think it will make some odds to
15 these children that they were brought up under
16 the maples--?²²⁵ Indeed neither the truant
17 nor the studios are at present taught
18 colors in the schools-- These are instead
19 of the bright colors in Apothecary shops
20 & city windows-- It is a pity we have
21 not more red maples & more hickories
22 in the streets as well-- Our paint box is
23 very imperfectly filled-- Instead of--
24 or beside--supplying paint boxes--I would
25 supply these natural colors to the young.

26 I know of one man at least--called
27 & peculiarly successful
28 an excellent ^farmer-- --Who has thoroughly
29 repaired his house--& built a new
30 barn with a barn cellar--such as every²²⁶
31 farmer seems fated to have-- Who has
32 not ~~set out~~ a single tree or shrub
33 of any kind ~~set out~~ about his house--
34 or within a considerable distance of it.

²²³"{2 ps forward}" written vertically in margin from this point poss. in pencil

²²⁴"O" written over "o"

²²⁵"Surely . . . maples--?" marked for transposition in pencil

²²⁶Partially obscured

1 No annual training--or muster--
2 of soldiery--no celebration with its
3 scarfs & banners--could impart into the
4 town a hundredth part of the annual
5 splendor of our October. We have only
6 to set the trees--or let them stand--&
7 nature will find the colored drapery
8 some of
9 --flags of all her nations--^whose pri-
10 vate signals hardly the botanist can
11 read-- Let us have a good many maple
12 & hickories & scarlet oaks--then--I say--
13 Blaze away! Shall that dirty roll of
14 bunting in the gun-house be all the colors
15 a village can display?
16 A village is not complete--unless it has these
17 trees to mark the season in it-- They are as
18 a
19 important as the town-clock-- Such a
20 village will not be found to work well-- It
21 has a screw loose--an essential part is wanting
22 Let us have willows for spring--
23 elms for summer--maples & walnuts
24 & tupelos²²⁷
25 ^for Autumn--evergreens for winter--
26 & oaks for all seasons-- What is a
27 gallery in a house to a gallery in the streets!
28 I think that there is not a picture gallery
29 in the country which {would} be worth as
30 much to us as is the western view under
31 the elms of our Main Street. They are
32 the frame to a picture--& we are

²²⁷"& tupelos" connected to caret by transposition lines

1 not in the dilemma of the Irish man
2 costly gilt
3 who having bought a ^ picture frame
4 at an auction--found himself obliged
5 to buy a picture at private sale to put
6 into it--for our picture is already
7 painted with each sunset behind it--
8 An avenue of elms as large as our
9 largest--&--3 miles long--would seem to
10 lead to some admirable place though
11 only Concord were at the end of it--
12 Such a street as I have described--would
13 be to the traveller--esp. in October, an ever-
14 changing panorama--

15 A village needs these innocent stimulants
16 --of bright & cheering prospect--to keep off
17 melancholy & superstition. Show me two
18 villages--one {embowered} in trees--& blazing
19 with all the glories of October--the
20 other--a merely trivial & treeless waste--
21 & I shall be sure that in the latter will
22 be found the most desperate & hardest drinkers.

23 What if we were to take half as much pains
24 in protecting them, as we do in setting them
25 out--not stupidly tie our horses to our
26 dahlia stems %<{What meant the fathers--}%

27 They are cheap preachers permanently settled
28 which preach their half century & century--
29 aye & century & a half sermons--with
30 & unction
31 continually increasing influence^--ministering
32 to many generations of men--& the least
33 we can do is to supply them with suitable
34 colleagues as they grow infirm--

1 Children are now everywhere playing with
 2 the brown withered leaves of elms & buttonwoods
 3 which strew the {streets} and are collected into heaps
 4 in the sluice-ways
 5 In the woods even the little pea-vine turns
 6 a delicate yellow & is more conspicuous than ever--
 7 & in the now neglected gardens the asparagus
 8 beds greenish without glow yellow within--as if a
 9 fire were bursting out there.--
 10 As I go down the turnpike past Clintonia
 11 Swamp--I am struck by the magical
 12 change which has taken place in the red-
 13 maple swamps--which just a fortnight
 14 ago--were splendid masses of scarlet &
 15 yellow & crimson rising amid the yet green
 16 pines & oaks &c
 17 trees--^like immense flower-beds on one
 18 side of the town--visible for miles--attract{ing}²²⁸
 19 though a few late ones as bright as ever in some places
 20 the eyes of all travellers-- Now ^ all their
 21 splendor gone, wafted away, as it were, by
 22 a puff of wind--& they are the mere
 23 %or if noticed at all%
 24 ghosts of trees, unnoticed by any%^--like the
 25 smoke that is seen where a blaze is ex-
 26 %{or as the red clouds at evening change suddenly to gray & black}%
 27 tinguished%^--so suddenly their glory de-
 28 parts--desolate gray twigs
 29 The S. alba is a light & silvery green
 30 since the red-maples generally fell--the
 31 {chestnut} have been yellowing & the oaks
 32 reddening & yellowing-- The²²⁹ chestnuts are
 33 now in their prime though many leaves are

²²⁸The rest of this word is cut off in the copy; 1906 has "attracting"
²²⁹stray mark before "The"

1 fallen-- The forest which showed but
2 little ripeness 10 days ago--except about
3 its edges--and here & there as you looked
4 down on it from a height--is now seen
5 // to be generally of a mellow brownish yellow--
6 like perfectly ripe fruit--which we know
7 to be more perfectly ripe for being a little
8 specked--
9 // By the brook--witch hazel, as an underwood,
10 is in the height of its change--but elsewhere
11 exposed large bushes are bare--R. toxico-
12 // dendron is fallen. The Horn beam is a greenish
13 // yellow--or yellow, as it were, dusted with green
14 The maple leaved viburnum, now at its height,
15 // varies with more or less of shade--from dark
16 crimson--through a delicate pale crimson
17 to whitish.
18 // The sage willow--a light yellow--in prime
19 though hardly noticed amid the more con-
20 spicuous oaks--
21 // Larches have begun to change in water
22 As I come through Hub's woods I see the
23 // winter green conspicuous now above the
24 freshly fallen white pine needles-- Their
25 shining green is suddenly revealed above the pale
26 ground brown ground--I hail its cool un-
27 withering green--one of the humbler allies
28 by whose aid we are to face the winter
29 Saw Oct. 14 a snake at Balls' Hill
30 ? like a striped snake--but ap. yellow spotted
31 above & with a flatter head?
32 Noticed a little snake--8 or 9 inches long
33 --in the rut in the road in the Lincoln

1 woods-- It was brown above with a paler
2 brown dorsal stripe--which was bounded on each
3 side by a row of dark brown or blackish dots
4 1/8 or ~~1/10 of an~~ inch apart--the opposite
5 rows alternating thus {drawing} beneath light
6 cream color or yellowish white. Evidently
7 Storer's C. ordinatus. It ran along in the deep //
8 {larks}
9 sandy rut--& would probably be run over there
10 see larks with their white tail feathers fluttering low over the meadows these days //
11 Minott was sitting outside as usual
12 and inquired if I saw any game in my walks
13 these days--since now that he cannot go
14 abroad himself he likes to hear from the woods--
15 He tried to detain me to listen to some of his
16 hunting stories--esp-- about a slut that be-
17 by the name of Billings
18 longed to a neighbor ^ which was excellent
19 for squirrels--rabbits--& partridges--& would
20 always follow him when he went out--though
21 Billings was "plagey mad about it"--however
22 he had only to go by Billings²³⁰ to have the dog
23 accompany him. B. afterward carried her
24 up country & gave her away--the news of which
25 almost broke Minotts heart. He said he
26 "could have cried when he heard of it"--for
27 he "had dreamed of her several nights. She
28 was a plaguey good dog for squirrels &c
29 but "her pups were none of them equal to
30 herself. --It was not time for //
31 squirrels now because the leaves were not
32 off enough--

²³⁰"B" written over "b"

1 He used sometimes to take his old king's
2 arms on these excursions. It was heavy
3 but it was sure.
4
5 His present gun has a flint lock--& has
6 often been repaired--& he said he did n't
7 suppose it would fetch more than a
8 dollar if put up at auction now. But
9 he would n't take 20 dollars for it. He did n't
10 want to part with it. He likes to look at it.

11 As leaves fall along the river & in the
12 woods--the squirrels & musquash make
13 shelter &
14 haste to ^ conceal themselves--by constructing nests
15 & cabins.

16 Oct 19th

17 A remarkably warm day--I have not
18 been more troubled by the heat this year--
19 being a little more thickly clad than in summer
20 I walk in the middle of the street for air--

21 // The thermometer says 74°+ at 1 Pm.
22 This must be Ind. summer--
23 Pm Ride to Sam Barrett's Mill--

24 Am pleased again to see the cobweb
25 drapery of the mill Each fine line
26 hanging in festoons from the timbers over
27 & on the discarded machinery lying about
28 head & on the sides--²³¹ is covered & greatly
29 enlarged by a coating of meal--by which
30 its curve is revealed--like the twigs
31 under their ridges of snow in winter--
32 It is like the tassels & tapestry of counter-
33 pane & dimitry in a ladie's bedchamber--
34 & I pray that the cobwebs may not

²³¹Caret positioned directly below hyphen

1 have been brushed away from the mills which
2 I visit-- It is as if I were aboard a
3 man of war & this were the fine "rigging
4 All things in the mill wear the same livery or drapery down to the miller's {hat}²³²
5 & coat
6 of the mill--the sails being taken in^
7 I knew Barrett 40 rods off in the cranberry meadow by the meal on his hat
8 Barrett's apprentice, it seems) makes trays
9 of black-birch & of red maple--in a dark
10 room under the mill. I was pleased to see
11 this work done here--a wooden tray is so hand
12 some-- You could count the circles of
13 growth on the end of the tray & the dark
14 heart of the tree was seen at each
15 producing a semicircular ornament--
16 end above.^ It was a satisfaction to be
17 reminded that we may so easily make //
18 as well as fill them
19 our own trenchers^ To see the tree reappear
20 on the table--instead of going to the fire
21 or some equally coarse use--is some
22 pensation for having it cut down.
23 The wooden tray is still in demand to chop--
24 meat in at least-- If taken from the
25 bench to the kitchen they are pretty sure to crack.
26 being made green-- They should should be
27 placed to season for 3 months on the
28 v 2ps for{ward}
29 beams in a barn--said the miller
30 Hosmer says that the rill between
31 him & Simon Brown--generally runs
32 all night & in the fore part of the day--
33 then
34 but ^ dries up or stops & runs again--at
35 night--or it will run all day in cloudy
36 weather-- This is perhaps because there is

²³²cut off on xerox

1 less evaporation then-- It would be interesting
2 to study the phenomena of this rill--so
3 slight that it does not commonly run all
4 day at this season--nor quite run across
5 the road-- In the scale of rivers it is at the
6 %which overflows so widely and makes "crevasses"%
7 opposite extreme to the Mississippi%^--& yet
8 it interests out of proportion to its size--&
9 I have no doubt that I might learn some
10 of the laws of the Mississippi more easily
11 by attending to it.

12 Standing on Hunt's Bridge at 5 o'clock--
13 the sun just ready to set--I {notice} that
14 its light on my note book--is quite rosy
15 or purple--though the sun itself & its halo
16 are merely yellow--& there is no purple
17 in the western sky. Perhaps I might have
18 already
19 detected a purple tinge ^ in the eastern
20 %had I looked%
21 sky--%^ & I was exactly at that distance this
22 side the sunset where the ~~"rosy fingered"~~
23 foremost of the rosy waves of light
24 roll in the wake of the sun--& the
25 white page was the most suitable surface
26 %V Sep. 24 {51}%
27 to reflect it--

28 The lit river--purling & eddying onward
29 was spotted with recently fallen leaves--
30 some of which were being carried round by
31 eddies-- Leaves are now falling all the
32 country over--some in the swamps concealing
33 the water--some in woods & in hill-sides
34 where perhaps Vulcan may find them in
35 the spring--some by the way side gathered
36 into heaps where children are playing with
37 them--& some are being conveyed silently
38

1 sea-ward on rivers-- -- --concealing the
2 water in swamps--where at length they
3 flat out & sink to the bottom--~~where~~
4 & we never hear of them again--unless we
5 shall see their impressions on the coal
6 of a future geological period.

7 Some add them to their manure heaps--others
8 consume them with fire. The trees repay the
9 earth with interest for what they have taken
10 from it. The tree are discounting.

11 Standing on the E. of the maples on the
12 common--I see that their yellow--compared
13 pale lemon yellow
14 with the²³³ ^ of the elms close by--amounts to
15 a scarlet--without noticing the bright
16 scarlet cheeks--

17 Some chenopodium albums are purple //
18 stemmed now--like poke long ago--some
19 handsomely striped purple & green.

20 There is no handsomer shingling & paint
21 than the woodbine at present--covering a whole
22 side of some houses--viz--the house near
23 the alms house--& the brick house--%{I do not believe}%
24 %{that the Ivy never sear is comparable to it}%
25 I was the more pleased with the sight of
26 the trays--because the tools used were so simple
27 & they were made by hand not by machinery--
28 may
29 They^ make equally good pails & cheaper as
30 well as faster at the pail-factory with the
31 home-made ones--but that interests me less be-
32 cause the²³⁴ man is turned partly into a machine

²³³"the" written over "that"
²³⁴inserted

1 there himself-- In this case the workman's
2 relation to his work is more poetic--
3 he also shows more dexterity & is more of a
4 man-- You come away from the great factory
5 saddened--as if the chief end of man were
6 to make pails--but in the case of the
7 country man who makes a few by hand--rainy
8 days--this relative importance of human life
9 and of pails is preserved & you come away
10 thinking of the simple & helpful life of the
11 you do not turn pale at the thought,
12 man--^& would fain go to making pails
13 your-self-- We admire more the man who
14 can use an axe or adze differently than he
15 who can merely tend a machine-- When labor
16 is reduced to turning a crank it is no longer
17 amusing nor truly profitable. But
18 let this business become very profitable in
19 a pecuniary sense--& so be "driven" as the
20 phrase is & carried on on a large scale--
21 & the man is sunk in it while only the pail
22 or tray floats--we are interested in it
23 only in the same way as the {—} proprietor
24 or company is--
25 Walked along the dam & the broad bank of
26 the canal with Hosmer-- He thought this
27 bank proved that there were strong men here
28 a hundred years ago or more--& that probably
29 They used wooden shovels edged with iron
30 & perchance home made
31 ^to make that bank with-- ²³⁵for he remembered
32 ~~them~~ & had used them. Thus rapidly we skip
33 back to the implements of the savage--
34
35 Some call them "shod shovels."

²³⁵cancelled false start?

1 Indian Summer this & the 19th
2
3 Oct 20th
4 %I hear of apple trees in bloom again in Waltham or%
5 %Cambridge%
6 Pm to White Pond.

