where you go jumping¹ from one to
another– The fans are now dotted with
the minute reddish staminate flowers ready
to open– The skunk cabbage leaf
has expanded in one open place there–so it is at least as early as the hellebore of yesterday. Returning when near the Dove rock–saw a musquash crossing in front. He dived without noise in the middle of the river– & I saw by a bubble or two where he was crossing my course a few feet before my boat– He came up quietly amid the alders on my right & lay still there with his head & back partly out, His back looked reddish brown with a black grain inmixed.

I think that that white root washed up since the ice broke up–with a stout stem flat on one side & narrow green or yellowish leaf bud rolled up from each side with a figure in the middle is the yellow² lily– & prob I have seen no pontederia.

The white lily root is thickly clothed with a slate³ blue dew fur or felt close fitting– refracting prismatic colors under the microscope– but generally the slate color of the fur of most animals– & perhaps it is designed to serve a similar use–viz for warmth & dryness– The end of the root is abruptly rounded & sends forth leaves– & along the sides of the root are attached oval bulb-like off shoots an in or 2 inches long with very narrow necks– ready apparently to be separated soon from

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

Columella says that the best land is not
always black--& that the goodness of

land is not to be known by its color-- "For
as the strongest cattle are of diverse & almost
innumerable colors--so also the most robust
lands (robustissimae terrae) are of (sortitae sunt)
very many & various colors"--
Suggests various ways of testing the goodness of
the soil--sprinkling a little water on a
clod & kneading it with your hand, if it

like pitch as Virgil says
is glutinous, and sticks to your fingers ^ on
the slightest touch--or thrown down does
not crumble-- This proves that there is a
natural juice & fatness in it.

Also like Virgil--says if you dig a trench--& wish
to fill it up again & tread it down if, "cum
aliquo quasi fermento abundaverit with a
certain ferment as it were it shall (overflow) & be more than enough—certum erit esse eam pinguem, it will be a certain sign that that is fat—; if there shall not be enough, that it is lean; if it shall fill it up level (cum aequaverit) that it is middling."

We may distinguish it thus by the taste

Also "si ex ca parte agri—if from that part of the land, quae maxime displi-
cebit, which most displeases you—effosae glabae, clods being dug—et in fictili vase
madefactae, & soaked in an earthen vase, dulci aqua permisceuntur—

^ are thoroughly mixed with sweet water, ac more faeculenti vini diligenter colatae gustu explorentur, & being carefully strained like dreggy wine are are tried by tasting; ﬁ nam qualem traditum abeis retulerit humor saporem—for whatever taste the liquor may have got derived from them, talem esse dicemus ejus soli—such we shall say is the taste of that soil."^.

Sed citra hoc experimentum, but without this experiment there are many things—multa sunt quae et dulcem terram, et frumentis habilem indicate significant, which may show a sweet earth & fit for corn, ut juncus, ut calamus,

ut gramen, ut trifolium, ebulum, rubi, pruni silvestres, as the rush, the reed1, grass, {i} clover ({i}s trefoil) dwarf elder, brambles, wild plum2 trees, et alia complura, and very many other things, quae etiam indagatoribus aquarum nota,

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1"reed" possibly written over "read"  
2"plum" altered from "plums"
which are also known to searchers after water—,
non nisi dulcibus terrae venis educantur, are
not produced {but} by sweet veins of earth."

This too it would be well for the
man who plows our garden to remember—
We cultivate one field {to} solely for the sake
of the trees—yet a good part of them
were nearly ruined by a heedless plow man
whom we will never have come near it again
& last year a choice pear tree was
sadly barked—by the whiffletree of a wild horse
– My question is Can you plow without
touching a tree— Some plowers get
a wild ox fairly under a low tree with
his great horns well intertwined amid
the branches as in a net & then whip
him into a jig. I would rather have a
short plower with a little more indolem
"Boves cum ad arborem venerint, fortiter
retinere ac retardere, when the oxen
come to a tree he must strongly hold them
back & retard them, ne in radicem majore
nisu nisu vomis impactus colla commo-
veat—lest the plow-share being driven
with too great force against a root
give their necks a shock, neve aut cornu
bos ad stipitem vehementius offendat, or
an ox may strike his horn violently against
the stock, aut extremo jugo truncum
delibet–or with the extremity of the yoke may touch (or as if it were delabret–may bark) the trunk, ramumque deplantet & break off a branch, 4 Voce potius quam verberibus terrify
terreat–Let him frighten them rather with his voice than his lashes–"
Plowmen oxen & horses are still the same.

It is true Columella is looking out more for the oxen than the trees.

This chapter–headed "Quae cura adhibenda sit bubus ab opere disjunctis–What care is to be taken of the oxen when they are unyoked from work" reminds me of Hosmer's weary oxen–which did not receive such attention– "Boves cum ab bubuleus opere disjunxerit1, When he (i.e. the plowman) or herdsman has unyoked the oxen, substrictos confricet, let him rub them down while girt, manibusque comprimat dorsam, and press the back with his hands, et pellem revellat, and pull up the skin, nec patiatur corpori adhaerere, not let it adhere to the body, quia id genus morbi maxime est armentis noxiam for that kind of disease is most hurtful to oxen. Colla subigat, let him rub their necks, merumque faucibus, si aestaverint, infundat, & pour wine down their throats3 if they shall have been very hot. Satis autem est singulis binos sextarios praebere. But it is enough to give each 2 sextarii [i.e.

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1"x" inserted
2"not" poss written over "nor"
3"throats" altered from "through"
a little more than 2 wine pints] Sed ante ad praesepia boves relegari non expedit,–quam sudare atque anhelare desierint, but it is not expedient that the oxen be tied up to their stalls, till they have left off sweating & panting; cum deinde tempestive potuerint vesci, when afterward they can be fed seasonably, non multum, nec universum cibum, sed partibus, et

ve

paulatim praebere con^snit, it is not proper to give them much or the whole of their food, but part at a time & by degrees. Quem cum absumpserint, when they have consumed this, ad aquam duci oppor tent, they ought it is proper that they be led to water, sibiloque allectari, quo libentius bibant; and allured by whistling that they may drink more freely; tum demum reductos largiori pabulo satiari, then at length being led back be satisfied with a larger allowance of fodder."

Apr 24 ’56

A rain threatening April¹ day–sprinkles a little in the forenoon

P. m–to May-flower–

// The yellow willow peels fairly–prob. for several days– Its buds are bursting & showing a little green–at end of RR bridge. On money-digger’s shore much large yellow² lily root washed-up–that white root with white fibres & yellowish leaf buds–

¹"A" possibly written over "a"

²"yellow" written over "white"
I doubt if I have seen any pontederia this year– I find on the SE side of Lupine Hill nearly 4 rods from the water–& a dozen feet above its level–a young Emys picta 1 5/8 inches long & 1 1/2 wide– I think it must have been hatched year before last– It was headed up hill. Its rear above was already covered with some kind of green moss? or comp the like, which probably had adhered or grown to it in its winter quarters.

Warren Miles at his new mill tells me that he found a mud turtle–of middling size in his brook there last Monday–or the 21st I saw–a wood tortoise there. He has had it say & eels–about the shore of the pond which had ap. died in the winter–noticed several dead trout ^ washed up about his mill–some that would weigh a pound–and thought that they had been killed by that strong scented stagnant water–of his pond–. They could not get down–also ^ The cant get above his mill now– Apparently they were trying to get up the brook as usual and were stifled by that {green washy} water. He says that at his mill near the factory he used a small under shot wheel 18 inches in diameter for grinding lead he was prevented from grinding at night by the eels stopping the wheel– It was in August^ & they were going down stream. They never ran till about dark–nor after day light–but at that season

^"A" written over "a"
under
one would get into the wheel every five minutes & stop it--& it had to be taken out. There was not width enough beneath a small under shot one--i.e. between the wheel & the apron the wheel ^ to allow an eel of ordinary size to pass--& they were washed in side wize so as to shut this space up completely. They were never troubled by them when going up, which he thought was in April. At the factory they can some times catch a bushel in a night at the same time in the box of wire in which they wash wool. Said that they had a wheel at the Paper mills above which killed every eel that tried to go through.

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

// The Epigaea on the upper edge of the bank--shows a good deal of the pink and may open in 2 or 3 days if it is pleasant. Equisetum arvense by path beyond 2d brook prob yesterday XX As usual am struck with the forwardness of
patch of the dark & slender rush at the cowslip place. Returning in the low wood just this side the 1st 2d Div Brook—near the meadow—see a brown bird flit—& behold my hermit-thrush—& with one companion flitting silently through the birches— I saw the fox-color on his tail coverts—as well as the brown streaks on the breast— Both kept up a constant jerking of the tail as they sat on their perches.

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

In the pasture beyond nut meadow brook crossing the unsightly holes where rocks have been dug & blasted out— are now converted into perfect jewels— They are filled with water of crystalline transparency—paved with the same emerald with a few hardhacks & meadow sweets & jagged points of rock— standing in them ^ & a few skaters gliding over them. Even these furnish goblets & vases of perfect purity to hold the dews & rains— & what more agreeable bottom can we look to than— than this which the earliest moisture & sun had

\*\*\* cancelled in pencil
tinged green. We do not object to see
dry leaves & withered grass at the
bottom of the goblet when we drink,
if these manifestly do not affect
the purity of the water. What wells can
be more charming— If I see an early grass-
hopper drowning in one—it looks like
a fate to be envied. Here is no dark un-
explored bottom with its imagined monsters &
mud— but perfect sincerity setting off all
that it reveals. Through this medium
we admire even the decaying leaves & sticks
at the bottom— The brook had risen so
owing to Miles’ running his mill— that
I could not get over where I did going.
April wells call them— vases clean as
if enamelled—

There is a slight sea turn— I saw
it like a smoke beyond Concord from
Brown’s highland & felt the cool fresh
east wind— Is it not common this
early?

The old caterpillar nests which now lie on
the ground under wild cherry trees & which
the birds may use are a quite light colored
cotoney web close & thick matted— together
with the dried excrement of caterpillars & c on
the inside—
See a dog’s bane with 2 pods open
& partially curved backward on each side

\("w" written over "&" or "2" \)
but a third not yet open– This soon opens & scatters its down & seeds in
my chamber–

The outside is a dull reddish
or mahogany color but the inside is a singularly polished very pale brown
The inner bark of this makes a strong twine like that of the milkweed but there is not so much of it.
What is that now ancient & decayed–fungus
by the 1st May flowers–trumpet shaped with
a very broad mouth—the chief inner part green
the outer dark brown

Our earliest gooseberry leaf has spread //
1/3 of an inch or more–
Goodwin shot about 6 Pm & brought to
me a Cinereous coot Fulica Americana //
which was flying over the willows at Willow bay–where the water now runs up–

It measures 14 inches to end of tail
18 1/2 " " " " legs
Tail projects 1/2 inch beyond closed wings
Alar extent 26 inches.
These dimensions are somewhat stretched.
Above it is a bluish slate passing into olive
behind the wings—the primaries more brownish.
Beneath ash color or pale slate.
Head & neck uniform deep black.

Legs clear

^ green in front passing into lead

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1“These . . . stretched” written vertically upward close to the right margin, across five lines of text, four of which are about measurement
color behind & on the lobes.
Edging of wings white—also the tips of the
2nd aries for 1/4 of an inch—& a small space
under the tail—
Wings beneath very light almost silvery slate.
Vent for a small space black.
Bill bluish white—with a chestnut bar near tip—
and corresponding chestnut spot on each side of lower
mandible—& a some what diamond shaped chest-
ut spot at base in front—No noticeable yellow
on bill.
Irides reddish. No noticeable whitish spot beneath eyes—
only bare lid.
Legs & feet are very neat—Talons¹ very slender
curving & sharp—the middle ones 1/2 inch+ long.
Lobes chiefly on the inner side of the toes
Legs bare half an inch above the joint.

From its fresh & tender look I judge
it to be a last year's bird.
It is quite lousy.
Ac. to Nuttall—They range from 55° N Lat
to Florida & Jamaica—& west to Oregon (?)
& Mexico. Prob. breed in every part of N. A.
{even} in Fresh Pond—he would imply—but
their nests—eggs—& breeding habits are yet
unknown—Nocturnal—hiding by day. In
Florida in the winter. Come to Fresh Pond
in Sep—A pair there in April & seen with
young birds in June. When alarmed utter
a "hoarse krük" Called Flusterers in
Carolina ac to Lawson—because they fly
trailing their legs or pattering with them

¹"T" possibly altered from "t"
over the water—Food vegetables—also small shell fish—insects, gravel &c Leave the N states in November.

Ap. 25 '56

Minot tells me of David Wheeler of1 the Virginia Road—who used to keep an account of the comings & goings &c of animals. He was one of the few who knew to set a trap for a fox—so that he would get into it—scented it in a peculiar way perhaps—Brought one home once on his shoulder feigning death—which came to life suddenly in his entry & ran off with the trap.

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

Saw wasps about his door-yard. //

Pm. to Hill by boat

Sweet gale is out in some parts of the Island2 several birch meadow—next the Ind. field—prob. 2 or 3// at least days ^ in some places—Larch not yet sheds pollen ?

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

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1"of" written over "a"
2"I" written over "i"
The Wind is pretty strong & easterly– There are
many probably squatted about the edge
of the falling water–in merrick’s pasture–

// (The river began to fall again I think day before yesterday.)
It is a low terrene sound—the undertone of
indefinitely far
the breeze. Now it sounds low & ^ farther away,
now rises as if by general consent to a
as if in another & nearer quarter,—a singular alternation.
higher key, ^ The now universal hard metallic
ring of toads–blended & partially drowned by
the rippling wind– The voice of the toad, the
herald of warmer weather.

The cinquefoil well out I see 2 or 3 on the
// Hemlock dry plain—prob. a day or 2. I observe
A male grackle with a brownish head—& the
small female on one tree—red-wings on
another. Return over the top of the hill
against the— The great meadows now at
3 1/2 Pm–agitated by the strong Easterly
wind this clear day—when I look against
the wind with the sun behind me—look particularly
dark blue.

// Aspen bark peels how long? I landed
on Merricks pasture near the rock—& when
& drew it up
// I stepped out of my boat ^ a snipe flew up &
lit again 7 or 8 rods off— After trying in vain
several minutes
for some time to see it on the ground there—
I drew up my boat & I advanced a step &
to my surprise scared up 2 more which had
squatted on the bare meadow all the
while within a rod–while I drew up
my boat–& made a good deal of noise.
In short I raised up 12 one or 2 at a
time within a few rods, which were feeding on the ^ meadow just laid bare, each rising with a sound like squeak squeak hoarsely
That part of the meadow seemed all alive with them.
^ It is almost impossible to see one on the meadow they squat & run so low–& are so completely the color of the ground. They rise from within a rod fly half a dozen rods & then drop down on the bare open meadow before your eyes–where there seems stubble
not grass enough to conceal and are at once lost as completely as if they had sunk into the earth– I observed that some when finally scared rising quite from this island flew off ^ quite high one a few rods behind the other in their peculiar zigzag manner–rambling about high over the meadow making it uncertain where they would settle– lost sight of one & till at length I ^ saw the other^ drop down almost perpendicularly into the meadow–as it appeared–
5 Pm– Went to see Tommy Wheeler’s bounds– Warren miles had caught 3 more snapping turtles since yesterday– at his mill one middling sized one & 2 smaller– He said they could come down through his mill without hurt– Were they all bound down the brook to the river?
They all came down from the pond through the mill & another one I brought home one of the small ones–
the 7th of May q.v.
It was 7 1/8 inches long– – Put it in a firkin

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

Anne Karney our neighbor looking over her garden yesterday with my father saw what she said was Shamrock—\(^\text{1st}\) she had ever seen in this country—My father pointed it out to the Irishman who was working for him—& he was glad to see it for he had had a dispute with another Irish-man as to whether it grew in this country—& now he could convince him—& he put it in his pocket.

I saw it afterward—& pronounced it common white clover—& looking into Webster's dictionary I read—und. Shamrock—"The Irish name for a three-leafed plant, the Oxalis Acetosella, or common wood-Sorrel. It has been often supposed to be the Trifolium repens, white trefoil or white clover." This was very satisfactory—though perhaps Webster's last sentence should have been—the Trifolium repens has often been mistaken for it.

// At evening see a spearer's light.

\(^1\)"O" written over "o"
Worm piles about the doorstep this morning—how long?

Columella says p 190—De generibus seminum.—Prima et utilissima sunt hominibus frumenta, triticum, & semen adoremum—The first & most useful corns for men are—The Trans says—"Common¹ bare wheat—& bearded wheat"—

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

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

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

¹"C" written over "c"
nifies a mixture of wheat, barley, and such sorts of corn as bear ears, and not pods. Both Columella & Pliny say, it may be made of green barley alone. The word, which originally signified a mixture of several sorts, was afterwards used to express one sort; viz, farrago ex hordeo, forrage of green barley. Probably from this word comes the French word fourage, & the English word forrage."

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

The trans in a note there on medica says— "Father Hadouin says, it is now called great trefoil, or Burgundy hay, or luzern, more commonly saintfoin. Pliny calls it a foreign bush from Greece, & says that it was brought thither by the Medes1.—" & P. says that from once sowing it will last 30 years.

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

1"M" poss written over "m"
The translator—calls—*Phaseolus* kidney bean & says that Matthiolus describes several kinds of them—of various colors & that he says "that the grains of the white are less than the others, & are sown in the fields as other pulse;" others in gardens & climb upon cottages &c *Pisum* says trans from Pisa ac to *Matthiolus* because many grew there.

p 198 he says Ab his leguminibus—After these kinds of pulse—(i.e. ones above named) ratio est habenda naporum raporumque—account is to be had made of 'navews & turneps'; [says trans] nam utraque rusticos impleunt"—for both fill the bellies of rustics." Says the napus & rapum change into one another in some soils—

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

To sarchle, ac to the trans. meant not to weed but to open the surface of the earth—hardened by the winter—& let in the sun & says that Pliny calls this hardened state of the earth soli tristitian—the sadness of the earth or soil—"as if by the colds (says the trans.) the earth was made sad & depressed." Wheat barley &c were sarchled—beans & other pulse when 4 inches high v p. 202—& beans 3 times (Sarriendam the word this time—which means the same.

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

1"A" written over "a"
either in sowing trimestrian seed (which the trans
calls a kind of wheat sown in the spring which comes
to perfection in 3 months) or in carting hay &
fodder & dung, and other things we have occasion¹ to use.

205–3 kinds of dung—that of fowls, men, &
cattle—of fowls that of pigeons the best.

The dung of cattle holds the 3d place—and of this that
of the ass is the best, that of swine the worst—deterri-
mum. They were to scatter the dust of fowl-
dung by hand as if sowing—over the corn crop—

So guano is nothing new

before hoe sarcling it. ^ Lupins were plowed in
to enrich the land.