7 Another remarkably warm & pleasant day--
8 if not too hot for walking--74°+ at 2 pm
9 Thought I would like to see the glassy gleam
10 ing surface of White Pond. I think that
11 %or say the 21st%
12 this is the acme of the fall generally%^%(Not
13 quite of sug. maples perhaps)--& it is this remarkable
14 heat which this time--more than anything,
15 %there has been no frost for some days%
16 methinks--has caused the leaves to fall%^%. It has
17 suddenly--perfectly ripened & wilted them--& now
18 with a puff of wind they come showering down
19 on land & water--making a sound like rain
20 They are thickly strewn under their respective trees in the Corner road--& wagons roll
21 over them as a shadow
22 Rain & frost & unusual heat--(succeeded {by}
23 wind) all have to do with the fall of the leaf--
24 No doubt the leaves suddenly ripen to their fall
25 in intense heat, such as this just as peaches
26 &c over softened & ripened--& fall. As I go
27 through Hubbard's fields I see that the
28 cows have got into the shade of trees as in
29 July-- The black birch in his grove is
30 in the midst of its fall--perfectly yellow--
31 %{ }%
32 But these delicately tinted leaves will wilt
33 %{ }%
34 & fade even in your hat on your way home-- Their²³⁶
35 colors are very fugacious. They must be seen
36 on the trees or under it. You cannot easily
37 carry this splendor home.

38 The tupelos appear to fall early. I have not seen
39 one with leaves since the 16th-- It is so warm

²³⁶"Their" added in margin

1 that even the tipulidae appear to prefer
2 the shade-- There they continue their dance
3 --balancing to partners as it seems--& by
4 a fine hum--remind me of summer still.
5 When now the air generally is rather
6 empty of insect sounds-- Also I see
7 // yellow butterflies chasing one another--
8 taking no thought for the morrow but
9 confiding in the sunny day as if it were
10 to be perpetual. There is a haze between
11 me & the nearest woods--as thick
12 as the thickest in summer-- My black
13 clothes are white with the gossamer they
14 have caught in coming through the fields
15 --for it streams from every stubble--though
16 it is not remarkably abundant-- Flocks²³⁷
17 of this gossamer-like tangled skeins--float
18 quiet
19 gently through the ^ air--as high as my head--
20 Like white parachutes to unseen balloons
21 From the higher ground W. of the Stump-
22 fence field. The ~~still~~ stagnant river
23 gleams like liquid gossamer in the sun--
24 & I can hardly distinguish the sparkle oc-
25 cationed by an insect from the white breast
26 of a duck. Methinks this jay, panting
27 with heat, is silenced for a time
28 Green leaves are {doutless} handsome in
29 their season--but now that we behold
30 these ripe ones, we are inclined to think
31 that the former are handsome somewhat

²³⁷"F" written over "f"

1 as green apples & melons
2 as green fruits--are^-- It would give our eyes
3 the dysentery to look only on green leaves always
4 At this season each leaf becomes a labora{tory}²³⁸
5 in which the fairest & brightest colors are
6 compounded.
7 There is one advantage in walking eastward
8 these after noons, at least, that in return
9 ing you may have the western sky before you
10 Hickories, & some oaks even, are now over
11 done-- They remind me of a loaf of brown bread
12 perfectly baked in the oven--in whose cracks
13 I see the yellowish inside contrasting with
14 the brown crust.
15 Some small red maples still stand yellow within
16 the woods.
17 As I look over the smooth gleaming surface of
18 White Pond--I am attracted by the sun sparkles on
19 it--as if fiery serpents were crossing to & fro--yet²³⁹
20 if you were there you would find only insignificant
21 insects. As I come up from the pond
22 I am grateful for the fresh easterly breeze at
23 last thickening the haze on that side & driving
24 for nature must preserve her equilibrium
25 it in on us--^ However it is not much cooler--
26 As I approached the pond I saw a hind
27 in a potato field (digging potatoes) who
28 stood stock still for 10 minutes to gaze at
29 me--in mute astonishment--till I had
30 sunk into the woods amid the hills about
31 the pond--& when I emerged again--there
32 he was motionless still on the same spot
33 with his eye on me resting on his idle hoe

²³⁸1906 has "laboratory," but the end of this word is cut off in the photocopy
²³⁹1906 has "yet," but it is cut off in the photocopy

1 as one might watch at the mouth of
2 a fox's hole to see him come out-- Perchance
3 he may have thought--nihil humanum &c or else
4 ^he was transfixed with thought--(which is
5 whatever his employer may say
6 worth a bushel or 2 of potatoes²⁴⁰--) contrasting
7 his condition with my own--& though he stood
8 so still--civilization made some progress--
9 But I must hasten away or he'll²⁴¹ lose
10 his²⁴² day. I was as indifferent to his eye
11 shot as a tree walking--for I am used to
12 such things. Perchance he will relate his
13 adventure when he gets home at night,
14 & what he has seen--though he did not
15 this time
16 have to light a candle^{^for it}. I am in²⁴³ a
17 fair way to become a valuable citizen
18 to him, as he is to me. He raises {patoes} in
19 the field²⁴⁴ for me--& I raise curiosity in him. He stirs
20 the earth, I stir him.
21 What a power am I! I cause the potatoes
22 to rot in the ground-- I affect distant markets
23 surely-- But he shall not spoil my day--
24 I will get in my harvest nevertheless--
25 This will be nuts to him when the winter evenings
26 come--he will toll his dream then
27 Talk of reaping machines!!
28 I did not go into that field at all--I did not
29 meddle with the potatoes-- --He was the only crop
30 I gathered at a glance-- Perchance he thought--
31 I harvest potatoes--he harvests me!
32 W. W. introduced me to his brother
33 in the road--the latter was not only a better
34 dressed but a higher cultured man than
35 the other--yet looking remarkably like him
36 --his brother! In all cases we esteem rather
37 the suggested ideal than the actual
38 man--& it is remarkable that so many

²⁴⁰line connects to the interlineation above

²⁴¹cancelled apostrophe follows word

²⁴²poss stray mark follows word

²⁴³"in" inserted

²⁴⁴"the field" added in margin

1 men have an actual brother ~~who~~ an im-
 2 ~~at last~~
 3 proved edition of themselves to whom ^ we
 4 are introduced at last. Is he his brother, or
 5 his other self? I expect to be introduced to the
 6 ideal Mr W-- one of these days--& then cut the
 7 acquaintance of the actual one.

8 It is remarkable that yellow & bright scarlet
 9 shade turns scarlet to yellow--so you would say that
 10 in the autumnal tints--are generally interchange{able}
 11 scarlet was intense yellow--more cooked--nearer the Sun like Mars
 12 I see it now even in the case of the scarlet oak--
 13 Rose bushes--& hazel bushes
 14 for here is a yellow one. Red maple is either
 15 R. Toxicodendron &c &c %v 15-57%
 16 yet scarlet or yellow^-- So with black scrub
 17 as meadow sweet--tupelo even--big blueberry in shade the 31st--red oak--and the russet
 18 leaves
 19 as barberry apple &c
 20 oaks ^ &c &c--Many plants which in the summer
 21 Dip. {linifolius} in shade yellow--in sun purple--last of Oct.
 22 show a few red or scarlet leaves at length are
 23 as horehound now
 24 all yellow only^ Others begin with yellow &
 25 v. 24th
 26 end with a brilliant scarlet
 27 Some blue stemmed g. rod yellow, some purple Nov 10th
 28 The large crickets now swarm in dry paths each
 29 at the mouth of its burrow, as I notice
 30 when crossing to Martial Miles'--

31 The broad hairy leaves or blades of the Panicum
 32 clandestinum are turned to a very dark purple
 33 potato
 34 in cultivated {gossa}^ fields

35 A white throated sparrow--
 36 On money-diggers hills side--the
 37 A. scoparius now stands in tufts 2 feet high
 38 x 1 wide--with little whitish plumes along
 39 the upper half of its reddish fawn colored (?)²⁴⁵ culms
 40 Now in low grounds the different
 41 species of bidens or beggars ticks adhere
 42 to your clothes-- These bidens--tridents
 43 --quadridents are shot into you by myriads
 44 of unnoticed foes

²⁴⁵inserted

1 The sagitate leaves of the v. ovata too
2 now flat in the path--& the prettily
3 or fingers with purple petioles
4 divided leaves ^ of this V. pedata ^ (also
5 fallen flatter than usual ?)--are {both}
6 // turned a clear--handsome light yellow--
7 Also the V. cucullata is turned yellow
8 ^These are far more conspicuous now than
9 contrasted with the green grass
10 ever before--^so that you do²⁵¹ not recog-
11 nise them at first on account of their
12 very conspicuousness or brightness of color--
13 have
14 Many other small plants ^ changed now--
15 whose color we do not notice in the
16 midst of the general changing-- Even
17 // the Lycopodium complanatum (evergreen)
18 a light (a part of it)
19 is turned ^ yellow ^²⁵² in its season like the pines
20 (or evergreen trees).
21 I go up the hill from the spring. Oaks
22 esp the small oaks
23 // (except the scarlet,) ^ are generally
24 withered or withering--yet most would
25 not suspect it at a little distance
26 yet this year at least they must have been withered more by heat than frost for we have
27 had very hot
28 weather & little if any frost since the oaks generally changed
29 they have so much color yet²⁵³-- Many of
30 The small²⁵⁴ scarlet ones are withered too²⁵⁵--but the
31 scarlet %v 4 ps forward}% %V {2 next ps}%
32 // larger ^ appear to be in their prime now
33 Some large white--black--& red--are still pretty fresh--
34 It is very agreeable to observe now
35 from an eminence the different
36 oak
37 hints of red & brown is an ^ sproutland
38 The chocolate is one--
39 or young wood land--²⁵⁶ the brownish
40 predominated-- Some will tell
41 you that they prefer these more
42 sober colors which the landscape
43 %{briar}%
44 wears at present to the bright
45 %{as some prefer the sweet ^ crust to the yellow inside}%
46 ones it exhibited a few days ago--
47 It is interesting to observe--how gradually

²⁵¹stray mark following "do"

²⁵²A short vertical line appears directly above this caret.

²⁵³line connects caret to interlineation

²⁵⁴"small" inserted

²⁵⁵"too" inserted

²⁵⁶line connects caret to interlineation

1 but steadily the woods advance through
2 deeper & deeper shades of brown to their fall.
3 You can tell the young white oaks in
4 the midst of the sproutland--by its light
5 brown color--almost like that of the
6 russet fields see beyond--also the scar
7 ^{%v. 25th%}
8 let by its brighter red%^--but the pines
9 are now the brightest of them all.

10 Apple orchards--throughout the village
11 or on lower & rich ground are quite
12 green--but on this drier F. H. Hill all
13 the apple trees are yellow--with a sprinkling
14 ^{%ie%}
15 of green--& occasionally a tinge of scarlet. ^{%{r}} are russet%

16 I can see the red of young oaks as far as
17 the horizon on some sides.

18 I think that the yellow--as birches--&c
19 are the most distinct this very thick &
20 cloudy day--in which there is no sun--
21 but when the sun shines the reds are
22 lit up more--& glow

23 The oaks stand browned & crisped (amid
24 the pines) this bright color for the most
25 part burnt out--like a loaf that
26 is baked--& suggest an equal wholsom
27 ness. The whole tree is now not only
28 ripe but, as it were, a fruit--perfectly cook{ed}
29 by the sun. That same sun which called for{th}
30 its leaves in the spring--has now aided by
31 the frost--sealed up their fountains for
32 the year--& withered them. The order has
33 gone forth for then to rest-- As each tree

1 casts its leaves it stands careless &
2 free--like a horse freed from his harness--
3 or like one who has done his years work--
4 & now stands unnoticed but with concentrated
5 strength & contentment--ready to brave
6 new blasts of winter without a murmur--
7 You get very near wood²⁵⁷ ducks with
8 a boat now adays--
9 I see, from the Cliffs, that²⁵⁸ color has
10 run thro' the shrub-oak plain like a
11 or a wave
12 fire ^ (not omitting a single tree--) Though
13 Large oaks do not turn so completely
14 I had not expected it ^ & now is for the
15 most part burnt out for want of fuel--
16 %{the brown & chocolate colors prevail there.}%
17 i.e. excepting the scarlet ones. That birch²⁵⁹
18 swamp under the Cliff is very interesting--
19 The birches are now but thinly clad & that
20 more like flames than ever--now
21 at top--its flame-shaped top^-- At this
22 distance their bare²⁶⁰ slender stems are very
23 distinct dense & parallel--apparently on
24 a somewhat smoky ground (caused by the bare
25 twigs) & this pretty thicket of dense parallel
26 stems is crowned or surmounted by little
27 cones or crescents of golden spangles.
28 // Hear a cuckoo & grackles--
29 The birches have been steadily changing & falling
30 for a long long time. The lower most leaves
31 turn golden &
32 ^fall first--so their autumn change is
33 like a fire which was steadily burned up
34 higher & higher--consuming the fuel below--²⁶¹
35 till now it has nearly scorched their tops--
36 These are quite distinct from the reddish
37 v sketch
38 misty maze below--(if they are young trees^)
39 or the fine & close parallel white stems

²⁵⁷"wood" written over "woods"

²⁵⁸"that" written over "they"

²⁵⁹stray mark over "birch"

²⁶⁰Possibly "base"?

²⁶¹Hyphen may be a blot or stray mark.

1 if they are larger--{drawing} Nevertheless
2 the topmost leaves at the extremities of these
3 Nov. 3
4 leaves are still green.