208 Of the pratum he says that the antient Romans—
Nomen quoque indiderunt ab eo, quod protinus esset
paratum, nec magnum laborem desideraret.—&
C says that Cato recommended the pratum
Quod nec tempestatibus affligeretur affligeretur,
ut aliae partes ruris—because it did not
suffer from stormy weather like the other parts
of the farm—& also afforded both pasturage
& hay. There were 2 kinds of pratum
wet & dry.

gathered the 23d

// The white cedar ^ does not shed pollen in house till today
& I doubt if it will in swamp before to-morrow—v. 29th
day after

// Monroes larch will apparently by ^ to-morrow XX

// The white birch at Clam shell—which I tapped
long ago still runs—& is partly covered with a
pink froth— Is not this the only {birch} which
shows the colored froth—as its sap is the
most tinged & most inclined to ferment–
--a sort of mother which is left on the
bark--& in the hole--

Looked over hastily the 1st 200 lines of Lu-
cretius--but was struck only with the lines
referring to Promethius--whose vivida vis
anima-- --"extra
Processit1 longe flammantia moenia mundi"

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

209 &c-- Deinde viciam permistam seminibus
foeni seremus, tum glebas sarculis resolvemus, et
inducta crate coaequabimus, grumosque, quos
ad versuram plerunque tractae faciunt crates,
dissipabimus ita, ut necubi ferramentum
foenisecae possit offendere.-- Afterwards2 we
will sow vetch mixed with the grass seed,
then break up the clods with hoes, and
level with a (bush?) harrow, & dissipate
the hillocks which for the most part the
harrows make at the turning so that
the scythe of the mower may no where
strike any thing."-- --
When the vetch is thoroughly ripe so as to have
scattered some of its seeds--tum foenisecam
messorem opportet inducere, et desectam herbam
reiligare, et exportare--then we must
bring on the the mower, & bind up the cut
grass & carry it off.

1"P" written over "p"
2"wards" added to "After"
The 2\textsuperscript{d} year he let smaller cattle (minora pecora) into the pratu after haying if it was dry & hard enough--& the 3\textsuperscript{d} year the larger cattle.

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

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

If it cannot be put into barns or bundled up--at least--in metas extrui conveniet, easque ipsas in angustissimos vertices.
exacui—it should be stacked up in hay-cocks (cones), & they should be sharpened off to the narrowest points. As on the Sudbury Meadows—

In reaping corn they used various kinds of scythes or sickles—& perhaps, ac to the translator, the falx versiculatae (or vericulatae?) was the cradle used in his day in Kent! –The merga was an instrument for reaping "which no doubt took its name, as Festus says, from fowls which dive into the water, and rise up again in a different; for, as these dive in pursuit of the fish, so the reapers plunge this small forked instrument into the corn, that they may lift up handfuls of it—" Trans' note.

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

212 Among the things lawful to do on holidays— Feriis autem ritus majorum etiam illa permittit, far pinsere, faces incidere, candelas sebare, vineam conductam colere; piscinas, lacus, fossas veteres tergere, et purgare, prata sicilire, stercora aequare, foenum in tabulata componere, fuctus oliveti conductos cogere, mala, pyra, ficos, pandere, caseum facere, arbores serendi causa, collo afferre vel mulo clitellario afferret, sed junco advehere non permittitur, nec apportata serere, neque terram aperire, neque arberem collucare; sed ne sementem quidem administrare, nisi prius catulo faere & feceris;—&c &c
But the custom of our ancestors also permitted these things on holidays, to pound wheat, cut torches, make candles, cultivated a hired vineyard, clear out & purge fish-ponds, ponds, & old ditches, mow grass ground a 2nd time, spread dung, store up hay on scaffolds, gather the fruit of a hired olive yeard, spread apples, pears, & figs, make cheese, bring home trees for the sake of planting on our shoulders or on a pack-mule, but not with one harnessed to a cart, nor to plant them when brought home, nor to open the ground, nor prune a tree, not even to attend to sowing seed, unless you have first sacrificed a puppy.—

This reminds me of my bringing home an apple tree on my shoulder one sunday—& meeting the stream of meeting-goers who seemed greatly outraged—but they did not know whether I set it out or not that day—or but that I sacrificed a puppy if I did.

Columella says p 213 M. Porcius Cato Mulis, equis, assinis, nullas esse ferias dixit. M. Porcius Cato says there are no sundays for mules horses & asses.

In this country they must drag their masters to meeting at least.

Or these I find are Cato’s words—mulis, p. 41
equis, assinis, feriae mullae, nisi si in
familia sunt. (unless they are family ones (?))

Palladius says p 516 Necessitas¹
feriis caret.– Necessity knows no Sundays (holidays
perchance here?)

Columella—speaking of the care of trees (arborum)
among which he includes vines—says "quae pars
rei rusticae vel maxima est."

p 275—Actus quadratus undique finitur
pedibus cxx. hoc duplicatum facit jugerum, et
ab eo, quod erat junctum, nomen jugeri usur-
pavit;—A square actus is bounded on every
side by 120 feet; this doubled makes a jugerum,
and from that, because it was junctum, it
obtained the name jugerum. Ac. to Eng. Trans.

Hardouin corrected a wrong reading of Pliny
—(jugerum instead of jugum) (for Varro says—
that in further Spain jugum vocant, quod
juncti boves uno die exarare possunt.)
& Pliny afterwards speaks of the jugerum as something
not named before. That wrong reading was
the origin of the supposition that a jugerum was
what a yoke of oxen could plow in a day.

2 00 acres or jugera were in Columellas
day—called a centuria of land though originally
that name was given to centum jugeribus "as", ac.

(tribus)
to varro Columella, "the tribes ^ were so called
from the people being divided into 3 parts,
which nevertheless being now multiplied

¹"N” written over "n"
retain the old name." When I quote the Eng. 
translator, I say so.
The latter sums up the several parts 
of the jugerum mentioned by Columella &
from his table I quote—this

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural Unit</th>
<th>Fraction</th>
<th>Standardized Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Divinidium Scrupulum&quot;</td>
<td>1/576</td>
<td>Also gives the values more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrupulum</td>
<td>1/288</td>
<td>exactly in Rom. &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duo Scrupula</td>
<td>1/144</td>
<td>in Eng. feet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sextula</td>
<td>1/72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sicilicus</td>
<td>1/48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semuncia</td>
<td>1/24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncia</td>
<td>1/12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sextans</td>
<td>1/6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Quadraus</td>
<td>1/4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triens</td>
<td>1/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quincunx</td>
<td>5/12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semis</td>
<td>1/2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septunx</td>
<td>7/12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bes</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodrans</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dextans</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Deunx</td>
<td>11/12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jugerum.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This shows how much occasion the
Romans must have had to speak of & distinguish
small areas of land.
p 288 After speaking of the elm— Sed vitem
maxime opulus (supposed by trans. an error for populus)
videtur alere, deinde ulmus, postetiam fraxi-
nus. Opulus quia raram, neque idoneam frondem pecori praeabet, a plerisque repudiata est. Fraxinus, quae capris et ovibus gratissima est, nec inutilis bubus, locis asperis, montosis, quibus minus laetatur ulmus, recte seritur. Ulmus, quod et vitem commodissime patitur, et jucundissimum pabulum bubus affert, variisque generibus soli provenit, a plerisque reseritur. (The last word is trans. by preferred as if it were praeferitur in the Eng. trans. copy.)

p 300 He enumerates 17 kinds of pears, & says that there are "quaedam alia too numerous to mention" among the names are regia the royal–purple, the purple, superba the superb, or-dacea, the barley pear (ripe at barley harvest ac. to Lateritana (prob. from its brick color, says Trans.) Pliny, says Trans.) volema the hand-filling (also called libralia–pound pears, says the Trans.) Musa, honey, praecocia, early-ripe, venerea venus pears (from their beauty.)

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

Cytisus is translated shrub-trefoil–good for fodder.

306 Says that the ox ought to be honored above all other cattle–among other reasons "quod inter fulgentissima sidera particeps caeli: quod deinde (beside) laboriosissimus adhuc hominis socius in agricultura; cujus tanta
fuit apud antiquos veneratio, ut tam(ēa) capitale 
esset bovem necasse, quam civem."—

Ap. 27th '56

P. m up Assabet

I find none of Monroe's¹ larch buds shedding pollen—but the² anthers look crimson & yellow & the female flowers are now 
fully expanded & very pretty but small— I

? think it will first scatter pollen tomorrow—

Ap. a small bull frog—by river side—
though³ it looks somewhat like a R. fontinalis 
—also 2 or 3 of R. palustris in that
well of Monroes—which have jumped in over
the curb. perhaps.

I see quite a number of tortoise out sunning 
just on the edge of the Hosmer meadow—
which is rapidly becoming bare— Their backs shine 
from far in the sun. Also one E. {insculpta} out
higher up. From close by I hear a

red-wing's clear loud whistle—not squeak—
—(which I think may be confined to the grackle)⁴—
it is like ptéa pté-a or perhaps without
the p.

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

¹"M" written over "m"
²"the" written over "they"
³"though" written over "&"
⁴Paren written over dash
I think that the pig: woodpeckers must be building they frequent the old aspen now so much. At the hemlocks I see a rocks which has been moved since last fall 7 or 8 feet into the river—though the ground is but little descending—the rock is about $5\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}$ foot. I see what looks like a rather large devil's needle coursing over the low osiers in Pinxter swamp—Is it not early for one? The white birch which I tapped in V. palmata swamp still runs—& the holes are full of & the base of the tree covered with a singular sour tasted rather hard crusted & white (not pink) froth. & a great many of those flat beetles (?) lightening bug like & flies &c are sucking it.

Ap 28 '56

I believe it was this morning {–} there was quite a fog. Surveying the Tommy Wheeler Farm–

Again as so many times I reminded of the advantage to the poet—& philosopher—& naturalist—& whomsoever—of pursuing from time to time some other business than his chosen one—Seeing with the side of the eye—The poet will so get visions which no deliberate abandonment can secure—The philosopher is so forced to recognize principles—which long study might not detect—& the naturalist even will stumble upon some

\[^1\]This mark has been construed as a minus sign, but it may be a dash.
\[^2\]This mark has been construed as a minus sign, but it may be a dash.
\[^3\]This mark has been construed as a minus sign, but it may be a dash.
new & unexpected flower or animal. Mr. Newton with whom I rode thought that there was a peculiar kind of Sugar maple which he called the white-knew of a few in the middle of Framingham & said that there was one on our common.

How promising a simple–unpretending quiet somewhat reserved man–whether among generals–or scholars–or farmers! How rare an equanimity & serenity which are an encouragement to all observers! Some–youthfulness–some manliness–some goodness– Like Tarbell–a man ap– made a deacon on account of some good–ness–& not on ac. of some hypocrisy & badness as usual.