5 I am surprised to find on the top of the Cliff--near
6 the dead white pine--nine small staghorn sumacs--
7 (Mother says she found them on the hill behind Charles
8 Davis'!) These are now at the height (?)²⁶² of their ?//
9 %v the 5th ult--& the 15 '57%
10 changes%^%--²⁶³as is ours in the yard--turned an orange
11 scarlet--not so dark as the smooth which is //
12 It is generally--but I see some (one or 2† the 24th)
13 now ap.--fallen^. But ours being in a shady & cool
14 place is prob later the average--for I NB
15 see that one at Floods cottage²⁶⁴ has fallen. I
16 guess that they may have been at height generally some
17 10 days ago-- ?
18 Near by the Aralia hispida turned a very clear //
19 dark red.
20 I see Heavy Haynes fishing in his old gray
21 boat--sinking the stern deep. It is remarkable
22 that of the four fishermen who most frequent
23 this river--Melvin--Goodwin & the 2 Hayneses
24 --the last 3 have all been fisherman of the
25 sea--{ane} have visited the grand banks--&
26 are well acquainted with Cape Cod. These fisher
27 men who sit thus alone from morning till
28 night--must be greater philosophers than the
29 shoemakers--
30 You can still pluck a variegated & handsome
31 nosegay on the top of the cliff--I see a mullein
32 freshly out--very handsome A. undulatus--& an abundance //

²⁶²"(?)" inserted

²⁶³Caret positioned directly below hyphen in MS

²⁶⁴"cottage" written with "t"s uncrossed

1 of the little blue snapdragon--& some
2 P. persicaria &c &c--
3 The black shrub oak on the hill side below
4 // the Bear berry--fast falling & some quite
5 // bare-- Some chinquapin there not fallen
6 // Notice a chestnut quite bare--
7 The leaves of the hickory are a very rich yellow
8 & fallen
9 though they may be quite withered^--but they
10 become brown
11 // Looking to Conantum, the huckleberries are
12 ap. fallen--
13 // The fields are now perhaps truly & most generally
14 russet--esp. where the blackberry & other
15 small reddish plants--are seen through the
16 fine bleached grass & stubble--Like ~~the~~
17 a golden russet apple. (This occurs to
18 me, going along the side of the Well
19 Meadow Field²⁶⁵.)
20 %not shrubby%
21 // Ap. the scarlet oak. Large & small %^%is in prime %?%
22 now after other oaks are generally withered
23 %v 20th%
24 or withering.
25 The clumps of Salix tristis--half yellow-
26 spotted with dark brown or blackish--& half
27 withered & turned dark ash colored--are rather
28 // interesting. The S. humilis has similar dark
29 spots.
30 %{1 1/2 inch wide on huckleberry & sweet fern}%
31 // Hornets' nests are now being exposed--deserted
32 %(& little wasps nests)%
33 by the hornets White pines have for
34 And the underwood is hung with their brown
35 the most part fallen-- fallen needles {drawing} giving the woods
36 // an untidy appearance
37 C. tells of hearing after dark the other
38 night frequent raucous notes which were
39 // new to him on the Ammannia meadow in the
40 grass-- Were they not meadow hens? Rice says
41 he saw one within a week-- Have they not lingered
42 to feed in our meadows the late warm & pleasant
43 nights?

²⁶⁵"F" written over "f"

1 The haze is still very thick--though
2 it is comparatively cool weather--& if there
3 were no moon tonight--I think it would
4 be very dark-- Do not the darkest nights
5 occur about this time when there is a haze
6 produced by the Ind-- summer days--succeeded
7 by a moonless night??

?

8 These bright leaves are not the exception
9 but the rule--for I believe that all leave{s}²⁶⁶
10 Pan. Cladestinum--& mosses as sphagnum
11 even grasses &c &c--under favorable cir-
12 cumstances require brighter colors just before
13 their fall-- When you come to observe faithfully
14 the changes of each humblest plant--you
15 find, it may be unexpectedly--that each has
16 sooner or later its peculiar autumnal tint or
17 tints--though it maybe rare & unobserved--
18 as many a plant is at all seasons-- And if
19 you undertake to make a complete list of
20 the brights tints--your list will be as long
21 as a catalogue of the plants in your vicinity

22 Think how much the eyes of painters--both
23 artisans & artists--& of the manufacturers of
24 cloth & paper--& the paper stainers--&c
25 are to be educated by these autumnal colors

26 The stationer's envelopes may be of very
27 various tints--yet not so various as those of
28 The leaves of a simple tree sometimes-- If you
29 want a different shade or tint of a par-
30 ticular color you have only to look

²⁶⁶"s" in "leaves" not apparent in copy

1 further within or without the tree--or
2 the wood. The eye might thus be taught
3 to distinguish color & appreciate a difference
4 of shade or tint.²⁶⁷
5 Oct 23d
6 Pm to Ledum Swamp--
7 One tells one that he saw geese go over
8 // Wayland--the 17th ult
9 // Large wild cherries²⁶⁸ are half fallen or more--
10 the few remaining leaves yellowish-- Choke-
11 // cherries are bare--how long? Amelanchier
12 ///bare--Vib nudum half fallen or more--when
13 wet & in shade a light crimson--
14 // Hardhack in low ground--where it has not withered
15 inclines to
16 too soon, ^ a very light scarlet-- Sweet gale
17 // is not fallen--not a very dull yellowish & scarlet.
18 You see in woods many black (?)²⁶⁹ oak
19 // sprouts--forming low bushes or clumps of
20 green & dark crimson (C. says they are handsome
21 like a Mahonia) The meadow sweet is
22 // yellowish & yellow scarlet.
23 In Ledum Swamp the white azalea
24 // is a dirty brown scarlet 1/2 fallen, or more.
25 // Panicked andromeda reddish brown & half fallen
26 Some young high blue berry--or sprouts
27 // never are a deeper or lighter crimson
28 // scarlet than now-- Wild holly fallen.
29 // Even the sphagnum has turned brownish
30 red on the exposed surfaces (in the swamp--
31 --looking like the at length blushing pellicle

²⁶⁷T writes transposition line to make phrase read: "of tint or shade."

²⁶⁸Modified from "cherry"

²⁶⁹"(?)" inserted

1 of the ripe globe there. The ledum is in
2 ?
3 (the midst of) its change--rather conspicuous
4 --yellow & light scarlet & falling-- //

5 I detect but few Andromeda polifolia &
6 Kalmia glauca leaves turned a bright²⁷⁰ red or
7 scarlet-- The spruce is changed & falling //
8 but is brown & inconspicuous. //

9 A man at work on the Ledum Pool--draining
10 it--says that when they had ditched about
11 6 feet deep or to the bottom near the edge
12 old
13 of this swamp--they came to flags--& he
14 thought that the whole swamp was
15 once a pond--& the flags grew by the edge
16 of it. Thought the mud was 20 feet deep
17 near the pool--& that he had found 3 growths
18 of spruce one above another there--

19 He had dug up a hard-pan with iron in
20 it (as he thought) under part of this swamp
21 & in what he cast out sorrel came up
22 & grew very rankly indeed.

23 I notice some late rhue turned a very clear //
24 light yellow-- I see some rose leaves (the //
25 early smooth) turned a handsome clear
26 yellow--& some (the R. carolina) equally //
27 this is the rule with it
28 clear & handsome scarlet--or dark red^

29 Elder is a dirty greenish yellow & ap. mostly fallen
30 Beach plum is still green with some dull //
31 red leaves--but ap. hardly any fallen. //

32 Butternuts are bare-- Mt ash of both
33 kinds either withered or bare

²⁷⁰1906 has "light"

1 Oct 24th '58

2 // A NE storm--though not much rain

3 fallen to-day--but a fine driving mizzle

4 or "drisk". This as usual brings

5 // the geese and at 2 1/2 pm I

6 I hear that some were seen 2 or 3 weeks ago??

7 see two flocks go over^--faintly honking.

8 A great many must go over today--

9 & also alight in this neighborhood.

10 This weather warns them of the approach

11 of winter--& this wind speeds them on

12 their way. Surely, then, while geese

13 fly over head--we can live here as contentedly

14 as they do at York factory on Hudson's Bay--

15 We shall perchance be as ~~pro~~ well provisioned

16 & have as good society as they. Let us be

17 of good cheer, then, & expect an annual

18 vessel which brings the spring to us, without

19 fail.

20 Pm to Woodis Park over Hill--

21 // The Celtis has just fallen--its leaves were

22 ap a yellow-green. The sassafras trees

23 // are bare--how long?{.} & the White ash ap--

24 // just bared..

25 // The locusts are bare except the tops--

26 & in this respect † those on the hill at least,

27 are as peculiar as birches-- Some trees

28 loose their lower leaves first as birches

29 & locusts--some the upper as apples

30 (though a few green leaves may remain on the very

31 tips of {these} twigs) & generally maples--

1 as if the globe itself were a fruit on its
2 stem--with ever one cheek toward the sun--
3 Our appetites--have commonly confined our
4 views of ripeness & its phenomena--color &
5 mellowness--& perfectness--to the fruits which we
6 eat & we are wont to forget that an im-
7 mense harvest which we do not eat--
8 hardly use--at all--is annually ripened by
9 nature-- At our annual cattle shows--& Horticultu-
10 ral exhibitions we make a fair as we think, a great
11 fair
12 show of ^ fruits--destined however to a rather
13 ignoble fate--fruits not worshipped for this
14 chiefly--but round about & within our towns
15 there is annually another show of fruits, on
16 an infinitely grander scale--fruits which
17 address our taste for beauty alone
18 The scarlet oak which was quite green
19 the 12th ult is now completely scarlet--and ap--
20 has been so a few days-- This alone of our
21 indigenous deciduous trees (the p. pine is with it)
22 is now in its glory-- (I have not seen the beech--
23 %it is v 25{th}%
24 but suppose it past--%^ The sugar maples & P. grandi-
25 %v 16-57 & P tremuloides v Nov. 2d%
26 %v 16-57 & P tremuloides v Nov. 2d%
27 denta %^% comes nearest to it--but they have lost the
28 greater part of their leaves.) Look at one--
29 dark
30 completely changed, from green to bright ^ scarlet
31 --every leaf--as if it had been dipt into a
32 scarlet dye--between you & the sun-- Was
33 not this worth waiting for-- Little did you
34 think 10 days ago that that cold green
35 tree could assume each color as this. Its leaves
36 still firmly attached while those of other trees
37 are falling around it. I am the last to
38 blush, but I blush deeper than any of ye--

1 I bring up the rear in my red coat--

2 The scarlet o. alone of oaks--have not given up
3 the fight {p}erchance their leaves so finely cut
4 are longer preserved partly because they present less
5 surface--to the elements. & for a long time
6 if I remember rightly--some scarlet oak leaves
7 will "hold out to burn."

8 Now in huckleberry pastures--you see only here
9 & there a few bright scarlet or crimson (for they vary)
10 bare
11 leaves amid or above the ^ reddish stems--burning
12 as if with condensed brightness--as if the
13 few that remained--burned with the condensed bright-
14 ness of all that have fallen.

15 In sheltered woods you {some} dicksonia still
16 straw color or pale yellow--some thoroughwort
17 the same color-- In the shade--generally--
18 V 20
19 you find paler & more delicate tints--fading to
20 The deep reds & scarlets & purples show exposure to the
21 sun. I see an intensely scarlet high blue berry--but where one
22 straw color & white-- leaf has overlapped another it is yellow with a regular
23 outline
24

25 That large hornet's nest which I saw on
26 the 4th is now deserted & I bring it home.
27 But in the evening warmed by my fire 2 or 3
28 come forth & crawl over it--& I make haste
29 to throw it out the window--

30 Oct 25th 58

31 Pm to the Beeches--

32 I look at the willows by the causeway E side
33 as I go--S. discolor--Torreyana--rostrata
34 & lucida are all almost quite bare--
35 the remaining leaves are yellow or yellowish--
36 Those of the last the clearest & most conspicuous
37 yellow--

1 Half a dozen seeds or more, attached
2 to the core of the pod
3 by the tips of their silks ^ will be blown about
4 there a long time before a strong puff
5 launches them away--& in the meanwhile
6 they are expanding & drying their silk.
7 In the cut the F. hiemalis--which has
8 been here for a month--flits away with
9 its sharp twitter amid the falling leaves.
10 This is a fall sound.
11 black
12 At the Pond the yellow birches are bare, how long?
13 Now as you walk in woods the leaves rustle
14 under your feet--as much as ever-- In some
15 places you walk--pushing a mass before you--
16 In others, they half cover pools that are 3
17 rods long-- They make it slippery climbing hills.
18 Now too for the dif shades of brown--esp.
19 in sproutlands-- I see kinds of oaks now
20 the whitish brown of the white O. the yellowish
21 brown of the black-- O-- & the red or purplish
22 brown (if it can be called brown at all--for it is not
23 faded to brown yet--& looks full of life though
24 really withered (i.e. the shrubs) for the most
25 part--excepting here & there leading shoots or
26 spring twigs--which glow as bright a scarlet
27 as ever-- There is no red here, but perhaps
28 that may be called a lighter yellowish
29 v Oct 31st 2d p of it
30 brown^--& so distinguished from the black in color
31 It has more life in it now than the white &
32 black--not withered so much-- These browns

//²⁷⁵

//

//

²⁷⁵These hash marks are only partially legible in the copy

1 are very pure and wholesome colors--far
2 from spot & decay--& their rustling leaves
3 call the roll for a winter campaign
4 How different now the rustling of these sere
5 leaves--from the soft fluttering murmur of
6 the same when alive! This sharp rustle--
7 warns all to go home now, who are not
8 prepared for a winter campaign.
9 %The fields are russet now when the oaks are brown--esp where}%
10 The scarlet oak shrubs--are as distinct
11 %the red blackberry vine hinges--& continue to be for a week or two as Nov. 3d}%
12 amid the other species as before they had withered--
13 & it is remarkable how evenly they are
14 distributed over the hills ~~& p~~ by some
15 law not quite understood. Nature ever plots
16 against Baker & Stow--Moore & Hosmer
17 The black--scrub oak--seen side by side with
18 the white is yet lighter than that.
19 How should we do without this variety
20 of oak leaves--the forms & colors--? On
21 many sides, the eye requires such variety (seemingly
22 infinite) to rest on.
23 // Chestnut trees are generally bare--showing only
24 a thin crescent of burrs--for they are very small
25 this year-- I climb one on pine Hill--looking
26 over Flints Pond--which indeed I see from
27 the ground. These young chestnuts--growing
28 in clumps from a stump are hard to climb--
29 having few limbs below ~~so they f~~ far apart
30 & they dead & rotten.
31 The brightest tints of the black oaks that I re-
32 member--was some yellow gleams from half green
33 & brownish leaves--i.e the tops of the large trees
34 have this yellowish & green look-- It is a
35 mellow yellow enough--without any red.
36 The brightest of the red oaks--were
37 a pretty delicate scarlet--inclining

1 to a brownish yellow--the effect enhanced by
2 the great size of the leaf--
3 When on the 22nd ult--I was looking from
4 the Cliffs in the shrub oak plain &c calling
5 some of the brightest tints flame-like-- I
6 for we see their smokes of late
7 saw the flames of a burning ^ 2 or 3 miles dist{ant}
8 in Lincoln rise above the red shrubbery--
9 & saw how in intensity & brilliancy the red
10 flame distanced all colors--even by day.
11 Now especially we notice--not only the
12 silvery leaves of the S. alba--but the
13 silvery sheen of pine needles, i.e. when its old
14 leaves have fallen & trees generally are mostly
15 bare--in the cool Novemberish air & light
16 we observe & enjoy the trembling shimmer &
17 gleam of the pine needles-- I do not know
18 why we perceive this more at this season--
19 unless because the air is {so} clear & all sur-
20 faces reflect more light--& beside all the
21 needles now left--are fresh ones or the growth
22 of this year-- Also I notice when the
23 ~~looking forward it~~
24 sun is low--the light reflects from the
25 recently bare--
26 parallel twigs of birches ^ &c--like the gleam
27 from gossamer lines. This is another Novemberish
28 phenomenon-- Call these November Lights²⁷⁶-- Hers
29 cool
30 is a ^ silvery light.
31 In November consider the sharp--dry rustle of withered
32 leaves--the cool silvery & shimmering gleams of light
33 %{ }%
34 as above--the fresh bright buds formed & exposed
35 along the twigs--walnuts--

²⁷⁶"L" written over "l"

1 The leaves of the *P. grandidentata*--
2 though half fallen--& turned a pure
3 & handsome yellow--are still wagging
4 as fast as ever-- These do not lose their
5 color & wither on the tree--like oaks &
6 & hickories too--& buttonwood
7 beeches--& some of their allies^--neither
8 quite
9 do maples--nor birches ^--nor willows (except
10 ~~nor pitch pines~~ (yes) {~~---~~}
11 the *S. tristis* & perhaps some of the next allied) but
12 ~~as *S. rostrata*~~ v.27th inst.
13 they are fresh & unwilted--full of sap & fair

14 as ever when they are first strewn on the
15 ground--I do not think of any tree whose
16 leaves are so fresh & fair when they fall.