? Is not the Hub– Ditch plant the same I see in a Nut Meadow pool–& a re–markable evergreen? with much slime & many young snails on it?

I hear today frequently the seezer seezer seezer of the Black & White // creeper–or what I have referred to that Can it be Myrtle birds?

from J.¹ P. Brown's wood bounding on Dugan– It is not a note nor a bird to attract at–tention–only suggesting still warmer weather–that the season has revolved so // much further. See, but not yet hear, the familiar chewink amid the dry leaves –amid the underwood on the meadow's

¹"J." altered from "P."
edge. Many anemone nemorosas in full bloom—at the further end of yel—thistle meadow—in that warm nook by the brook—some prob. a day or 2 there—I think that they are thus early on ac. of Miles’ dam having broken away & washed off all the snow for some distance there in the latter part of the winter—long before it melted elsewhere—It is a warm corner under the S side of a wooded hill—where they are not often—if ever before—flooded. As I am measuring along the Marlboro Road—a fine little blue-slate butterfly fluttered over the chain. Even its feeble strength was required to fetch the year about. How daring even rash Nature¹ appears who sends out butterflies so early{—}? Sardanopalus-like—she loves extremes—& contrasts.

I began to survey the meadow there early—before miles’ new mill had been running long this Monday morning—& flooded it—but a great stream of water was already rushing down the brook—& it almost ran over our boots in the meadow before we had done. Observing the young p. pines by the road S of Loring’s lot that was so heavily wooded Geo. Hubbard remarked that if they were cut down oaks would spring up—& sure enough looking across the road to where Lorings White pines recently

¹"N" written over "n"
stood so densely—the ground was all
covered with young oaks— {Mem.} let
me look at the site of some thick pine woods
Eg. the p. pines on Thrush alley—& the Wht pines on Cliffs—also at Baker’s Chest-
nuts—& the chestnut lot on the Tim. Brooks farm.
which I remember—& see what has sprung up.
This was a very pleasant—or rather warm
day—looking a little rainy—but on
our return the wind changed to easterly
// & I felt the cool fresh sea-breeze—
This has been a remarkably pleasant
& I think warm spring— We have not had
the usual sprinklings of snow—having had
so much in the winter—none since I
can remember— There is none to come down
out of the air.

Ap. 29th ’56
// Was awakened early this morning by thunder
& some rain—the 2d thunder shower of the season—
but it proved a fair day. At mid forenoon
// {—}saw a fish-hawk flying leisurely over the house
North-easterly.

Pm—to Cedar Swamp—
Monroe’s larch—staminate buds, have now
erected & separated their anthers—& they look—
somewhat withered—as if they had shed a part
// of their pollen. if so—they began yesterday.

It was quite warm when I first came out
—but about 3 Pm I felt a fresh
easterly wind—& saw quite a mist
// in the distance produced by it—a sea turn

’?; There was the same phenomenon yesterday

"?;" cancelled in pencil
at the same hour--& on the 24th ult later in the day-- Yet today the air was not much cooled-- Your first warning of it may be the seeing a thick mist on all the hills & on the horizon. The wind is S. E. I see great devils needles--whiz ed by--coupled

Do not sail well till I reach Dove Rock--there glide swiftly up the stream. I move upward against the current with a moderate but fair wind--the waves somewhat larger prob. because the wind contends with the current-- The sun is in my face & the {w}aves look particularly lively & sparkling-- I can steer & write at the same time-- They gurgle under my stern, in haste to fill the hollow which I have created-- The waves seem to leap & roll like porpoises with a slight surging sound when their tops crests break--& I feel an agreeable sense that I am swiftly gliding over & through them, bound on my own errands, while their motion is chiefly but an undulation--& an apparent one-- It is pleasant--exhilarating to feel the boat tossed up a little by them from time to time-- perhaps a wine-drinker would say it was like the effect of wine-- It is flattering to a sense of power to make the
wayward wind our horse—& sit with
our hand on the tiller. Sailing is much
like flying—& from the birth of the race
men have been charmed by it.
Near the little larch scared a small dark
brown hawk from an apple tree which flew
off low to another apple tree beside Barrett's
Pond— just before he flew again I saw with
my glass that his tail was barred with white—
Must it not be a pigeon hawk then? He looked
a dark slate as he sat with tawny white
thighs & under head—far off. He soon started
a 3d time & a crow seemed to be in chase of
him. I think I have not described this white
barred hawk before—but for the black
barred V May 8 ’54 & Ap. 16 ’55.
The White cedar now sheds pollen abundantly
many flowers are effete—though many are
not open—prob. it began as much as 3 days
ago. I strike a twig & its peculiar pinkish pollen
fills the air. Sat on the knoll in the
swamp—now laid bare. How pretty a red
maple in bloom (they are now in prime) seen
in the sun against a pine wood—like these
little ones in the swamp against the neigh-
bor ing wood—they are so light & etherial
not a heavy massed of color impeding
the passage of the light—& they are of so
cheerful & lively a color—

1"this" written over "these"
The pine warbler is heard very much now at mid day—when already most birds are quiet. It must be the female which has so much less yellow beneath.

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

A pig. woodpecker alights on a dead cedar top—near me— Its cackle thus near sounds like eh eh eh eh eh &c rapidly & emphatically repeated.

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

Barn swallows & chimney with white-bellied swallows are flying together over the river— I thought before that I distinguished the twitter of the chimney swallow

Ap. 30th

Surveying the Tommy Wheeler Farm—
A fine morning. I hear the first brown-thrasher singing within 3 or 4 rods of me on the shrubby hill side in front of the Hadley place— I think I had a glimpse of one darting down from a sapling top into the bushes as I rode by the same place on the morning of the 28th?

This I think is the very place to hear them early—a dry hill side sloping to the south covered with youn wood & shrub oaks— I am the more at-
tracted to that house as a dwelling place—
to live where you would hear the first
brown thrasher—First perchance you
have a glimpse of one’s ferruginous long
brown back—instantly lost amid the
shrub oaks—& are uncertain if
it was a thrasher, or one of the other
thrushes—& your uncertainty lasts
commonly a day or 2 until its rich &
varied strain is heard. Surveying seemed
a noble employment which brought
me within hearing of this bird. I was trying
to get the exact course of a wall
thickly beset with shrub oaks—& birches—
making an opening through them with axe
& knife—while the hill side seemed to
quiver or pulsate with the sudden melody.
Again it is with the side of the ear
that you hear—the music or the
beauty belong not to your work itself
but some of its accompaniments.
You would fain devote yourself to
the melody, but you will hear more
of it if you devote yourself to your
work. Cutting off the limbs of a
young white pine in the way of my compass
// I find that it strips freely—How long this?
By the time I have run through
to the Harvard Road I hear the small
// Peewee’s tchevét repeatedly—
The Italian with his hand organ stops to stare at my compass, just as the boys are curious about his machine. We have exchanged places. As I go along the Assabet a Peetweet skims away from the shore. The canoe birch sap still flows—It is much like that of the White—and is now pink white & yellow on the bark.

Bluets out on the bank by Tarbell's spring brook may be a day or 2—

This was a very warm, as well as pleasant day, but at one o'clock—there was the usual fresh easterly wind & sea turn before night it grew quite cold for the season—The regularity of the recurrence of this phenomenon is remarkable. I have noticed, at least on the 24th late in the day—the 28 & the 29th about 3 Pm—and to-day at 1 Pm. It has been the order—Early in the afternoon—or between one and 4—the wind changes (I suppose, though I did not notice its direction in the Am) & a fresh cool wind from the sea produces a mist in the air.

About 3 1/2 Pm, when it was quite cloudy as well as raw, & I was measuring along the river just S of the bridge, I was surprised by the great number of swallows—white-bellied

1Possibly "&c"
barn & chimney swallows & perhaps? republican? flying round & round or skimming very low over the meadow just laid bare only a foot above the ground—Either from the shape of the hollow—or their circling they seemed to form a circular flock 3 or 4 rods in diameter & one swallow deep—There were 2 or 3 of these centres & some birds equally low over the river. It looked like rain—but did not rain that day or the next. Probably their insect food was flying at that height over the meadow at that time. There were a thousand or more of swallows—and I think that they had recently arrived together on their migration—only this could account for there being so many together. We were measuring through one little circular meadow—and many of them were not driven off by our nearness—The noise of their wings & their twittering was quite loud.

May 1st

6 Pm to Hill

// I judge that the larch blossomed when & yellow the anthers began to be loose & dry on their edges. Say then the 28th XX The water on the meadows is rapidly going // down— I am now confined to the river for the most part. The water begins to feel
as warm or warmer than the air when cool.

The scrolls of the ferns clothed in wool
at Sassafras shore 5 or 6 inches high
Thalictrum anemonoides well out—prob
a day or 2—same shore by the apple trees

Viola ovata \* X on SW side of hill high up near pines. How pleasing that early purple grass in smooth water—half a dozen long \{straight\} purple blades of different lengths but about equal width close together & exactly parallel resting flat on the surface of the water. There is something agreeable in their parallelism & flatness.

From the hill top I look over Wheeler's maple swamp—the maple tops are now I would say a bright brick \{-\}red— it is the red maple's reign now as the peach & the apple will have theirs— Looking over the swamps 1/4 of a mile distant—you see dimly defined crescents of bright brick red above & amid a maze of ash colored branches.

**white throat**

**May 2\textsuperscript{nd} The tea lee of the yel\textsuperscript{1}—**

**sparrow**

rump warbler—in the street—

At the end of a cool rainy day--

**May 3\textsuperscript{d}**

Another cool rainy day

A staminate balm of gilead at Poplar

\*"yel" canceled in pencil
by Peter’s¹ path— Many of the catkins fallen & effete in the rain—but many anthers still red & unopen. Prob—began 5 or 6 days ago.

May 4ᵗʰ '56

Pm. to Cedar swamp via Assabet

Among others I see republican

// swallows flying over river at Island.
Again I see, as on the 3⁰ of April—swallows flying low over Hosmer's meadow—over water—though comparatively few— About a foot above the water about my boat are many of those little fuzzy gnats—& I suspect that it is these they are attracted by. (on the 6ᵗʰ our house being just painted) the paint is peppered with the myriads of the same insects which have stuck to it. They are of various sizes though all small—and there are a few shad-flies² also caught— They are particularly thick on the coping under the eaves where they look as if they had been dusted on—& dense swarms of them are hovering within a foot. Paint a house now & these are the insects you catch. I suspect it is these fuzzy gnats that the swallows of the 3⁰ were catching

The river is gone down so much—though checked by the rain of the 2ⁿᵈ & 3ᵈ,
that I now observe the tortoises on the bottom–a sternothaerus among them. //

Hear the, something like–twe twe twe twe twe twe, ter té te twe twe–of the myrtle bird & see the bird on the swamp white oaks by Island. //

The aspen there just begun to leaf–not quite the wht maple–I observe that the river meadows–especially Hosmers–are divided by 2 or more ridges & vallies (–the latter alone now covered with water & so revealed) parallel with the river. The same phe-nomenon–but less remarkable on the Wheeler meadow. Are they the traces of old river banks–or where in freshets the current of the river meets the meadow current & the sediment is deposited?

which just peeps out

See a Peet weet on Dove Rock–^ As soon as the rocks begin to be bare the Peet-weet comes & is seen teetering on them & skimming away from them. Having fastened my boat at the maple–met on the bank just above Luke Dodge–whom I met in a boat fishing up that way once or twice last summer–& previous years–Was surprised to hear him say–"I am in my 83d year" – He still looks pretty strong & has a voice like a nutmeg-grater–Within 2 or 3 years at most I have seen him walking with that remarkable gait–It is encouraging
to know that a man may fish & paddle on this river in his 83d year. He says he is older than Winn—though not the oldest man in the town—Mr Tolman is in his 86th year.

Went up Dodges (an Englishman who once lived up it—& no relation of the last named) Brook & across Barretts dam. In the

// Cedar Swamp A. Calyculata abundantly
// out how long? Viburnum nudum leafing
// Smilacina trifolia recently up—will ap. open in 10 or 12 days

At the dam am amused with the various curves of jets of water which leak through at different heights. According to the

[diagram]

pressure—For the most part a piece in Bewick of Land { } from 2 holes

thin sheet was falling smoothly over the top—
& knowledge of {what shewn}
& cutting short off some smaller jets from the 1st crack (on edge of the 1st plank) leaving them like white spikes seen through the water—The dam leaked in a hundred places between & under the planks & there were as many jets of various

// size & curve. Shadflies on the water
// schooner like—See & hear a goldfinch—on the ground—

May 6th
To Clam shell by river—

// // Our earliest currant out X Oat spawn showing little polly wogs (?) in meadow water—The Horse chestnut & Mt

---

1“trifolia” inserted
2“Shadflies” written over ‘Shadfly’
ash leafing–gnawel out at clam shell   // //
how long? cerastium out there under the   //
bank. That early white birch there was   //
about done running sap. Eq– sylvaticum   //
a day or 2 on the ditch bank there.

Wednesday May 7th '56
fresh easterly wind.

2– Pm to Bearberry on Major Heywood Road.
In Dea. Hosmers{–}Barn meadows hear the
dout dout of a bull frog.   //
In the first hollow in the bank–this side
of Clam Shell–where sand has been dug for
the meadow–are a hundred or more bank-
\[at 2 P. m.\]
swallows ^–(I suspect I have seen them for some
time–) engaged in prospecting & digging
their holes–& circling about– It is a snug
place for them (though the upright

portion of the bank is only 4 or 5 feet high–)
a semicircular recess facing the SE. Some
I see it cast out of the holes behind them
are within scratching out the sand–^ others
\[^\]
others on the flat sandy space beneath in front
hanging on to the entrance of the holes–^ & others
circling about a dozen rods off over the
meadow– Theirs is a low dry grating twitter
or rather rattle–less metallic or musical than
the vite vite & twittering notes of barn & white-
bellied swallows.– They are white bellied–dark
winged & tailed–with a crescent of white nearly
around the lower part of the neck–& mouse-
colored heads & backs– The upper & greater
part of this hawk is a coarse sliding gravel
& they build only in the perpendicular & sandy

\[^\text{Caret written below dash}\]
part. (I sit & watch them within 3 or 4 rods) & close to the upper part of it. While I am looking they all suddenly with one consent take to wing & circle over the hill side & meadow— As if they chose to work at making their holes a little while at a time only— I find the holes on an average about a foot deep only as yet—some but a few inches—

In the mean while I hear through this fresh raw E. wind the te-a-lea of myrtle birds from the woods across the river

? // The bearberry will perhaps open to-morrow. ^ XX
// I hear the evergreen forest note close by—& hear & see many myrtle birds at the same time that I hear—what I have called the black & white creeper's note—
? Have I ever confounded them?

Over the edge of Miles' Mill Pond now running off— a bumble-bee—goes humming over the dry brush—
I think I saw one on the 5th also— Miles began last night to let the water run off— The pond falls about 3 inches in 24 hours. The brook below is full of fishes suckers—pouts—eels—trouts endeavoring to get up—but his dam prevents. This morning his young man killed a number of pouts & eels & suckers with a shovel— Here he comes now at 4 Pm with a spear—& raises the gate—

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1"over" possibly altered from "of"
2"myrtle" cancelled in pencil
& waits a few moments for the water which was 2 or 3 feet deep just below the mill to run off–& then I see a good sized trout–4 or 5 pouts–& several suckers–& one eel still making their way upward–though the water hardly covers their backs– They do not turn & go down the stream with the water which is thus suddenly and rapidly let off– Meanwhile this young man picks out half a dozen pouts eels & suckers with his spear–20 rods down the brook I saw many more suckers trying to make their way & one large eel squirming directly over an indifferent wood turtle–up– They found it difficult now to get {concluding} to go down the stream–but it soon hid under a projecting bank over the bars where the water was very shallow & were sometimes confined to the hollows between. I saw 2 or 3 in company trying to squeeze through a narrow passage under some alder boughs which was blocked up by 2 spotted tortoises The pouts &c would suddenly bury themselves in the sand or mud–& be lost. The fishes seemed unwilling to turn & go down the brook–& for the most part would come so near in the shallow water that they could easily be struck with the spear– The water thus suddenly let off there were many spotted & wood tortoises seen crawling about on the bottom. One little snapping (making the 5th of its species here) 3 1/2 inches long going down
a few inch rods below the dam. This like the larger ones going down the brook—where to? & why? He can not be old enough to breed yet & it is too early to be laying at the desert.

This young snap. turtle was very strong scented—Its tail appeared particularly long—as long as its shell & very tapering—& very distinctly & sharply heeled—The 1st half doze of its dorsal serrations were very prominent & sharp—& its bill was very sharp—also. ^ There were tracks of other kinds of tortoises— Its head was as large as that of an other turtles on the sandy bank. The ordinary wood tortoise.

young man said that the eels came through along as many as 3 in an hour in the night— & this morning there were a great many of them about the wheel— Last fall (this dam being made late in the fall) they found in the hollow under the wheel which they bailed out 16 trout which weighed 8 lbs. It is surprising how many fishes will run up & breed in such a little brook as this. The fishes generally would conceal themselves in the mud under a projecting bank—or in some deep hole in the sand in mid channel which communicated with the mud beneath.

One of those larger snapping turtles seized the one I had by the head & they braced & struggled awhile—

The miller now raises his gate & lets his pond—run off— Do they not generally earlier?
For a week the road has been full of cattle going up country.

Columella in the chapter De Canibus—p 353 says
Villae custos eligendus est amplissimi corporis. The Guardian of the villa is to be selected of most ample body, vasti tatrus canorique, of powerful & sounding bark, ut prius auditu maleficum, deinde etiam conspectu villain terreat, that he may frighten the evil-doer first by the hearing & afterwards also by the sight (of himself)—et tamen nonnunquam, ne visus quidem, horribili fremitu suo fuget insidiantem, sit autem and yet sometimes, when not even he may seen, let him put him lying in wait to flight by his horrible growling. Sit autem coloris unius, isque magis eligatur albus in pastorali, niger in villatico; But let him be of one color, and that rather ^ black for a shepherd dog—& black for a house dog." (The former white that the shepherd may distinguish him from a wolf in the twilight & not strike him—)

x x x "Villaticus, qui hominum maleficis opponitur, sive luce clara fur advenerit, terribilior niger conspicitur; sive nocte, ne conspicitur quidem propter umbrae similitudinem; The house-dog, which is opposed to the evil-doing of men, when the thief may have approached by broad day is to behold light appears more terrible ^ if black; or if by night, he is not seen at all
on account of his resemblance to the darkness. quamobrem tectus tenebris canis tutiorem accessum habeat ad insidiantem. wherefore concealed by the darkness he may have a safer access to him lying in wait. Probatur quadratus, potius quam longus aut brevis, one of a square form is approved, rather than long or short, capite tam magno, ut corporis videatur pars maxima, with a head so big that it may seem the greatest part of the body, dejectis et propendentibus auribus, with falling ears & hanging before, nigris vel glaucis oculis acris lumine radiantibus with black or glaucous (?) eyes radiating a sharp light amply villosque pectore, with an ample & shaggy breast–, latis armis, cruribus crassis et hirtis, cauda brevi, broad shoulders legs (shanks) thick & rough, short tail, vestigiorum articulis et unguibus amplissimis, qui Graece δζαχαι appellantur–and very large toes & nails, which in Greek are called δζαχαϊ.