17 The beech has just fairly turned brown
18 //
19 of different shades--but not yet crisped--
20 or quite withered. Only the young in the
21 shade of the woods are yet green & yellow--
22 Half the leaves of the last are a light
23 yellow with a green midrib--& are quite
24 light & bright seen thro' the woods-- The lower
25 parts too of the large tree are yellow yet--
26 // I should put this tree then either with the main
27 body of the oaks, or bet. them & this Scarlet O.
28 I have not seen enough to judge of their beauty.
29 Returning in an old wood path from top
30 of Pine Hill to Goose Pond--I see many golden
31 // rods turned purple (all the leaves) some of
32 them are *S. caesia* & some (I think) *S. puberula*--
33 Many *G.* rods--as *S. odorata* turn yellow
34 // or paler--The aster *undulatus* is now
35 a dark purple (its leaves) with brighter purple
36 or crimson under sides.
37 // The vib *dentatum* leaves--which are
38 rather thin now are drooping like *C. sericea*
39 (though fresh) & are a mixed purplish & light

1 green.

2 Oct. 26th '58

3 The Sugar Maples are almost bare--except

4 a few small ones--

5 Minot remembers how he used to chop

6 beech wood-- He says that when frozen it is hard

7 & brittle first like glass, & you must look

8 out for the chips, for, if they strike you on the

9 face they will cut like a knife.

10 He says that some call the stake driver

11 "Belcher-squelcher"--& some "Wollerkertoot"

12 I used to call them Pump-er-go'r-- Some

13 say "slug-loot"

14 The largest Scarlet oak that I remember

15 %Nov 2d%

16 hereabouts stands by the Penthorum pool

17 also in another the ²⁷⁷ {26th}²⁷⁸ it had a pleasant acorn like taste

18 in the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery & is now in

19 its prime--I found the sap was flowing fast in it²⁷⁹ //

20 %White% %The scar O generally is not in prime till now or

21 1 2 3 4 5 {even later}%

22 Birches--elms--chestnuts--salix alba%^--& White-

23 maple are a long time falling.

24 I wear a thicker coat--my single thick //

25 fall coat--at last--& begin to feel my

26 fingers cool early & late

27 One

28 ~~The~~ shop keepers hang ~~begin to~~ hang

29 out woolen²⁸⁰ gloves & even thick buck-skin

30 his

31 mittens by their doors--foreseeing what ~~then~~

32 customers will want as soon as it is

33 finger cold--& determined to get the start

34 of his fellows

²⁷⁷Caret positions "Nov 2d"

²⁷⁸text cancelled in pencil and replaced above

²⁷⁹A short vertical line links to the interlined text above

²⁸⁰"woolen" written over "gl"

1 has changed--& the brown the withered
2 extremity--since it dies downward gradu{ally}
3 from the tip to the bottom--
4 The amount {of it} is that it decays gradua{lly}
5 beginning at the top--& throughout a large
6 patch one keeps pace with another--& differ{ent}
7 parts of the plant being in different stages
8 or states at the same time--& moreover
9 the whole being of a uniform height--the
10 particular color in one plant corresponds
11 exactly to the same in another--& so though
12 a single stalk would not attract attention
13 when seen in the mass they have this
14 singular effect-- I call it therefore
15 the rain-bow rush-- When moreover you
16 see it reflected in the water--the effect
17 is very much increased.
18 The leaves of the S. cordata are now generally
19 withered--{&} many more fallen-- They are light brown
20 & many remain on the twigs--so many that this
21 & the tristis
22 willow ^ I think must be peculiar in this respect { (//)
23 as well as its turning scarlet-- Some others
24 as the sericea--are still yellow & greenish &
25 have not been touched by frost-- They must be tougher
26 At the east shore of F. H. Pond--
27 I see that clams have been moving close to--
28 the water's edge. They have just moved a few
29 feet toward the deeper water--but they came //
30 round a little--like a single wheel on its edge--
31 ~~Large~~ alders are generally fallen-- //

1 to trouble the mowers! lodging as they fall
2 --that might have been the straw beds
3 of horses & cattle--tucked under them every
4 night.

5 The fine culmed purple grass, which lately
6 %long since%
7 we admired so much, is %^% now bleached as
8 light as any of them. Culms & leaves robb{ed}
9 of their color & withered by cold-- This is what
10 makes November--& the light reflected from
11 the bleached culms of grasses & the bare twigs
12 of trees--! When many hard frosts have for{med}
13 & melted in the fields & stiffened grass--they leave
14 them almost as silvery as themselves-- There is
15 hardly a surface to absorb the light.

16 It is remarkable that the autumnal
17 change of our woods has left no deeper
18 impression on our literature yet-- There is no
19 record of it in English poetry, apparently be-
20 cause, ac. to all accounts, the trees acquire
21 but few bright colors there-- Neither do
22 I know any adequate notice of it in our
23 own youthful literature--nor in the tra-
24 ditions of the Indians. One would say
25 it was the very phenomenon to have caught
26 a savage eye--so devoted to bright colors

27 In our poetry & science there are many references
28 to this phenomenon--but it has received no
29 such particular attention as it deserves.
30 High colored as are most political

1 speeches--I do not detect any reflection
2 they are as colorless & {life} as the herbage in November--
3 even from the autumnal tints in them^

4 The year with these dazzling colors
5 on its margin--lies spread open like
6 an illustrated volume-- The preacher
7 does not utter the essence of its teaching

8 A great many indeed have never
9 seen this--the flower--or rather ripe
10 fruit of the year-- Many who have
11 spent their lives in towns & never chanced
12 to come into the country at this season--
13 I remember riding with one such citizen
14 who though a fortnight too late for
15 the most brilliant tints--~~would no~~ was,
16 taken by surprise & would not believe
17 that the tints had been any brighter.
18 He had never heard of this phenomenon
19 before.

20 October²⁸⁴ has not colored our poetry
21 yet.

22 Not only many have never witnessed this
23 phenomenon--but it is scarcely {remember}
24 by the majority from year to year--

25 It is impossible to describe the in-
26 finite variety of hues tints & shades--for
27 the language affords no names for them
28 we
29 & † must {apply} the same term monoto-
30 nously to 20 different things. If I
31 could exhibit so many different
32 %{the effect}%
33 trees, or only leaves, it²⁸⁵ would be
34 a²⁸⁶ different thing. When the tints

²⁸⁴Written over "The"

²⁸⁵"it" cancelled in pencil and replaced above

²⁸⁶"a" cancelled in pencil, as is "thing" on the same line.

1 are the same they differ so much in purity &
2 delicacy that language to describe them
3 truly would have not only to be greatly en-
4 riched, but as it were dyed of the same
5 colors herself--& speak to the eye as well
6 as to the ear. And it is these subtle differences
7 & charms
8 which especially attracts ^ our eyes.

9 Where else will you study color under such
10 advantages--?²⁸⁷ What other school of design
11 can vie with this? To describe these colored
12 leaves you must use colored words.

13 How tame & ineffectual must be the words
14 with which we attempt to describe that subtle
15 of tint
16 difference^--which so charms the eye? Who
17 will undertake to describe in words the difference
18 in tint between two neighboring leaves on the same
19 tree--? or of 2000?--for by so many the eye
20 is addressed in a glance--

21 In describing the richly spotted leaves for instance
22 --how often we find ourselves using ineffectually
23 words which merely indicate faintly our good
24 intentions--giving them in our despair a ter-
25 minal twist toward our mark--such as
26 reddish--yellowish--purplish & ~~the~~
27 We cannot make a hue of words--for they
28 are not to be compounded like colors--&
29 never are we obliged to use such ineffectual
30 expressions as reddish brown &c-- They need to
31 be ground together.

²⁸⁷Question mark written over hyphen

1 %{Cattle coming down from up country}%
2 Oct 28

3 Pm up Assabet to Cedar Swamp--

4 Here is an Indian summer day-- Not
5 //
6 so warm, indeed, as the 19th & 20th--but
7 warm enough for pleasure--

8 // The majority of the white maples are bare
9 --but others are still thickly leaved--the
10 leaves being a greeish yellow-- It appears
11 then that they hold their leaves longer than
12 our other maples, or most trees-- The
13 majority of them do not acquire a bright
14 tint at all--& though interesting for this
15 early summer blush--then autumnal colors
16 are not remarkable.

17 The dog-wood on the island is perhaps
18 %V {Nov 5}%²⁸⁸
19 // in its prime--a distinct scarlet--with
20 half of the leaves green in this case. Ap. none
21 have fallen-- I see yet also some
22 // c. sericea bushes with leaves turned a clear
23 dark but dull red--rather handsome--
24 large
25 // Some ^ red oaks are still as bright as ever

26 and that is here a brownish yellow--with leaves
27 %v 31%
28 // partly withered--& some are already quite bare.

29 Swamp white oak withers ap. with the
30 //
31 white some of both are still partly greenish--
32 // while other of both are bare

33 How handsome the great red oak
34 acorns now-- I stand under the tree on
35 // Emerson's lot. They are still falling--
36 I heard one fall into the water as I ap-
37 proached & thought that a musquash
38 had plunged. They strew the ground & the
39 bottom of the river thickly--& while I
40 stand here I hear one strike the boughs

²⁸⁸This line according to 1906; not legible in copy

1 & the leaves strew the ground like grain--
2 They are inconspicuous on the tree--
3 The p. grandidentata leaves are not
4 // all fallen yet-- This then is late to lose
5 its leaves--later rather than the Sugar Maple.
6 Its leave are large & conspicuous on the
7 ground--& from their freshness make a great
8 show there. It is later to fall than the
9 %no V 3ps {forward}%
10 tremuliformis%^%--as it was later to bloom--
11 I now begin to notice the evergreen
12 // ferns, when the others are all withered
13 or fallen-- The black willows have
14 // been bare some time. Panicked andromeda
15 // //& winter berry are about bare--
16 // // Pitch pines are falling & white cedars
17 // // are ap in the mids of their fall turning
18 a pale brown--& strewing the²⁹¹ ground.
19 There are now but few bright leaves
20 // %v the 9th & {onward}% most
21 to be seen--viz 3) pitch-pine (though much
22 is faded in the trees) 2) Larch
23 1) Scarlet oak
24 %some on the 5th%
25 4) P. grandidentata. (very thin leaved)
26 4' P. tremuloides--thicker leaved but rather duller than last
27 coniferous ones--& %{}%
28 6) A few yellow leaves on young willows ^--S. sericea esp.--still²⁹²
29 holding on--to the extremity of the twigs
30 8)Some crimson Vib. nudum (thin leaved
31 %meadow sweet%
32 9)Probably some " Lentago--very little & that dull
33 10)Some Vib. dentatum greenish purple (thin leaved
34 5. some small white birch tops not conspicuous
35 5) High-blue-berry (more common than last
36 7) Some silky cornel
37 14) Flowering dogwood %(not yet at height. v. Nov 5)%
38 11) Gooseberry
39 12' common wild rose yellow inclining to scarlet
40 12) R. carolina (clear dark red) %& sweet briar%
41 13) Staghorn sumac--in cool places & shaded
42
43 Numbered in the order of their importance--most

²⁹¹"the" written over "they"

²⁹²"still" poss cancelled in pencil

1 being either very thin leaved now or rare.

2 Oct 2{9}

3 6 1/2 Am--

4 Very hard frosts these mornings--the grasses
5 to their finest branches clothed with it

6 The cat comes stealthily creeping towards some
7 prey amid the withered flowers in the garden--
8 which being disturbed by my approach she runs
9 low toward it with an unusual glare
10 or superficial light in her eye--ignoring
11 her oldest acquaintance--as wild as her
12 remotest ancestor--& presently I see the
13 first tree sparrow hoping there. I //

14 hear them also amid the alders by the
15 river singing sweetly--but a few notes.

16 Notwithstanding the few²⁹³ handsome %{} %
17 scarlet oaks that may yet be²⁹⁴ found & %{} %
18 the larches & pi pines--& the few thin-leaved p.
19 grandidentatas--the brightness of the²⁹⁵ fo- %{} %
20 lage--generally speaking, is past.