Hic erit villatici canis status praecipue laudandus. This will be the form &c of a house dog particularly to be praised. Mores autem, neque mitissimi, neque rursus truces atque crudeles, quod illi furem quoque adulantur, hi etiam domesticos invadunt; But let his manners be neither very gentle, nor yet fierce & cruel, for the former fawn on the thief

1"&" possibly inserted
2"acri" possibly canceled
also, the latter attack even the domestics; *satis esse severos esse nec blandos,* it is enough &
if they are *neither* severe *not* mild, *est non-nunquam etiam conservos iratius intueantur,*
*semper excandescant in exteros,* so that sometimes they may even look rather angrily at their fellow servants, always be in a fume toward strangers. *Maxime autem debent in custodia vigilaces conspici,* nec erronei, *sed assidui,* *et circumspecti magis magis quam temerarii:*
But especially they ought to be seen vigilant in guarding, not wandering about, but assiduous and circumspect rather than
*{rash}* inconsiderate; *nam illi nisi quod certum comperunt,* *non indicant; hi vano strepitus,*
et falsa suspicione concitantur. for in
the former case they do not indicate it when they have discovered something aroused
*{unfounded}* by an insignificant noise & false suspicion.

*Nec multum referit an villatici corporibus graves,* *et parum veloces sint;* Nor is it of much consequence if the house dogs are heavy of body & not swift; *plus enim cominus et in gradu* & *quam eminus et in spatioso cursu*
*trans. says on the steps? facere debent; for they are to do more {close at hand & *at a slow pace *than far off {–}*
{ }*

in distant coursing, *nam semper circa septa,*
*{running}*
et intra aedificium consistere, imo ne longius quidem recedere debent, for they ought always
to stand about the enclosures & in the house, never

yea & not go further off, satisque pulchre
funguntur officio, si et adveniementem sagaciter
odoriantur, et latratu conterrent; and they
do their duty sufficiently well, if they attack (?) sagaciously him who approaches, & terrify
him with their barking; nec patiuntur
propius accedere, vel constantius ap-
propinququantem violenter invadunt.
nor suffer him to approach nearer, or
violently attack him who steadily approaches;
primum est {enim} non abstentari, se-
cundum est lacessitum fortiter et perseveranter
vindicari— for the first thing is not to be

(Trans. attached (?)
corrupted), the 2d being provoked bravely
& perseveringly to defend. x x x (Again1
at bot of p 354) Nominibus2 autem non lon-
gissimis appellandi sunt, quo celerius quisque
vocatus exaudiat: But they are not to be
called by very long names, that each being
called may hear the more quickly; nec
tamen brevioribus, quam quae duabus syl-
labis enuntiantur, nor yet by shorter
than may be pronounced by 2 syllables,
sicuti Graecum est σχυλαξ, Latinum
ferox; Graecum λέχων, Latinum celer; vel
femina, ut sunt Graeca σπουδΥ, αλγΥ, ρώμη;
*Latina, lupa, cerva, tigris.* "like the Greek ὀχυλάξ, Latin ferox, Greek λαχων, Latin celer, or female like the Greek, σπουδη, αλχΥ, ρώμη, Latin lupa, cerva, tigris."

...cut off their tails—for shepherds thought it prevented their going mad.

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

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

Both Columella & Varro agree that the rustic or Silvestres gallinae do not breed in captivity.
Columella—speaking of De Palumbis et Columbis—says they are bred with least care in distant regions where they are not likely to be caught—in fowlers’ snares or on the

tissimis aedificiis assignatas sedes frequentant patentibus fenestras, per quas ad requirendos cibos evolitant. Duobos tamen aut tribus mensibus acceptant condititia cibaria, caeteris seipsas pascunt seminibus agrestibus.

In the chapter De comparandis apibus, et quemadmodum silvestria examina capiantur of buying bees & how wild swarms may be taken.—this—Ubicunque saltus sunt idonei, mellifici, nihil antiquius, quam apes, quibus utantur, vicinos eligunt fontes: Where there are suitable woods, yielding honey, one of the first things which the bees do is to select some fountains in the neighborhood for their use: eos itaque convenit plerunque ab hora secunda obsideri, specularique quae turba sit aquantium. you must therefore take your position by these and commonly after the 2nd hour of the day,—and observe (how great is the multitude) of those coming to water. nam si paucae admodum circumvolant (nisi tamen Palladius gives ap. an abstract of this

\[1\] Dash written over comma or vice versa
\[2\] “Palladius . . . this” written vertically in left margin, upward, forming right angle with line beginning "commonly"
complura capita rivorum diductas faciunt rariores) intelligenda est earum penuria, propter quam locum quoque non esse are mellificum suspicabimur, for if few & flying about them (unless indeed many heads of running water make them thinner because dispersed) a scarcity of them is to be inferred, on which account one shall suspect the place also not to be productive of honey. At si commeant frequentes, spem quoque aucupandi examina majorem faciunt, eaque sic inveniuntur. But if they flock thither in numbers, they increase our hope of capturing swarms, & these are discovered thus. Primum quam longe sint explorandum est, præparandumque in hanc rem, liquida [Palladius' word is {festucular}]
rubrica, qua cum festucis illitis contigeris apum terga fontem libantium, commoratus eodem loco facilius redeuntes agnoscere poteris; First it is to be explored how far off they are, and there must be prepared for this purpose some liquid ochre, (ruddle—red-lead—vermillion) When you have touched the backs of the bees with straws (smeared with) this, having waited in the same place you can more easily recognize them on when their return; ac si non tarde id faciunt, scias eas in vicino consistere: sin autem serius, pro morae tempore aestimabis distantiam loci.

1"their" written over "they"
and if they do this quickly, you may know that they have their abode in the neighborhood: but if later, you will estimate the distance of the place according to the time they are gone. *Sed cum animadvert{ens} celeriter redeuntes, si non aegre persequeris iter volantium, ad sedem perduceris examinis.* But when you may have observed them returning speedily, if without much difficulty you pursue the course of them flying, you will be conducted to the abode of the swarm. *In iis autem quae longius meare videbuntur, solertior adhibit tur cura, quae {f} talis est. But in the case of those which shall be seen to go further, more cunning pains will be used, such as these*. *Arundinis intermedium cum suis articulis exciditur, & terebratur ab latere talea, & per id foramen exigu melle vel defruto instillato, ponitur juxta fontem.*

A length of reed is cut off with its joints & the cutting pierced in the side, & through this hole a little honey or defrutum (the *trans.* says "sodden must" & elsewhere that defrutum has* the best must reduced by boiling to one third, & various ingredients mixed with it) having been dropped into it it is placed near the fountain. *deinde cum ad odorem dulcis liquoris complures apes*
irrepserunt, tollitur talea, & apposito foraminis
pollice non emittitur, nisi una, quae cum
evasit, fugam suam demonstrat observanti:
atque is, dum sufficit, persequitur evolantem.
afterwards when many bees, attracted
by the odor of the sweet liquor have crept
into it, the cutting is taken up, and the
thumb being placed over the hole only one is let
out, which when it escapes shows its
course to the observer: and he, as long as he
can, (?) pursues him flying. Cum deinde con-
spicere desiit apem, tum alteram emittit: & si
eandem petit caeli partem, vertigiis prioribus
inhaeret. When afterward he has ceased
to discover the bee, he lets out another,
& if this seeks the same quarter of the
heavens, he sticks to his former course:
& si minus, aliam quoque atque aliam
foramine adaperto patitur egredi; but
if not, he lets another & another escape,
the hole being opened; regionemque notat, in
quam plures revolent, & eas persequetur,
donec ad latebram perducatur examinis:

and let him observe the region toward
which most of them fly back & pursue
them, till he is conducted to the re-
treat of the swarm: quod si est abditum
specu, fumo elicitur, & cum erupit, aeris
strepitu coeretur. but1 if (sic Eng. trans also)
it is hidden in a cave, it is expelled by smoke

1Possibly altered to "But" (need better copy)
& when it bursts forth is restrained by
the sound of brass. Nam statim sono territum,
vel in frutice, vel in editiore silvae fronde
considet, et a vestigatore praeparato vase
reconditur. For immediately, frightened by
the sound, they\(^1\) settles either on a bush or
on the higher leaves of the forest, & are\(^2\) shut
up by the bee-hunter in a vase prepared
for the purpose. Sin autem sedem habet
arboris cavae, et aut extat ramus, quem
obtinent, aut sunt in ipsius arboris trunco,
tunc si mediocritas patitur, acutissima serra,
quo celerius id fiat, praeciditur primum
superior pars, quae ab apibus vacat: de-
inde inferior, quatenus videtur inhabitari.
But if they have their abode in a hollow
tree, and either the branch which they occupy
stands out, or they are in the trunk of
the tree itself, then if the moderate size
of it allows, it is cut off with a
very sharp {sha} saw, that it may be
done the quicker, first the upper part,
which is empty of bees, then the lower,
as far as it seems to be inhabited. tum
recisus utraque parte mundo vestimento
contegitur, quoniam hoc quoque pluri-
mum refert, ac si quibus rimis hiat,
illinitur, & ad locum perfertur: then
being cut off on each side it is covered
with a clean garment, for this too

\(^1\)"they" written over "it"
\(^2\)"are" written over "is"
is of the utmost importance, and {if} there are any chinks in it, they are smeared over, & it is brought to the place [designed for it]: relictisque parvis (utjam dixi) foraminibus, more caeterarum alvorum collocatur. and little holes being left, (as I have already said) it is placed (in the like same manner with) the rest of the hives. Sed indagatorem convenit matutina tempora vestigandi eligere, ut spatium diei habeat, quo exploret commeatus apum: apum: But it is well for the bee-hunter to choose morning time for hunting, that he may have ample day time in which to explore the coming & going of the bees: saepe enim si serius coepit eas denotare, etiam cum in propinquuo sunt, justis operum peractis se recipiunt, nec remeant ad aquam: for often if he has begun to observe them too late, even when they are near, their ordinary task being done they go home, & do not return to the water: quo evenit ut vestigator ignorant, quam longe a fonte distet examen. Whence it happens that the hunter is ignorant how far off the swarm is from the fountain. Sunt qui per initia veris apiastrum, atque (ut ille vates ait) trita melisphylla, [melisphylla in best ed. of Virgil] & cerin-thae ignobile gramen. aliasque colligant similes herbas, quibus id genus animalium delectatur, et ita alvos perfricent ut

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

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1Paren written over dash
2T translates "referât" (in the original) correctly as the nasal "a" or "an"
way—very well.