21 Pm to Baker Farm //

22 on foot--

23 on the Rr-- %few%

24 The S. torreyana ^ has but leaves near the extremities--
25 to fall
26 (like the S. sericea of the river) & is later ^ than
27 the S. rostrata nearby. Its leaves turns merely
28 a brownish yellow & rust scarlet like the
29 cordata, so that it is not allied to that in
30 this respect.--(In s tristis path about well

²⁹³"few" cancelled in pencil

²⁹⁴"may yet be" poss cancelled in pencil

²⁹⁵"the" cancelled in pencil

1 meadow field the S. tristis is mostly
2 fallen or withered on the twigs--&
3 the curled leaves lie thickly like ashes
4 about the bases of the shrubs)
5 // Notice the fuzzy black & reddish caterpillar
6 on ground.
7 N.
8 I look ^ from the causeway at Heywoods
9 meadow-- How rich some scarlet oaks
10 imbosomed in pines their branches (still
11 light) intimately intermingled with the
12 pine. They have their full effect there--
13 The pine boughs are the green calyx to its petals.
14 Without these pines for contrast the
15 aut. tints would lose a considerable part
16 of their effect.
17 wht generally
18 The--birches being now ^ bare {—}--they stand
19 along the E side of {Heywoods} meadow--
20 slender parallel white stems revealed in
21 pretty
22 a ^ reddish maze produced by their fine
23 branches--it is a lesser & denser smoke (?)
24 The branches must be thick like those of maples & birches to give
25 than the maple one. the effect of smoke.. Most trees have
26 fewer & coarser branches or do not grow in such dense masses.
27 Nature now, like an athlete, begins to
28 strip herself in earnest for her contest
29 with her great antagonist Winter.
30 In the bare tress & twigs what a display
31 of muscle!
32 Looking toward Spanish Brook--I see
33 the white pines a clear green rising amid
34 & above the pitch pines which are
35 particlored, glowing internally with
36 the warm yellow of the old leaves
37 Of our Concord evergreen only the
38 white--& pitch pines are interesting

1 in their change--for only their leaves are
2 bright & conspicuous enough--
3 I notice a barberry bush in the woods still
4 %& elsewhere the same%
5 thickly clothed--%^but merely yellowish green--not
6 showy. Is not this commonly the case with the
7 Europ
8 introduced ^ plants? Have they not European
9 habits? & are they not also late to fall--
10 killed before they are ripe? E.g. the Quince
11 silvery abele privet plum(?) white-willow--weeping willow--lilac--hawthorne
12 apple-pear(?)--barberry ^--(The horse-chestnut
13 & the Scotch larch is at least as bright as ours
14 at {same} time.
15 & En. Mt ash are distincter yellow) The Lombardy poplar
16 some branches early
17 is a handsome yellow^--& the cult. cherry is quite handsome
18 often yellowish
19 orange.) which with exceptions in parenthesis--are
20 inglorious in their decay. v n. p.
21 As the perfect winged & usually bright colored
22 insect is but short lived--so the leaves ripen
23 but to fall.
24
25 I go along the wooded hill
26 side S. W of Spanish Brook--both the fall
27 of the white pine &c--the pyrola umbellata
28 & the lycopodiums, and even evergreen ferns
29 suddenly emerge as from obscurity-- If
30 these plants are to be evergreen, how much
31 they require this brown & withered carpet to
32 be spread under them for effect. Now too
33 the light is let in to show them. Cold(?) blooded
34 (?) or earlier?
35 wood frogs hop about amid the cool ferns
36 & Lycopodiums--
37 Am surprised to see {by} the path to Baker Farm
38 a tall & slender populus tremuliformis still
39 thickly clothed with leaves which are merely yellowish
40 green--later than any p. grandidentata I know--
41 %{ }%
42 %{ }%

1 Afterwards when on the Cliff--I
2 perceive that birches being bare (or
3 as good as bare) one or 2 poplars--
4 %{tremuloides, bright at distance}%
5 (I am not sure which species²⁹⁶) take their
6 %v Nov 2d%
7 places--on the Shrub oak plain &
8 are bright than they were--for they
9 hold out to burn longer than the birch.
10 The birch has now generally dropped its
11 golden spangles--& those ~~shrub~~ oak sprout-
12 an almost
13 lands where they glowed are now ^ uniform
14 brown red.
15 ²⁹⁷ I find the white pine cones, which have
16 long since opened, hard to come off--
17 The thickly fallen leaves make it
18 slippery in the woods--esp. climbing hills
19 %{The oak wood tortoise and squirrel betrayed}%²⁹⁸
20 on the cliff.
21 Or strictly speaking they are pale brown
22 %{small}%
23 mottled with dull red (where the %^% scarlet oak
24 %Shrub oaks withered--v Nov. 2d%
25 stands)
26 // Apples trees--though many are thick leaved--
27 are in the midst of their fall--
28 // Our English cherry has fallen
29 // The silvery abele is still densely leaved--&
30 green or at most a yellowish green.
31 // The {lilack} still thickly leaved a yellowish green
32 or greenish yellow as the case may be--
33 // Privet--thickly leaved yellowish green--
34 If these plants acquire brighter tints
35 in Europe--then one would say that they
36 did not fully ripen their leaves here
37 before they were killed
38 The orchard trees are not for beauty

²⁹⁶paren. phrase poss cancelled in pencil

²⁹⁷V. line in l. margin from here to line beginning "Or strictly..."

²⁹⁸Pencil not legible in copy; this line according to 1906

1 but use.

2 English plants have English habits h{ere}
3 --they are not yet acclimated--they
4 ²⁹⁹are early or late--as if ours were an
5 English spring or autumn--& no doubt
6 in course of time a change will be produc{ed}
7 in their constitution similar to start which
8 is observed in the English man here.

9 Oct 30th

10 Rain--& wind--bringing down the
11 leaves--& destroying the little remaining brilliancy
12 The button-woods are in the midst
13 of their fall-- Some are bare. They are late
14 among the trees of the street.

15 I see that Prichard's mt Ash (European) has
16 lately put forth new leaves When all the old have
17 fallen--they are 4 or 5 inches long! But the Am--
18 erican has not started. It knows better

19 Beware how you meddle with a button{-}
20 wood stump. I remember when one undertook to
21 dig a large one up--that he might set a
22 front yard post on the spot but I forget
23 how much it cost--or how many weeks
24 one man was about it--before it was all
25 cut up & removed-- It would have been
26 better to set the post in it. One man
27 who has just cut down a buttonwood--
28 had disposed ~~part~~ of all but 8 feet of
29 the but--when a neighbor offered him
30 5 cents for it. & though it contained a

²⁹⁹V. dotted line in l. margin from here through line beginning "I see..."

1 cord of wood--he as he says, "took him up
2 mighty quick."--for if a man's time
3 were of value he could not afford to be split-
4 ting it.

5 In Rees Cyclopedia under the head of the
6 Fall of the leaf--mention is made of the
7 leaves at this season--"changing their healthy
8 green color to more or less of a yellow, some-
9 times a reddish hue." And after speaking
10 of the remarkable brilliancy of the American
11 forests--he says that some European
12 plants allied to the brilliant American ones
13 assume bright hues in the fall.

14 What is commonly described as the
15 autumnal tints of the oaks generally, is
16 for the most part--those tints or hues
17 which they have when partially withered--
18 those of
19 corresponding to those which ^ more truly
20 deciduous trees have when freshly fallen--
21 --& not merely the tints of their--
22 % { } %
23 maturity as in the maple &c--%^ The
24 scarlet O. especially withers very slowly
25 & gradually--& retains some brightness
26 far into November-- Large red &
27 black & swamp-white oaks esp. the 2
28 (or excepting some of the first)
29 last,--are not commonly as interesting in the
30 maturity of their leaves as before or after

31 Oct 31st '58

32 Pm to Conantum

33 // Our currants bare-- how long!

34 The Italian poplars are now a dull greenish

35 // yellow--(out nearly so far as the fern leaves that

1 some silvery abeles are the same color
2 had turned some time ago)--^ I go over the
3 Hub-- Bridge cause way-- The young S.
4 alba osiers are just bare or nearly so--
5 & the yellow twigs ac. begin to show //

6 It is a fine day--Ind. summerlike--& there
7 is considerable gossamer on the causeway
8 & blowing from all trees-- That warm
9 weather of the 19th& 20th was methinks
10 the same sort of weather with the most
11 pleasant in November (which last alone
12 some allow to be Ind. summer) only more
13 to be expected.

14 I see many red oaks thickly leaved--fresh & at
15 the height of their tint--these are pretty clear //
16 It is much clearer yellow than my black oak
17 yellow-- ^ but some others are about bare v. n. p.

18 These & scarlet oaks, which are yet more
19 numerous, are the only oaks not withered that
20 I notice today--except one mid-sized white
21 oak prob. protected from frost under Lee's cliff.

22 Between the absolutely deciduous plants
23 & the evergreens are all degrees--not only
24 those which retain their withered leaves all
25 commonly called evergreen
26 winter--but those ^ which though slow to change
27 yet acquire at last a ruddy color while
28 they keep their leaves--as the lambkill--& water-
29 andromeda(?)

30 Get a good sight on Conantum of
31 a sparrow (such as I have seen in flocks //
32 some time) which utters a sharp te-te-te
33 quickly repeated--as it flies--sitting on a wall

1 3 or 4 rods off I see that it is rather
2 long & slender--is perhaps dusky ash above
3 with some black backward--has a pretty
4 long black bill--a white ring about eye--
5 white chin--& line under cheek--a black
6 (or dark) spotted breast--& dirty cream color
7 beneath--legs long & slender & perhaps reddish
8 brown--2 faint light bars on wings--but
9 what more distinguishes it more--it keeps
10 gently jerking or tossing its tail as it sits--&
11 when a flock flies over--you see the tails
12 distinctly black beneath-- Though I detected
13 no yellow yet I think from the note that
14 // it must be the shore lark (such as I saw
15 Mar 24th) in their fall plumage. They
16 are a common bird at this season, I think.

17 I see a mid sized red oak side by side
18 with a black one under Lee's³⁰⁰ Cliff. The first
19 is still pretty fresh--the latter completely withered.
20 --the withered leaves of the first, are flat--ap.
21 thin--& a yellowish brown-- Those of the black
22 are ~~very~~ much curled & a very different & dark
23 brown--& look thicker

24 // Barberry generally is thickly leaved & only
25 somewhat yellowish or scarlet--say russet

26 I tasted some of the very small grapes on
27 Blackberry steep--such I had a jelly made of--
28 // Though shrivelled & therefore ripe--they are very
29 acid & inedible

30 The slippery elm has a few scattered leaves
31 on it while the common close by is bare--so
32 // I think the former is later to fall-- You may
33 call it bare.

34 // The cedar at Lee's Cliff has ap just fallen--almost--

³⁰⁰"L" written over "1"

1 They are unanimously red-- --the focus of
2 their reflected is in the atmosphere far
3 on this side. Every such tree--esp. in the
4 horizon--becomes a nucleus of red as it were
5 where with the declining sun the redness grows
6 & glows like a cloud.-- It only has some ^ dull
7 comparatively
8 red leaves for a nucleus & to start it--& it
9 becomes an intense scarlet or red mist--or
10 fire--which finds fuel for itself in the
11 very atmosphere. I have no doubt that
12 you would be disappointed in the brilliancy
13 of those trees if you were to walk to them.
14 You see a redder tree than exists-- It is a
15 strong red--which gathers strength from
16 the air on its way to your eye-- It is partly
17 The scarlet oak asks the clear sky & the brightness of the Ind. Summer.
18 borrowed fire--borrowed of the sun
19 These bring out its color-- If the sun goes into a cloud they become
20 These are my china asters--my late
21 indistinct-- %{} %
22 garden flowers. It costs me nothing for
23 a gardener-- The falling leaves all over
24 the forest are protecting the roots of my
25 plants. Only look at what is to be seen
26 & you will have garden enough--without
27 We have only to
28 deepening the soil of your yard--elevate our view a little
29 to see the whole forest as a garden-- %{v. 10 p. forward}%
30 To my surprise--the only yellow that
31 %amid% %{}%
32 I see this %^% red & green & chocolate--
33 is one large tree-top in the forest (~~for~~)
34 a mile off in the east across the
35 pond, which by its form & color--I know
36 %{}of my late acquaintance}%
37 to be %^% the tall aspen (tremuliformis) of
38 the 29th It too is far more yellow
39 at this distance, than it was close at
40 hand--(and so are the Lombardy poplars
41 The s. alba too looks yellower at a distance now (~~esp~~)
42 in our streets) Their dull brown & green colors
43 do not report themselves so far--

1 It is as if it recognized me too &
2 gladly--coming halfway to meet me--
3 & now the acquaintance thus propitiously
4 formed will I trust be permanent--
5 Of the 3(?) mocker--nuts on Conantum top--only
6 // the Southernmost is bare--the rest are thickly
7 // leaved yet-- The v. lentago is about bare
8 That hour-glass apple shrub--near
9 the old Conantum house is full of small
10 yellow fruit-- Thus it is with them-- By
11 the end of some Oct. when their leaves have
12 fallen you see them glowing with an abundance
13 of wild fruit, which the cows cannot get
14 at over the bushy & thorny hedge which sur-
15 rounds them. Such is their pursuit of
16 knowledge through difficulties-- Though
17 they may have taken the hour glass form
18 think not that their sands are run out.
19 So is it³⁰⁶ with the rude neglected genius
20 from amid the country hills--he suffers
21 many a check at first--browsed on by fate
22 --springing in but a rocky pasture--the
23 nursery of other creatures there--& he grows
24 broad & strong--& scraggy & thorny--~~{stunted}~~
25 hopelessly stunted you would say--& not like
26 a sleek orchard tree--all whose forces are
27 husbanded--& the precious early years not lost--
28 --~~but at a~~ & when at first within this rind
29 & hedge the man shoots up--~~he walk~~ you
30 see the thorny scrub of his youth about
31 him & he walks like an hourglass--
32 --aspiring above it is true--but held

³⁰⁶"it" written over "with"

1 down & impeded by the rubbish of old difficulties
2 overcome--& you seem to see his sands running
3 out-- But at length, thanks to his rude
4 culture--he attains to his full stature
5 and every vestige of the thorny hedge which clung
6 to his youth disappears--& he bears golden
7 of Porters or Baldwins³⁰⁷
8 crops ^ whose fame will spread through all orch{ards}
9 for generations to come--while that thrifty
10 orchard tree which was his competitor will
11 perchance have long since ceased to bear its engrafted
12 fruit & decayed-- v Nov {7}th.

13 The Beach Plum is withering green--say with the
14 apple trees--which are half of them bare.

15 ³⁰⁸Larches fairly began to fall-- --so they
16 are at height.

17 Nov. 1st '58 %^% %v near end of {25 Oct}%
18 Pm to Poplar Hill %for {acs} of November%
19 Many black oaks are bare in Sleepy Hollow--

20 Now you easily detect where larches grow
21 viz--in the swamp N of sleepy hollow-- They
22 are far more distinct than at any other
23 season. They were very regular soft yellow
24 pyramids--as I see them from the Poplar³⁰⁹ Hill.
25 Unlike the pines--there is no greenness left
26 to alternate with this yellow--but they are
27 a uniform yellow--& they differ from other
28 yellow trees in the generally regular pyramidal
29 outline--i.e. these middling sized trees--
30 These trees now cannot easily be mistaken for any
31 other--because they are the only conspicuously
32 yellow trees now left³¹⁰ in the woods except
33 a very few aspens of both kinds--not out in a square
34 mile--& these are of a very different hue as

³⁰⁷"Porters or Baldwins" written over "porters or baldwins"

³⁰⁸vertical dotted line drawn in margin from here through line beginning "Now you..."

³⁰⁹"p" written over "p"

³¹⁰"left" written over "except"

1 as well as form--(the birches &c having
2 fallen-- The larch, apparently, will soon be
3 the only yellow tree left in the woods--
4 It is almost quite alone now--

5 But in the summer it is not easy to distinguish
6 them either by their color or form at a distance.

7 If you wish to count the scarlet oaks
8 do it now-- Stand on the hill top in the woods
9 when the sun is an hour high & the sky is clear--
10 & every one within range your vision will be revealed.
11 You might live to the age of the Methusaleh
12 and never find a tithe of them otherwise.

13 We are not wont to see our door yard as
14 a part of the earth's surface-- The gardener
15 does not perceive that some ridge or
16 mound in ~~the~~ his garden or lawn
17 is related to yonder hill or the still more
18 distant mt in the horizon--Is perchance
19 a humble spur of the last-- We are wont
20 to look over the earth still as a sort of
21 chaos ~~void~~ formless & lumpish. I notice
22 from this height that the curving morraine
23 forming the W. side of Sleepy Hollow is one
24 several
25 of ~~many~~ arms or fingers which stretch
26 away from the hill range that {runds} down
27 the N side of the Boston road--turning
28 northward at the Court³¹¹ House--that this
29 finger like moraine is continued northward
30 by itself almost to the river--& points plainly
31 enough to Ponkawtasset Hill on the
32 other side--even if the Poplar Hill range
33 itself did not indicate this connexion--

³¹¹"C" written over "c"

1 & so the sloping cemetery lots on the {west} of Sleepy
2 the distant
3 Hollow--are related to ^ Ponkawtasset.