He recommends for a garden—p 404—a place where elms spring up spontaneously—wild vines—wild pears & plums—and the ground is strewn with the fruit of an unbidden apple tree.

This is what he says of the *cucumis* & *cucurbita* p 413

Tum modo dependens trichili, modo more chelydri,

Sole sub aestivo gelidas per graminis {umbras}

^ Intortus cucumis, praegnansque cucurbita serpit.

Una neque est illis facies: nam si tibi cordi

Longior est, gracili capitis quae vertice pendet,

E tenui collo semen lege: sive globosi

Corporis, atque utero nimium quae vasta tumescit,

Ventre leges medio, sobolem dabit illa capace

Naryciae picis, aut Actaei mellis Hymetti,

Aut habilem lympphis hamulam, Bacchove lagoenam:

Tum pueros eadem fluviis innare docebit.

Lividus ac cucumis gravida qui nascitur alvo

Hirtus & ut coluber nodoso gramine tectus

Ventre cubat flexo, semper collectus in orbem,

Noxius exacuit morbos aestatis iniquae,

Foetidus hic succo, pingui quoque semine fartus.

At qui sub trichila manantem repit ad undam

Labentemque sequens nimio tenuatur amore

Candidus effoetae tremebundior ubere porcae,

Mollier infuso calathis modo lacte gelato,

Dulcis erit, riguoque madescit luteus arvo,
Et feret auxilium quondam mortalibus ægris
Cum &c–
Which the Eng. Trans. thus renders
"The crooked cucumber & pregnant gourd,
Sometimes from arbors pendent, and sometimes
Snake-like, through the cold shades of grass they creep,
And from the summer sun a shelter seek.
These have not the same features, nor one shape;
For, if the largest pleases most, which grows
Suspended by its own head's slender top,
Then from its slender neck select the seeds;
But if that, with a globe-like body, please,
Which with too huge a belly swells, then choose
The seed which in its womb inclosed lies;
This will an offspring bring, fit to contain
Hymethan honey, or Narycian pitch:
If likewise flagons, fit for Bacchus' use,
And goblets, meet for water, will produce;
And boys in rapid streams will teach to swim:
But then the livid cucumber, which grows
With pregnant womb, and hairy like a snake,
Lies on its crooked belly, always coiled,
And covered with the knotty grass, impairs
The health, and of the unfriendly summer makes
Diseases more acute; of this the juice
Is fetid; likewise with fat seeds 'tis stuffed.
But that which to the dropping watter creeps
Below the arbour, and pursues the same
As down it trickles, and with too much love
Extenuated, and of a color white,
More trembling than the udder of a sow
Which newly has brought forth, and softer is
Than curdled milk just in the cheese-vat pour'd,
Shall to the taste be sweet; and, when 'tis ripe,
In land well watered it yellow grows,
And to sick mortals sure relief will bring;
When &c"

The translator says of Cucumis "It seems that this word, amongst the Romans, was of a larger signification; and signified not only what we call cucumbers, but pompions & melons also: such of them as grew bulky, & ran out in length, and became very mellow, tender, & flaccid, when thoroughly ripened, lost their name, and were called pepones; but such of them as grew round like an apple, they called melopepes; but the true cucumis, the riper it grows, the more solid cartilages does it consist of, and is covered, as it were, with an hard woody crust. Our author seems here to have described particularly the cucurbita, which grows to a great bulk, so that they formed vessels of them for containing honey & pitch, and goblets for drinking; &, when dried, were made use of by boys for supporting them in ^ water, when they were learning to swim."
Columella says p 443 that the **cucumis & (—) cucurbita — — — plurimum juvantur humore.**

p 444 says that some to make the **cucumis—tener et jucundissimus** soak the seed in milk, some to make it **dulcior** sweeter soak the seed in **mulsa** mead (?). Palladius speaks of treating the

& also says that will be **odorati** high-scented if the seeds are buried for some time amid dry rose leaves.

seeds of **melones** also in the same way.

P 423 Columella says **VIII Cal. Martii**

*Sagitta crepusculo incipit oriri, variae tempes-
tates: Halcyonei dies vocantur, in Atlantico quidem mari summa tranquillitas notata est.*

The Eng. trans says—"The 22nd of Feb. in the twilight in the evening, the Arrow begins to rise &c" & in a note

days says that Aristotle & Pliny place these ^ about the winter solstice.

Might I not call my first smooth April water—Halcyon days?

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

436 says the way to sow a hedge of dog's thorn (**sentis canis** Greek1 χυνοσβατον) was to mix the seeds with the meal of vetches & smear the mixture over old ship’s ropes—coil them up & lay them away—then in the spring stretch them in a furrow & bury them

1"G" written over ")"
A brine was ripe if it would float sweet cheese.
p 458 De malis & pyris in sole siccandis.
- Hoc eodem tempore, vel etiam primo mense Augusto, mala & pyra dulcissimi saporis mediocrer matura eliguntur, et in duas vel tres partes arundine, vel osseo cultello divisa in in sole ponuntur, donec arescant. So with apples & pumpkins here.

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

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

Columella describes cucumbers (*cucumis*)—gourds (*cucurbita*)—These being sometimes sweet, & ap. what we call melons—& Palladius also describes melons (*melones*)

May 10th

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

**P**m to Walden—in rain—

R. Rice speaks of having seen myriads of eels formerly going down the Charles\(^1\)
River—young ones not longer than his hand—stopped behind a board at the dam— That once there when repairing the dam he saw while standing on the bared bottom below it a large eel

\(^1\)“C” written over “c”
come up close by it through hard
gravel—& he believed it had just come
down the river—& had penetrated through
6 feet in thickness of the same character—
for the dam was carried down to that depth
below the bottom of the river.
That the snapping turtle caught fish by lying
buried\(^1\) in the mud with only his eyes out—
was Rice's supposition.

// Some vac. Pennsylvanicum out in Cut woods
May be a day, as it has rained steadily the last
2 days—it seems to bloom with or immediately after
the bearberry. I would gladly walk far in
this stormy weather—for now I see & get near

// to large birds. 2 quails whirr away from
the old shanty stubble field—& 2 turtle
doves go off from an apple tree with their clikit
Also at Walden shore a pig. hawk—(or else
sharp shinned) with deep brown back—went off
from close at hand— I see those just above
the edge of the Pool in Hubbards woodpath
the V. blanda passing into the V. lanceolata

// which last also is now in bloom—prob. earlier
there than in wetter places. May have been
as early as the blanda.
Where the Pitch pines were cut some
years ago—on Thrush Alley—I now
see—birches—oaks—& p. p & white pines—

On the R. R. causeway against trillium

\(^1\)“buried” written over “with”
wood—I see an ap. native willow—a shrub—
with greenish bark—& conspicuous yellow cat-
kins—now in full bloom—ap. a little earlier
but its leaflets or bracts much less advanced & conspicuous
than the S. alba. ^ Another on the Walden road—
v 16th inst
what is it? Mr. Pritchards Canada Plum
will open as soon as it is fair weather— V 12th
Palladius p 516 says Domino vel
colono confinia possidenti, qui fundum vel
agrum suum locat, damnis suis ac litibus
studet. He who lets his farm or field
to a neighboring proprietor or farmer,—¹
prepares the way for his own loss & for
lawsuits." (also — — — Qui agrum
colit, gravem tributis creditorem patitur,
cui sine spe absolutionis adstrictus est.
P. – Says you must always put an
uneven number of eggs under a hen, in the
increase of the moon—
Even in his day speaking of geese—
Albi foecundiores sunt: varii vel fusci, mi
nus, quia de agresti genere ad domesticum
transierunt. White geese are the more
fruitful: those of various colors or fuscus
less so, because they are {ef} mongrels between
the wild & tame species.
Also to defend the bees—Aves etiam pannis
& crepitaculis terreamus. Let us frighten
away birds also with scare-crows (?) & rattling
tins (?)

¹farmer,–: possibly "farmer," altered from "farmer--" or "farmer--" altered from "farmer,"

65
May 11th ’56 Rains still

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

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

It suggests that man is not completely at one with nature—or that she is not yet fitted to be his abode— Adam soon found that he must give a marsh a wide birth—that he must not put his bower in or near a swamp in the new country—else he would get the fever & ague or an intermittent fever— Either nature may be changed or man. Some animals—as frogs & musquash are fitted to live in the marsh— Only a portion of the earth is habitable by man. Is the earth improving or deteriorating in this respect? Does it require to be improved by the hands of man; or is man to live more naturally & so
more safely?

P. m. to Cedar Swamp—up Assabet
There is at length a prospect of fair weather
– It will clear up at evening—this 4th day
of the rain. The river is nearly as high as
it has been this spring.

Palladius says to him who would keep bees—Let him cultivate Herbas nu-
triat, origanum, thymum, serpyllum, satureiam, melisphylum, violas agrestes, asphodilum,
citraginem, amaracum, hyacinthum, qui iris
vel gladiolus dicitur scimilitudine foliorum,
narcissum, crocum, caeteras-que herbas sua-
vissimi odoris & floris. Then he names frutices
& arbores And then says—Primi
saporis mella thymi succus effundit. Se-
cundi meriti thymbra, serpyllum vel
origanum. Tertii meriti rosmarinus &
Satureia. Caetera, ut arbatis & olera, sa-
porem rustici mellis efficiunt.

p 564—speaking of apples{ — }{ .} Si caduca
sunt poma, fissae radici lapis injectus
poma retinebit.

Mala rotunda, quae orbiculata dicuntur,
sine cura toto anno servari possunt.

Palladius adds to Columella’s ac. of
bee hunting—Aliqui mellis brevissimum circa
aquam vasculum ponunt. De quo cum apis
aquando gustaverit, ad commune pabulum

."P" written over "p"
pergens, alias exhibebit: quarum frequentiam subinde crescentem, notata revolantium parte usque ad examina persequeris.