4 The smooth-shaven knoll in the lawn, on
5 which the children swing--is perchance
6 only a spur of some mts of the moon--which
7 no traveller has ever reached--heaved up
8 by the same impulse.

9 The Hawthorn is but 3/4 fallen & is a greenish
10 yellow--or yellowish green--

11 I hear in the fields just before sundown
12 a shriller chirping of a few crickets--reminding
13 me that their song is getting thin & will soon
14 be quenched.

15 As I stood in the S bank of the river 100 rods
16 SW of John Flints--the³¹² sun being just about to
17 enter a long and broad dark blue or slate colored
18 cloud in the horizon--a cold dark bank--
19 White
20 I saw that the reflection of Flints ^ House
21 in the river--prolonged by a slight ripple so as
22 to reach the reflected cloud--was a very distinct
23 & luminous light blue.

24 As the afternoons grow shorter & the
25 early evening drives us home to complete our
26 chores--we are reminded of the shortness
27 of life--& become more pensive at least
28 in this twilight of the year-- We are prompted
29 to make haste & finish our work before the
30 night comes-- I leaned over a rail in
31 the twilight on the Walden Pond--waiting
32 for the evening mail--to be distributed--when
33 such thoughts visited me-- I seemed to re-
34 cognize this November evening as a familiar

³¹²"the" written over "I"

1 thing come round again--& yet I
2 could hardly tell whether I had ever
3 known it or only divined it. The No-
4 vember twilights just begun--! it appeared
5 like a part of a panorama at which
6 I sat spectator--a part with which
7 I was perfectly familiar just coming into
8 view--& I foresaw how it would look
9 & roll along & prepared to be pleased--
10 just such a piece of art merely
11 infinitely
12 though exquisitely sweet & grand did
13 it appear to one & just as little were
14 any active duties required of me--
15 We are independent on all that we
16 see-- The hangman whom I have seen
17 cannot hang me. The earth which
18 I have seen cannot bury me-- Such
19 doubleness & distance does sight prove.
20 Only the rich and such as are troubled
21 with ennui are implicated in the
22 maze of phenomena. You cannot
23 see any thing until you are clear of
24 it. The long RR causeway--through
25 the meadows west of me--the still
26 %only in the Pm%
27 ? twilight in which hardly a cricket
28 %yes% %Prob too cool for any these evenings%
29 was heard (?)³¹³--the dark bank of clouds
30 %{long after sunset}%
31 ~~above the~~ in the horizon--%^the villagers
32 crowding to the P. O.--& the hastening home
33 to supper by candle light--had I
34 not seen all this before--! What new
35 sweet am I to extract from it?
36 Truly--they mean that we shall learn

³¹³"?" cancelled in pencil

1 our lesson well-- Nature gets thumbed
2 like an old spelling book. The almshouse
3 & Frederick³¹⁴ were still--as last November--
4 I was no nearer methinks nor further
5 off from my friends-- Yet I sat the
6 bench with perfect contentment unwilling
7 familiar
8 to exchange the ^ vision that was to be unroll{ed}
9 for any treasure or heaven that could
10 be imagined-- Sure to keep just so far
11 apart in our orbits still--in obedience
12 to the laws of attraction & repulsion--affording
13 each other only steady but indispensable
14 star-light-- It was as if I was promised
15 the greatest novelty the world has ever seen
16 or shall see--though the utmost possible
17 novelty would be the difference between me
18 & myself a year ago-- This above encouraged
19 me & was my fuel for the approaching
20 winter-- That we may behold the panora-
21 ma with this slight improvement or change--
22 this is what we sustain life for with
23 so much effort from year to year--
24 And yet there is no more tempting novelty--
25 than this new November-- No going to Europe
26 or another world--is to be named with it
27 P. O. & all
28 Give me the old familiar walk^--with
29 this ever new self--with this infinite ex-
30 pectation & faith--which does not know
31 when it is beaten. We'll go nutting once
32 more-- We'll pluck the nut of the world

³¹⁴"F" written over "f"

1 & crack it in the winter evenings--
2 Theaters--& all other sight seeing--are
3 puppet-shows in comparison. I will
4 take another walk to the Cliff--another
5 row on the river--another skate on the
6 meadow--be out in the first snow--
7 associate with the winter birds. Here
8 I am at home-- In the bare & bleached crust
9 of the earth I recognize my friend-- --
10 One actual Frederick that you ~~have~~ know--
11 is worth a million only read of-- Pray am
12 I altogether a batchelor or am I a widower
13 --that I should go away & leave my bride?--³¹⁵
14 This Morrow that is ever knocking with irresistible
15 force at our door--there is no such guest as that.
16 I will stay at home & receive company.
17 I want nothing new--if I can have but
18 a tithe of the old secured to me--I will spurn
19 all wealth beside-- Think of the consummate
20 folly of attempting to go away from here!
21 When the constant endeavor should be to get
22 nearer & nearer here. Here are all the
23 &
24 friends I ever had or shall have ^ as friendly
25 as ever--
26 Why, I never had any quarrel with a friend
27 but it was just as sweet as unanimity could be.
28 I do not think we budge an inch forward
29 or backward in relation to our friends.
30 How many things can you go away from?--
31 They see the comet from the N. W. coast
32 just as plainly as we do--& the same stars
33 through its tail. Take the shortest
34 way round & stay at home.

³¹⁵Dash appears midway through the quotation mark

1 // in dry places. The p. pine is ap a little
2 past the midst of its fall-- In sprout-
3 lands some young birches are still rather
4 // leafy & bright colored. Going over the
5 newly cleared pasture on the NE of F. H. Hill
6 I see that the scarlet oaks are more
7 generally bright than an the 22d ult--
8 Even the little sprouts in the russet pasture
9 & the high tree tops in the yew wood
10 burn now--when the mid-sized bushes in
11 the sproutlands have mostly gone out--
12 scar. O. perhaps--Esp. on hills
13 The large ^ trees & tree tops in woods ^ ap.
14 are late because raised above the influences
15 of the early frosts-- Methinks they are
16 as bright ever this dark day as I ever saw
17 them. The blossoming of the Scar.³¹⁹ O.! The
18 forest flower--surpassing all in splendor,
19 (at least since the maple). I do not know
20 but they interest me more than the maples³²⁰
21 They are so widely & equally dispersed through
22 out the forest--they are so hardy--a
23 nobler tree on the whole--lasting into No-
24 vember--our Chief November³²¹ flower--abiding
25 the approach of winter with us--imparting
26 warmth to November³²² prospects-- It is remarkable
27 that the latest bright color that is
28 general--should be this deep dark scarlet
29 & red--the intensest of colors--the ripest
30 fruit of the year--like the cheek of a
31 cold
32 glossy red ripe apple from the ^ isle
33 of Orleans--which will not be mellow

³¹⁹"S" written over "s"

³²⁰"the maples" written over "that--"

³²¹"N" written over "n"

³²²"N" written over "n"

1 for eating till next Spring! When I rise
2 to a hill top a thousand of these great oak
3 roses--distributed on every side as far as the horizon
4 This my unfailing prospect for a fortnight
5 past as surely as I rose to a hill top-- This
6 late forest flower--surpasses all that
7 spring or summer could do-- Their colors were
8 but rare & dainty specks--which made no
9 impression on a distant eye. Now it is an
10 extended forest or a³²³ mt side that bursts
11 into bloom through or along which we may
12 journey from day to day-- I admire these roses
13 3 or 4 miles off in the horizon. Comparatively,
14 our gardening is on a petty scale--the gardener
15 still nursing a few asters amid dead weeds--ignorant
16 of the gigantic asters & roses which as it were over-
17 shadow him & ask for none of his care-- Comparatively
18 it is like a little red paint ground on a tea cup
19 & held up against the sunset sky. Why not
20 take more elevated & broader views--walk in the
21 greater garden--not sculk in a little ^ nook of it--
22 "debauched"
23 Consider the beauty of the earth--& not merely
24 of a few impounded herbs. However you will
25 not see these splendors, whether you stand on the
26 hill--top or in the hollow, unless you are prepared
27 to see them. The gardener can see only the gardener's
28 garden wherever he goes. The beauty of the earth
29 answers exactly to your demand & appreciation--
30 Apples--in the village & lower ground

³²³"a" inserted

1 // are now generally killed brown & crisp
2 without having turned yellow--esp the
3 upper parts--while those on hills
4 & warm places--turned yellowish or russet
5 ~~fr~~ & so ripened to their fall. Of quinces
6 // bushes--the same only they are a little later
7 are
8 & greener yet--
9 // The sap is now frequently flowing fast in
10 the scar. let oaks (as I have not observed it
11 in the others) and has a pleasant acorn like taste
12 Their bright tints, now that most other oaks
13 are withered, are connected with this phenomenon--
14 They are full of sap & life. The flavor like
15 a sugar maple in the spring-- It has a pleasantly
16 astringent taste, this strong oak wine.
17 tremuloides
18 That small poplar ^ seen from Cliffs on
19 // the 29th is a p. tremuloides--it makes the
20 impression of a bright & clear yellow at a
21 distance--though it is rather dingy & spotted.
22 It is later then--(this & the Baker Farm³²⁴ one)
23 than my P. grandidentata, that I know--
24 Looking down on the oak wood SE of
25 Yew Wood--I see some large black oak
26 // tops {a} brown-yellow still--so generally
27 it shows life a little longer then the white
28 & swamp white apparently-- One just
29 beyond the small pox burying ground--
30 is generally greenish inclines³²⁵ to scarlet
31 --looking very much like a Scarlet O
32 not yet completely changed--for the
33 leaf would not the distinguished-- However
34 the nuts--with yellow meat--& the strong
35

³²⁴"F" written over "f"

³²⁵"inclines" written over "inclining"

1 bitter yellow bark--betrayed it. Yet it did
2 not amount to scarlet.

3 I see a few shrub oak leaves still where sheltered.
4 The little chinquapin has fallen //

5 I go past the Well Meadow Field.³²⁶ There is a
6 sympathy between this cold gray overcast November
7 afternoon & the grayish brown oak leaves--& russet
8 fields.

9 The scotch larch is changed--at least as bright
10 as ours.

11 Nov. 3

12 Colder weather, true November weathe{r,}
13 comes again & tonight--& I must rekindle my //
14 fire--which I had done without of late.

15 I must walk briskly in order to keep warm
16 in my thin coat.

17 Pm to Anurnsnack

18 I am inclined to think that pignuts fall
19 earlier than Mocker-nuts--i.e the leaves--
20 & that the first are now about fallen (?) Those //
21 on Nawshawtuct are bare--But I see
22 a great many hickories of some kind not ^ bare
23 nearly

24 Monroes arbor-vitae hedge has fallen. //
25 Put it with the white pine. The jay is the
26 bird of October--I have seen it repeatedly
27 flitting amid the bright leaves of a different
28 ~~{tint}~~ color from them all--& equally bright
29 & taking its flight from grove to grove.

30 It too, with its bright color, stands³²⁷ for some
31 ripeness in the bird harvest. And its scream
32 it is as if it blowed on the edge of an

³²⁶"F" written over "f"

³²⁷false start before "stands"

1 October leaf-- It is never more in its element
2 & at home
3 ^than when fitting amid these brilliant colors.

4 No doubt it delights in bright color--& so has
5 begged for itself a brilliant coat-- It is not
6 gathering seeds from the sod--too busy
7 to look around--while fleeing the country--
8 It is wide awake to what is going on--on
9 the qui vive-- It flies to some bright tree
10 & bruits it splendors abroad.

11 By fall--I mean literally the falling of the
12 leaves-- Though some mean by it the changing
13 or the acquisition of a brighter color-- This I call
14 the Autumnal tint--the ripening to the fall.
15 white
16 The only ^ birch leaves now seen are those
17 // lingering green terminal leaves of the 23d now
18 %& at least 7 days later%
19 at last turned yellow%^--for they are now
20 burnt upward to the last spark & glimmering
21 Methinks the birch ripens its leaves very perfectly
22 though gradually.

23 I should say that that tree which ripened its
24 leaves well like this--was better suited
25 to the climate than one like the locust &
26 most apples--which was mostly killed by
27 frost first annually-- Perhaps this tells
28 at last on the constitution of the tree;
29 And that variety would be safest to cultivate
30 which natured its leaves best.

31 The p-- pine fallen & falling leaves now &
32 // for some times have not then bright or yellow
33 but brown--

34 At base of Anursnack I find 1 or 2
35 open
36 // fringed gentians yet^--but even the stems
37 are generally killed.-- I notice the{re}

1 the cows lately admitted {to} the meadows & orchards
2 have browsed the grass &c closely in that
3 strip bet the dry hill side & the wet mea{dow}
4 --where it is undoubtedly sweetest & freshest yet--
5 & where it chances that this late flower
6 the gentians grows-- There too grows the
7 herbage which is now the most grateful
8 to the cattle. Also aster undulatus is still
9 freshly in bloom--yarrow--&c &c--
10 %Much Lycopodium complanatum not open yet.%
11 Returning I see at the very N. W. end of the white
12 Cedar swamp a little elder still quite leafy
13 & green--near the paths on the edge of the swamp
14 Its leafets are commonly 9 & the lower 2 or more are
15 commonly divided-- This seemed peculiarly downy
16 %It is ap. only a more downy common one & this may have pre-}%
17 beneath--even "sub-pubescent" as Big. describes
18 %served it from frost}% %{} }%
19 the S. pubens to be-- Compare it with the common%^%
20 %{} }%
21 Also by it is vib. nudum still quite fresh &
22 green--the slender shoots from slanting plants
23 very erect & straight. {drawing}
24 The lower leaves of the water and mud
25 %So at Potter's Swamp--pretty commonly a dark scarlet--Nov 8, 1855}%
26 are now red%^% & the lamb kill leaves
27 are drooping (is it more than before {?}) & purplish from
28 the effect of frost in low swamps like this?
29 Though I listen for them, I do not hear a cricket
30 this Pm. I think that I heard a few in the pm of
31 Nov. 1st They then sounded peculiarly distinct, being
32 but few here & there on a dry & warm hill--bird like
33 Yet there seemed to be singing a little louder--& in
34 a little loftier strain--now that the chirp of
35 the cricket generally was ~~mos~~ quenched.
36 How long we will follow an illusion--
37 On meeting that one whom I call my friend

1 {I find that I had imagined}³²⁸
2 ^something that was not there-- I am sure
3 to depart sadder than I came-- Nothing
4 makes me so dejected as to have met my friends.
5 --for they make me doubt if it is possible
6 to have any friends-- I feel what a fool I am--
7 I cannot conceive of persons more strange to
8 me than they actually are-- Not³²⁹ thinking
9 not believing--not doing as I do--interrupted
10 by me-- My only distinction must be that I am
11 the greatest bore they ever had.-- Not in a
12 single thought agreed--regularly baulking
13 one another-- But when I get far away--
14 %That is the way I can visit them%
15 my thoughts return to them.%^^ Perhaps it is un-
16 // accountable to me why I care for them--
17 Thus I am taught that my friend is not
18 an actual person-- When I have withdrawn
19 & am alone--I forget the actual person &
20 remember only my ideal. Then I have a
21 friend again. I am not so ready to per-
22 ceive the illusion that is in nature--
23 I certainly come nearer, to say the least, to
24 an actual & joyful intercourse with her--
25 every day I have more or less communion with
26 men, as I think-- At least I do not
27 feel as if I {must} withdraw out of
28 nature-- I feel like a welcome guest--
29 Yet strictly speaking the same must be
30 true of nature & of man--our ideal
31 is the only real. It is not the

³²⁸Line 1 is cut off on the MS copy; this line is taken from 1906

³²⁹"Not" written over "Noth"

1 finite & temporal that {satisfies} or concerns
2 us in either case.