   Of Chestnutwood P. says Castanea mira soliditate perdurat in agris, & tectis, & operibus caeteres intestinis, circus solum pondus in vitio est.

   Also De aqua invenienda this
Ante autem solis iis locis quibus aqua quae-renda est, aequaliter pronus mento ad solum depresso jacens in terra spectabis Orientem, & in quo loco crispum subtili nebula aerem surgere videbis, & velut rorem spargere, signo aliquo vicinae stirpis aut arboris praenotabis. Nam constat siccis locis, ubi hoc fiet, aquam latere:
   +   +   +   Locus ergo,
ubi supradicta signa repereris, fodiatur latitudine pedibus tribus, altitudine pedibus quinque, & proxime solis occasum, mundum vas ibi aereum vel plumbeum interius unctum inversum ponatur in solo ipsius fossionis. Tunc supra fossae labra crate facta de virgis ac frondibus, additaque terra, spatium omne cooperiatur. Sequenti die aperto loco, si in eodem vase sudores intrinsecus inveniuntur, aut stillae, aquas ibi esse non dubites. Item si vas figuli siccum, neque coctum eadem
ratione ponatur, ac similiter operiatur,
[sic]
altero [vero] die, si aquarum vena est, in
presenti vas concepto humore solvetur. Item
vellus lanae aequo positum, vel coopertum,
si tantum colligit humoris, ut alia die
fundat expressum, copias inesse testabitur.
Item lucerna oleo plena & accensa, si
ibi similiter tecta ponatur, & secuto
die inveniatur extincta superantibus
alimentis, aquas idem locus habebit. Item
si in eo loco focum feceris, & terra vaporata
humidum fumum nebulosumque ructaverit,
aquas inesse cognosces.–

The S. alba by my boat is out–& cheated by the rain–perhaps 3 or 4 days in some places–but not on the 6th– It does not rain now though completely overcast,—but looks as if it would clear up before night. There are many swallows circling low over the river behind Monroe’s–bank swallows–barn–whit republican–Chimney–& white bellied– These are all circling together a foot or 2 over the water–passing within 10 or 12 feet of me in my boat. It is remarkable how social the different species of swallow are one with another– They recognize their affinity more than usual. On the prospect of fair weather after so long a storm the birds are more lively than ever–

As I float through the Wheeler Ind. field

1”&” possibly inserted
meadow—I see a veery hopping silent under the alders. The black & white-creeper also is descending the oaks &c and uttering from time to time his seeer seeer seeer see. What a rich strong striped—blue black (?) & white bird—much like the myrtle bird at a little distance when the yellow of the latter is not seen. At a distance I hear the

// first yellow-bird.

// The S. sericea at Island rock is out—also the S. cordata off Prichard’s both apparently with S. alba. But I have not yet compared them (for date) quite accurately enough— I think I can pretty well distinguish the sericea—by the grayness of the fem. catkins twig & all—but am not sure I have seen the staminate. Neither am I sure that I see the staminate S. cordata. Those at Prichards are ap. all female. There are many staminate ones now in full bloom—in the Wheeler-meadow—I suspect like male & female side by side 5 rods N of S. alba—also male W side near ring post that of the RR. causeway ^ (v may 10th) or they may be staminate plants of S cordata—or some perhaps of S. sericea. V. how many different kinds of leaves & mark them 6 weeks hence? V. if those just off the N end of Holden wood (Conantum) are all S. cordata for there are some many staminate ones like the last named
also V. that one on the N side the road
& root fence beyond bush on Corner Road—
(perhaps like the RR. one)—male & female

All these willows blossom
now a little past prime— when the early willows—which bloom before
leaving—are going to seed.

Large white maples are leafing. //

I see near the top of the bank at
the further end of the first hemlocks—dirty
white fungi in nests—each about 3/4
of an inch diameter—without any thick
rind which peels off. Each one is burst a
little at top—& is full of dust of a yellowish
rotten-stone color—which is perfly dry &
comes forth like a puff of smoke on
being pinched—now after 4 days of rain
before the fair weather has come—and though
each one is nearly half full of water—
This dust certainly has but little affinity
for moisture—and might be of use in
some cases.

I leave my boat in Hosmer's poke-
logan—and walk up the bank—a blue-
hollow

birds nest & 5 eggs in a ^ apple tree
3 feet from ground near the old bank swallow
pit. Made with much dry stubble & dried grass.
Can see the bird sitting from without.

There are a great many large flat
black—cock croach (?) like beetles float-
ing & paddling on the flood on the
meadows—which have perhaps fallen in
in the night (if not washed out of the
grass)—also a few of the thick dull red-
dish brown ones—
May 12<sup>th</sup>

A glorious day

Pm Walked round by Dennis’ & Hollowell Place with Alcott. It is suddenly

// very warm—A washing day—with a slight haze accompanying the strong warm wind. I see in the road beyond Luther Hosmer’s in dif. places

// 2 bank swallows which were undoubtedly killed by the 4 days N. E. rain we have just had. Puffer says he has seen 2 or 3 dead sparrows also. The sudden heat compels us to sit in the shade at the bars above Puffer’s—whence we hear the first bobolink.

// How suddenly the birds arrive after the storm—(even yesterday before it was fairly over) as if they had foreseen its end!

How much life the note of the bobolink imparts to the meadow! I see a cherry in bloom & Prichard’s Canada plum will prob—

// bloom tomorrow. The river is about the same height as yesterday—about the same as when highest before this spring. And goes no higher. Thus attains its height the day after the rain.

May 13<sup>th</sup>

// // // Hear a warbling vireo. Dandelions by roadside—prob several days in some places.

P. m up river to Kal. glauca swamp—In the swallow holes behind Dennis’
I find 2 more dead bank swallows—& one in the sand beneath—& the feathers of 2 more which some creature has eaten—

This makes at least 7 dead bank swallows in consequence of the long cold N. E. rain.

A male harrier—skimming low had nearly reached this sand pit before he saw me & wheeled—Could it have been he that devoured the swallows?

These swallows were 10 3/4+ alar extent 4 3/4 inches long—a wing 4 3/4+ x 1 3/4+

Above they were a light brown on their backs—winks blackish—beneath white—with a dark brown band over the breast & again white throat & sides of neck—bill small & black—reddish brown legs—with long sharp slender claws—It chanced that each one of 2—I tried weighed bet. 5 & 6 sixteenths of an ounce—or bet. 5 & 6 drams arvoirdupois—This seems to be the average weight—or say 6 drams because they have pined a little. A man who weighs 150 lbs—weighs 6400 times as much as one—

The wing of one contains about 7 square inches—the body about 5—one whole bird 19 If a man were to be provided with wings &c in prop. to his weight—they would measure about 844 square feet cover 311 feet or & one wing would ^ be about 33 feet long x 14 wide. This is to say nothing of his muscle.

---

1"This" written over "Saw"
2"square" written over "(or) 8"
The Kalmia glauca will not open for some days at least. (Mrs Ripley told me last night that Hill said the toads rang till they died if their call was not answered or attended to.) At the swamp hear the yorrick of Wilsons Thrush. or S Americana

/// / / / the Twezer bird ^– Also the oven bird sings
\n/// Caterpillars nests on an apple 2 inch just

// diameter– Downy amelanchier ^ out at Lupine bank elsewhere maybe a day or 2. Where my sap has dried on the white birch bark it has now turned a bright light red – What a variety of colors it assumes.

Potter has a remarkable field of mulleins sown as thickly as if done with a machine (under bear garden Hill) I remarked them last year. Wm Wheeler thinks the seed lies in the ground an indefinite period ready to come up. I thought that it might have been introduced with his grain when it was sown lately. Wheeler says that many a pasture if you plow it up after it has been lying still 10 years will produce an abundant crop of wormwood– & its seeds must have lain in the ground. Why do not the chemists in the analyses of soils often mention the seeds of plants? Would not a careful analysis of old pasture sod settle the question?

\[1\] "Also" written over "The"
\[2\] Vertical pencil line down the length of this paragraph in the left margin (line not visible in digital image; need better copy)
I suspect that I can throw a little light on the fact that when a dense pine wood is cut down oaks &c may take its place. There were only pines no other tree—They are cut off—and after two years have elapsed—you see oaks or perhaps a few other hardwoods springing up with scarcely a pine amid them—And you wonder how the acorns could have lain in the ground so long without decaying—There is a good example at Loring's Lot. But if you look through a thick pine-wood—even the exclusively pitch pine ones—you will detect many little oaks birches &c—sprung probably from seeds carried into the thicket by squirrels &c & blown thither—but which are over shadowed & choaked by the pines This planting under the shelter of the pines may be carried on annually & the plants annually die—but when the pines are cleared off—the oaks and &c having got just the start they want—and now secured favorable conditions immediately spring up to trees. Scarcely enough allowance has been made for the agency of squirrels & birds in dispersing seeds.

Earliest gooseberry in garden X

At the Kalmia swamp—the particolored warbler—& was that switter switter switter switter swit also by it?—prob by this or the red-start which last I distinguish on the 17th inst.

May 14th
Air full of golden-robins—Their loud
clear note betrays them as soon as they arrive. Yesterday & today—I see half a dozen tortoises on a rail—their first appearance in numbers— Catbird. amid shrub oaks

— Female red-wing. Flood tells me he saw cherry birds on the 12th of April in Munroe’s Garden.

May 15th ’56

A Fog this morning. Our peach out X

2d gooseberry in garden X

P. m. to Beeches—

As I sat by the Riorden crossing think it was the Tanager I heard? I think now—only because it is so early—that it may have been the yell—throat-vireo—no It must have been {a} tanager which I hear frequently the 19th

See also for a moment in dry woods a warbler no doubt the S. americana blue yellow back—heard before or particolored warb.

with blue-slate head ^ & ap all yellow beneath for a minute—nothing else conspicuous—note slightly like tseep, tseep, tseep, tseep, tsit sitter ra-re-ra the last fast—on maples &c may2 be I heard the same yesterday. cut by RR

North wild red cherry out—may ^ be day or 2 elsewhere

— A