3 I associate the idea of friendship methinks {with}
4 the person the most foreign to me-- This illusion
5 is perpetuated--like superstition in a country
6 long after civilization has been attained to.

7 We are attracted toward a particular person
8 but no one has discovered the laws of this
9 attraction. When I come nearest to that other
10 actually I am wont to be surprised at my
11 selection-- It may be enough that we have
12 met some time--& now can never forget it.
13 Sometime or other we paid each other this
14 wonderful compliment--looked largely--humanly
15 --divinely on one another--and now are fated
16 to be acquaintances for ever--

17 In the case of nature I am not so conscious
18 of this unsatisfied yearning.

19 Some oak woods begin to look bare &
20 even smoky after their fashion

21 Nov. 4th

22 A rainy day. Called to C. from the outside
23 of his house the other Pm in the rain. At
24 length he put his head out the attic window
25 & I inquired if he
26 didn't ~~you~~ want to take a walk--but he ex-
27 cused himself saying that he had a cold
28 but added he, you can take so much the
29 longer walk--double it.

30 On the 1st when I stood on Poplar

1 Hill--I saw ~~yonder~~ a man far
2 off by the edge of the river splitting billets
3 off a stump--suspecting who it was I
4 took out my glass--& beheld Goodwin
5 --the one eyed Ajax--in his short blue
6 frock--short & square bodied--As broad
7 as for his height he can afford to be--
8 getting his winter's wood--for this is one
9 of the phenomena of the season--
10 As surely as the ants which he disturbs go
11 into winter quarters in the stump when the
12 weather becomes cool--so does G.
13 revisit the stumpy shores with his axe--
14 As usual his powder flask peeped out
15 // from a pocket on his breast--&³³⁰ his gun
16 was slanted over a stump near by--& His
17 ~~boat~~ boat lay a little further along.
18 He had been at work laying wall
19 still further off--& near the end of the
20 ^{now}
21 day betook himself to these pursuits which
22 he loved better still. It would be an amuse-
23 ment to me to see a gentleman buy³³¹
24 his winter wood-- It is to see G. get his
25 I helped him tip over a stump or 2-- He
26 said that the owner of the land {had} given
27 him leave to get them out--but it seemed
28 to me a condescension for him to ask any
29 man's leave to grub up these stumps--
30 The stumps to those who can use them, I say
31 to those who will split them. He might
32 as well ask leave of the farmer to shoot
33 the musquash and the meadow hen-- I
34 might as well ask leave to look at

³³⁰"&" written over "h"

³³¹"buy" written over "by"

1 the landscape-- Near by were large hollows
2 in the ground, now grassed over, where
3 he had got out white oak stumps in pre-
4 vious years. But strange to say the town
5 does not like to have him get his fuel in this
6 way-- they would rather the stumps would rot
7 in the ground--or be floated down stream
8 to the sea-- They have almost without {dissent}
9 agreed on a different mode of living--with
10 their division of labor-- They would have him
11 stick to ~~his~~ laying wall & buy corded wood for
12 his fuel--as they do. He has drawn up an old bridge
13 sleeper & {~~put his~~} cut his name in it for security--
14 & now he gets in to his boat & pushes off--in the {twilight}
15 saying he will go & see what Mr. Musquash is
16 about.

17 When the Haverhill fisherman told me that
18 they could distinguish the Concord river stuff (i.e
19 drift wood) I see they were right--for much
20 chestnut
21 of it is ^ rails--& of these they have but few &
22 of those³³² in the S part of N.H.
23 %{Let your walking now be a little more adventurous on the hills}%
24 If about the last of Oct. you ascend any
25 hill in the outskirts of the town & look over
26 the forest you will see amid the brown of the
27 which are
28 oaks ^ now withered & the green of the pines--the
29 bright red tops or crescents of the scarlet oaks
30 very equally & thickly distributed on all sides
31 even to the horizon-- Complete³³³ trees standing
32 exposed--the edges of the pond--where you ha{ve}
33 never suspected them--or their tops only in the re-

³³²According to 1906

³³³"C" poss written over "c"

1 cesses of the forest surface--or perhaps
2 towering above the surrounding trees--or
3 reflecting a warm rose red from the very edge
4 of the horizon in favorable lights. All this
5 you will see & much more--if you are
6 prepared to see it--if you look for it.
7 Otherwise--regular & universal as this phe--
8 %{\ }%
9 nomenon is %^% you will think for 3 score
10 years & 10 that all the wood is at this
11 season--sere & brown-- Objects are concealed
12 from our view--not so much because they are
13 out of the course of our visual rays (continued)
14 as because there is no intention of the
15 mind & eye toward them. We do not realize
16 how far & widely--or how near & narrowly
17 // we are to look. The greater part of the
18 phenomena of nature are for this reason
19 %{\ }%
20 concealed to us all our lives.%^% Here too, as
21 in political economy, the supply answers to
22 the demand-- Nature does not cast pearls
23 before swine. There is just as much beauty
24 visible to us in the landscape as we are
25 prepared to appreciate--not a grain more.
26 The actual objects which one person will see from
27 a particular hill top--are just as different from
28 those which another will see--as the persons
29 are different. The scarlet O. must in a sense
30 be in your eye when you go forth. We
31 cannot see anything--unless we are possessed
32 with the idea of it--& then we can hardly
33 see anything else. In my botanical
34 rambles--I find that first the idea or
35 image of a plant occupies my thoughts

1 though it may at first seem very foreign
2 to this locality--& for some weeks or
3 months I go thinking of it--& expecting it
4 unconsciously--& at length I surely see it--
5 & it is henceforth an actual neighbor of mine
6 This is the history of my finding a score or more
7 of some plants which I could name--
8 %{ }%
9 Take one of our select men & put on him on
10 & tell him to look!
11 the highest hill in the town ship! & consider³³⁴
12 what would he select to look at!
13 what probably ³³⁵he would see^! sharpening his
14 sight to the utmost & putting on the glasses that
15 aye using a spyglass if he liked
16 suited him best^--(straining his optic nerve to its utmo{st}

17 ~~power~~--& making a full report-- Of course
18 %{ }%
19 he would see a Brocken spectre--
20 %{ }%
21 to himself %^% Now take Julius Caesar--or
22 Immanuel Swedenborg--or a Figea Islander
23 & set him up there! Let them compare
24 notes afterward; would it appear that they had en-
25 joyed the same prospect? For aught we know
26 as strange a man as any of these is always at
27 our elbows. It does not appear that anybody {saw}
28 Shakespear when he was about in England looking
29 off--but only some of his raiment
30 Why it takes a sharp shooter to bring down even such
31 trivial game as snipes & wood cocks--he must
32 take very particular aim & know what he is
33 aiming at. He would stand a very small chance
34 if he fired at random into the sky, being told that
35 snipes were flying there & so is it with him that
36 Not till the sky falls will he catch {larks} unless he is a trained sportsman.
37 shoots at beauty--^ He will not bag any if he

³³⁴"consider" cancelled in pencil, and poss replaced above

³³⁵ T marked "he would" to be transposed to "would he"

1 Pm Up Assabet--

2 The river has risen somewhat on ac-- of rain
3 yesterday--& the 30th--so it was lowest the 30th

4 That great fleet of leaves of the 21st Oct is now
5 & are flatted out there
6 sunk to the bottom near the shore^--paving it thickly

7 {————} & but few recently fallen are to be seen on
8 the water-- And in the woods the leaves do not
9 lie up so crisp since the rain--

10 Saw Stewart shoot a Carolina rail which
11 was standing on the side of a musquash cabin
12 off Richard's within 2 rods of him-- This has

13 no black throat & is prob the female or young³⁴³
14 % { } %

15 The large shallow cups of the red oak
16 acorns look like some buttons I have seen which
17 had lost their core. The C. Florida on the Island
18 is still full-leafed & is now completely scarlet
19 though it was partly green on the 28th-- It is
20 ap in the height of its color there now or if more
21 exposed perhaps it would have been on the 1st of Nov.

22 This makes it the latest tree to change

23 The leaves are drooping--(like the C. sericea) {————}

24 while those of some sprouts at its base are

25 horizontal. Some incline to crimson--

26 A few

27 Some white maples are not yet bare--but

//

28 thinly clothed with dull yellow leaves--which

29 still have life in them. Judging from the 2 aspens

30 this tree--& the willows--one would say that

31 the earliest trees to leaf were perhaps the last to

32 lose their leaves??

33 Little dippers were seen yesterday--

//

34 few

35 The remaining topmost leaves of the salix sericea which

36 were ^ the last to change

37 ^are now yellow like those of the birch

³⁴³"young" cancelled in pencil

1 // water milkweed has been discounting some
2 small
3 days--with its ^ upright pods.

4 // I hear 1 cricket this lousing day-- Since
5 but one is heard, it is the more distinct--
6 & therefore seems louder & more musical-- It
7 is a clearer note--less creaking than before.

8 // A few P. grandidentata leaves are still left on
9 The common smooth rose leaves are pretty conspicuously
10 // yellow yet along the river--& some dull reddish
11 // high blackberry is seen by the roads--also
12 meadow sweet is observed yet with the rose
13 // It is quite still--no wind--no insect hum
14 & no note of birds--but one {~~nuthatch~~} hairy
15 wood pecker-- That lake grass gly-
16 // ceria fluitans is methinks more noticeable
17 now than in summer--on the surface of the
18 %{green & purple}%
19 fuller stream.%^% %{}Meadow sweet is a prominent yellow yet}%
20 Nov. 6th

21 Yesterday was a still & cloudy day--
22 // This is another rainy day-- On the whole
23 we have had a good deal of fair weather
24 the last 3 months. Mr. Buttrick the
25 Marketman--says he has been to Boston
26 27 times since the first of August--
27 & has not got wet till today-- Though
28 he rides in an open wagon--

29 I guessed at Goodwin's age on the 1st
30 He is hale & stout and looks younger than
31 he is & I took care to set him high enough
32 I guessed that he was 55--& he said that

1 if he lived 2 or 3 months longer he would be
2 56-- He then guessed at my age--
3 --thought I was 40-- He thought that
4 {I} Emerson was a very young looking man--
5 for his age--but said he, "He has not
6 been out o'nights as much as you have"--

7 Some horse chestnuts are thickly leaved
8 & yellow--not withered

9 Nov. 7th

10 Pm to Bateman's Pond--

11 It cleared up this forenoon--I leave my boat
12 I see the cold sunlight from some glade between the clouds falling on distant oak woods
13 now nearly bare
14 opposite the hemlocks--^& as I glance up the hill
15 between them, seeing the bare but bright hill side
16 beyond--& I think--Now we are left to
17 the hemlocks & pines with their silvery light
18 to the bare trees & withered green-- The very rocks--
19 (that beyond Farmer's)
20 and stones in the rocky roads ^ look white in the
21 clean November light--(esp). after the rain--
22 We are left to the chicadee's familiar
23 notes--& the jay for trumpeter.

24 What struck me was a certain emptiness
25 beyond--between the hemlocks & the hill--
26 in the cool washed air--as if I appreciated
27 even here the absence of³⁴⁴ insects from it ~~it~~--

28 It suggested, agreeably to me, a mere space
29 in which to walk briskly-- The fields are bleak--
30 & they are as it were, vacated-- The very earth is
31 like a house shut up for the winter, & I go
32 knocking about it in vain. But ~~the~~ just
33 then I heard a chicadee in a hemlock--&

³⁴⁴"of" written over "from"

1 and was inexpressibly cheered to find that an
2 old acquaintance was yet stirring about
3 the premises & was then assured to be
4 there all winter. All that is evergreen
5 %{v. 8 p. forward}%
6 in me revived at once--%^% %{nuthatch}%
7 The very moss--(the little pine tree moss) in
8 Hosmers meadow is revealed by its greenness
9 amid the withered grass & stubble
10 // Hard frosts have turned the cranberry
11 vines to a dark purple--
12 // I hear one faint cricket's chirp this pm
13 Going up the lane beyond Farmers³⁴⁵--I was
14 surprised to see fly up from the white stony
15 // road, 2 snow buntings--which alighted again
16 close by--one on a large rock--the other
17 on the stoney ground-- They³⁴⁶ had pale brown
18 or tawny trunks on the white breast--
19 & on each side of the head--on the top of
20 the head--in the last place with some darker color--
21 // Had light yellowish bills
22 ^They sat quite motionless within 2 rods--& all-
23 owed me to approach within a rod--as
24 if conscious that the white rocks &c
25 concealed them-- It seemed as if they
26 were attracted to surfaces of the same color
27 with themselves--white & black (or quite dark)
28 & tawny-- One squatted flat--if not both.
29 Their soft rippling notes as they went off
30 reminded me that N. E snowstorms
31 to which ere long they are to be an accom-
32 paniment
33 // I find in a swamp Witch hazel buds

³⁴⁵"F" written over "f"
³⁴⁶"T" written over "t"

1 still opening--for here they are sheltered--but
2 I can find no fringed gentian blue near Bate--
3 mans P. But A undulatus & several g. rods
4 at least may be found yet. I see L. dendroideum
5 %*var. obscurum*%
6 %^%which has not yet shed pollen

7 In and about Fox Castle swamp--lambkill is
8 reddened--about as much as ever-- Roundleaved
9 cornel is bare. The nuthatch is another bird
10 of the fall which I hear these days & for a long
11 time. Ap. ever since the young birds grew up--

12 The C. Florida by the Pond is quite bare, how long? //
13 (That at Island still thickly leaved) so that I can only say
14 much
15 that the sheltered C. Florida change ^ later than the scar O. generally
16 and perhaps the former is to be considered later on the whole

17 Methinks those Scar. Oaks--those burning
18 bushes--begin to be rare in the landscape-- They //
19 are about Bateman's P. at any rate.

20 My apple harvest! it is to glean after the husband-
21 man--& the cows--or to gather the crop of those
22 wild trees far away on the edges of swamps which
23 have escaped their notice. Now when it is generally
24 all fallen, if indeed any is left--though you
25 would not suppose there were any on the first
26 survey--nevertheless with experienced eyes I explore
27 --amid the clumps of alder (now bare) & in the
28 crevices of the rocks full of {leaves} & prying
29 under the fallen & decaying ferns which with
30 apple & alderleaves thickly strew the ground--

31 From amid the leaves any where within

1 the circumference of the tree I draw forth
2 the fruit all wet & glossy--nibbled by
3 rabbits--& hollowed out by crickets--but
4 still with the bloom on it and at least
5 as ripe, and well kept, if not better
6 than those in barrels--(while those which
7 lay exposed are quite brown & rotten.) Showing
8 only a blooming cheek here & there between
9 the wet leaves--or fallen into hollows long
10 since & covered up with the leaves of the tree--
11 a proper kind of packing. I fill my pockets
12 on each side--& as I retrace my steps--
13 I eat one, first from this side & then from
14 that, in order to preserve my balance.
15 And here & there is one lodged as it fell bet-
16 ween the bases of the suckers which spring thickly
17 from a horizontal limb. In the midst of an
18 alder clump covered by leaves-- There it lies safe
19 from cows which might smell it out--& unob-
20 served by the husbandman--reserved for me.
21 %generally%
22 It is too late %^% to look for the handsome ones
23 // now. The³⁴⁷ exposed are decayed or decaying.
24 Looking S. W. toward the pond just before
25 sunset--I saw against the light--what
26 I took to be a shadbush in full bloom--but
27 without a leafet-- I was prepared for this sight
28 after this very warm autumn--because
29 this tree frequently puts for the new leaves
30 or it might be a young wild apple
31 in October--^ Hastening to it I found it
32 has only the feathery seeds of the virgins
33 bower--whose vine so close to the
34 branches was not noticeable--they looked

³⁴⁷"The" written over "They"

1 just like dense umbels of white flowers--&
2 in this light 3 or 4 rods off--were fully as white
3 as white apple blossoms. It is singular how
4 one thing thus puts on the semblance of another

5 I thought at first I had made a discovery more
6 interesting than the blossoming of apple trees in the
7 fall. This I thought which I never saw, nor heard
8 of, before, must be the result of that wonder
9 fully warm weather about the 19th & 20th of
10 Oct. It carried me round to spring again when
11 the shad bush, almost leafless, is seen waving its
12 white blossoms amid the yet bare trees. The feathery
13 masses--at intervals along the twigs just
14 like umbels of apple bloom--so caught & reflected
15 the western light

16 The small beeches are still covered with withered //
17 leaves--but the larger are 3/4 bare--

18 The dip. linifolius which was yellow in the shade
19 in open & sunny places is purple--

20 I see the small botrychium leaf in Hosmer's meadow //
21 still firm but a reddish brown or leather color--

22 Rounding the island, just after sunset--
23 I see not only the houses nearest the river--but
24 our own reflected in the river by the island--
25 From what various points of view & in what
26 unsuspected light & relations--we sooner or
27 later see the most familiar objects. I see
28 houses reflected in the river which stand a
29 mile from it--& whose inhabitants do
30 not consider them{selves} near the shore

1 I pass a musquash house--ap. began last
2 night-- The first mouthfuls of weeds were
3 placed between some small button-bush stems
4 which stood amid the pads & pontederia--for
5 a support & to prevent their being washed
6 Opposite I see some half concealed amid the bleached phalaris
7 away. grass (a tall coarse grass--or, in some places the blue joint

8 Nov. 8th 58

9 Pm to Boulder Field.³⁴⁸

10 Goodwin laying wall at Miss Ripley's
11 observed to me going by--"Well, it seems that
12 Puffer thought that he had lived long enough"
13 He committed suicide within a week--
14 at his sisters house in Sudbury-- A boy slept in
15 the chamber with him--& hearing a noise
16 on the floor
17 got & found P. ^ with both his jugular veins
18 cut--but his wind-pipe whole-- He said to
19 The {boy} "take the razor & cut deeper"--
20 but the boy ran--& P. died--& Garfield
21 said ~~he had heard~~ it was about time--for
22 P. in revenge for being sent to the house of correction
23 had set fire to a pile of wood of his--that
24 long pile by the roadside beyond Wm Wheelers
25 that I stood under in a rain once-- P. probably
26 burned Witherel's house too--& perhaps Boynton's
27 stable--

28 The red osier at Mr. Simmond's is quite
29 // bare--how long? Her Hawthorne is still
30 a Thorn at Halls fence is dark scarlet & pretty.
31 // quite leafy^--& pretty yellow brown--dotted,
32 // There are many leaves on the Buckthorn still
33 Common thorn bushes, long since bare, where
34 many grow together in clumps--make

³⁴⁸"F" written over "f"

1 another such a smoke--though smaller as the
2 maples--the same color-- I can after distin-
3 guish the bush by this. Alders are a very dark
4 gray--sort of iron gray--& if near enough you see
5 dark lines (the stems) & specks (the fruit) like cin-
6 ders--like a very dense ^{dark} & unconcerned ^{uliginous} smoke--
7
8 in which many cinders rise--
9 %v Nov 11th%
10 Those trees & bushes which grow in dense masses
11 & have many fine twigs--being ^{agreeable} bare make an ^ misty im-
12 pression--where there are a myriad retreating points
13 to receive the eye--not a hard abrupt wall--
14 {just} as, in the sky, the visual ray is cushioned
15 on clouds, unless it is launched into the illim-
16 itable ether-- The eye³⁴⁹ is less worn & wearied
17 not to say wounded--by looking at these mazes
18 where the seer is not often conscious of seeing
19 anything-- It is well that the ^{%eye%} is so rarely caught
20 & detained by any object in one whole hemisphere
21 of its range--i.e. the sky-- It enjoys everlasting
22 holiday on this side--only the formless
23 clouds & the objectless ether are presented
24 to it-- For they are nervous who see many
25 faces in the clouds-- Corresponding to the
26 clouds in the sky--are those mazes now
27 on the earth. Nature disposes of her
28 naked stems so softly as not to put our eyes
29 out-- She makes them a smoke--or stationary
30 cloud on this side or that--of whose objective
31 existence we rarely take cognizance. She
32 does not expect us to notice them.
33
34

³⁴⁹"eye" written over "eyes"

1 It is like a silent but sympathizing companion
2 retain
3 in whose company we ~~have~~ most of the advantages of
4 solitude--with whom we can walk &
5 talk, or be silent, naturally--without the
6 necessity of talking in a strain foreign to the
7 place. I know of but one or 2 persons with
8 whom I can afford to walk--(with) most the
9 %{---}%
10 walk degenerates into a mere vigorous use of
11 your legs (ludicrously purposeless) while you
12 are discussing some mighty argument--each
13 each other's
14 one having his say--spoiling ^ ~~his~~ day--worrying
15 one another with conversation--hustling one another
16 with our conversation--I know of no use in the
17 %in this case%
18 walking part%^, except that one may seem to
19 be getting on together toward some goal.
20 %{But of course we keep our original distance all the way--}%
21 Jumping every wall & ditch with vigor in the
22 vain hope of shaking your companion off--
23 Trying to kill two birds with one stone--though they
24 sit at opposite points of compass--to see nature
25 one who does not
26 & do the honors to (your companion.)
27 Animals generally see things in the vacant
28 way I have described-- They rarely see any thing
29 but their food or some real or imaginary foe.
30 I never saw but one cow looking into the sky.
31 Lichens
32 Mosses as they affect the scenery--as pic-
33 turesque objects described by Gilpin or others are
34 are one thing--as they concern the lichenist quite
35 another.
36 These are the various grays & browns which
37 give November its character-- There

1 are also some red {—} mazes--like the
2 twigs of the white maple--and our
3 C. sericea--&c (the red osier too further
4 north--) & some distinct yellow ones
5 as willow twigs--which are most interesting in
6 spring. The silvery abeles are steady falling
7 now adays-- The chalky white under side
8 of these leaves is remarkable-- None of our
9 leaves is so white.

10 I think I ~~first~~ admire again about this
11 // time the still bright red or crimson fruit of
12 the sumac, now when not only its own--
13 and there are few bright tints
14 but most other leaves have fallen^--it is
15 now so distinct on its twigs--your attention
16 is not distracted by its brilliant leaves now--³⁵⁰

17 I go across N. Barretts land--& over
18 the road beyond his house-- The aspect of the
19 // great meadows is now nearly uniform--the
20 new & exposed grass being nearly as brown and sere as
21 that which was not cut-- Thus nature has
22 been blending & harmonizing the colors here
23 where man had interfered.

24 %{ }% I wandered over bare fields where
25 the cattle lately turned out roamed rest-
26 less & unsatisfied with the feed--I dived
27 into a ^{young} rustling ^ oak wood where not a
28 green leaf was to be seen, I climbed to
29 the geological axis of elevation--& clambered
30 over curly-pated rocks whose strata is
31 on its edges--amid the rising woods--
32 & again I thought--they are all gone
33 surely--& left me alone--not even a man
34 Friday remains--starvation stares me³⁵¹

³⁵⁰"now--" ap. written over "--"

³⁵¹transposition lines continuing onto the next page indicate: "What nutriment can I extract from these bare twigs? starvation stares me in the face--"

1 in the face-- What nutriment can I extract
2 from these bare twigs?--³⁵² "Nay nay!" said
3 a nuthatch, making its way head-downward about
4 a bare hickory close by-- "The nearer the bone
5 the sweeter the meat" Only the superfluous
6 has been swept away-- Now we behold the
7 naked truth-- If at any time the weather is
8 too bleak & cold for you--keep the sunny side
9 of the trunk--for there is a wholesome & inspiring
10 warmth such as the summer never afforded.
11 There are the winter mornings--with the sun on the
12 oak-wood tops-- While buds sleep thoughts ^{wake} (~~look~~)
13
14 ("Hear! hear!" screamed the jay from a neighboring
15 where I had heard a tittering for some time
16 copse) winter has a concentrated & nutty kernel
17 if you know where to look for it^--³⁵³& then the
18 speaker shifted to another tree--further off--
19 & reiterated his assertions--& his mate at a dis-
20 tance confirmed them--& I heard a suppressed
21 chuckle from a red-squirrel ~~that was invisible.~~
22 but had kept silent & invisible all the while-- Is that you (~~---~~)
23 ~~& had~~ heard the last remark ^ (The birds being {gone})
24 "yes sire said he. Then
25 the squirrel came) running down a slanting bough--
26 (stopped twirling a nut) he called out--rather impudently--
27 "Look here! just get a snug fitting fur coat--
28 & a pair of fur gloves--(like mine) & you may
29 laugh at a N. E storm"--& then he wound up
30 ~~of his~~ slang phrase
31 with a ~~pleasant~~ in his own lingo--accompanied³⁵⁴
32 by a flourish of his tail--just as a news-boy
33 twirls his fingers with his thumb on his nose--&
34 inquires, does your mother know you are
35 out?

³⁵²transposition lines conclude here

³⁵³A cancelled caret appears below the hyphen

³⁵⁴"a" in "accompanied" appears to be written over "&"

1 when not so much as the bark of the paper
2 birch will be kept for evidence--about its decayed
3 stump.

4 The sides of the old³⁵⁶ Carlisle Road where it is
5 (& have for a long time been)
6 low & moist are ^ for many rods together & a rod
7 in width brown or cinnamon colored with the
8 withered dicksonia fern--not like the brown
9 of trees (the withered leaves) but a peculiar cinna-
10 bare the
11 mon brown. The ^ huckle berry bushes & ^ sweet ferns
12 are draped with them as a kind of mourning.

13 Solidago puberula--still out--For³⁵⁷ you see //
14 a few ~~soil~~ bright yellow solidago flowers long after
15 they are generally turned to a dirty white fuzzy top--

16 Pratt says he saw a few florets in a polygala //
17 sanguinea within a week-- He shows me samphire
18 plucked 3 weeks ago in {Brigthon} when it was
19 very brilliant crimson still. //

20 Looking for Pratt's window at sunset--I saw
21 that purple or rosy light reflected from some old
22 chestnut rails on the hill top before his house--
23 Methinks it is pinkish--even like the old cow drop-
24 pings in the pasture-- So universally does Nature
25 blush at last. The very herbage which has gone
26 through the stomach & intestines of the cow--acquires
27 at last a faint pinkish tinge.

28 The button bush balls--are now
29 blackish (really dark brown) & withered--looking
30 much blacker against the light than a
31 month ago.

32 Nov. 9th

33 It is remarkable that the only deciduous

³⁵⁶ "old" appears to be squeezed in between "the" and "Carlisle"

³⁵⁷The "F" in "For" appears to be written over "&"

1 trees in the town which now make any
2 show with their living leaves--are
3 only one
4 1) scarlet oaks-- perhaps ~~a few~~ 2) pop. Tremuliformis
5 3) 1 dogwood (the small white birch spangles hardly
6 (ie young trees)
7 deserved to be named--)
8 weeping willows some apples
9 S. alba the)) Horse chestnuts--
10 Silvery abele
11 Poplars (Ital) rarely wild pear trees
12 %some English cherries--orange or yellow%
13 The first 3 alone being indigenous
14 to 8 foreign
15 And of shrubs-- There are Jersey³⁵⁸ tea
16
17 Gooseberry
18 {2} kinds of Rose--
19 Perhaps sweet fern &
20 meadow sweet
21 ³⁵⁹also the lilac High blackberry
22 Quince The very few leaves
23 Buckthorn well leaved ³⁶⁰on Sallows
24 Broom vib. nudum
25 Privet high blueberry & perhaps
26 & Hawthorn C. sericea
27 do not deserve
28 Barberry
29 to be named
30 // Sweet briar pretty well leaved (is it foreign?) & hardly the 5 above
31
32 I have not seen the Bayberry
33 c. sericea³⁶¹ %v. below%
34 Or of shrubs 7 foreign to 6³⁶² native--& the last
35 much the least noticeable--& much the thinnest
36 leaved.
37 living
38 There are a very few ^ yellow leaves on young wild
39 cherries yet--but there are not nearly so much to be
40 NB {allowed} as the birch spangles %Also leaves on Green briar
41 ac. Nov. 11--55%
42 & add perhaps a few other shrubs

³⁵⁸"J" written over "j"

³⁵⁹ Wavy line connects "also the lilac" down to "Barberry". "Well leaved" seems to be a label for the group; it sits just to the right of the line.

³⁶⁰A large parenthesis connects "on Sallows" down to "C. sericea".

³⁶¹"c. sericea" cancelled in pencil

³⁶²"6" poss written over "5"

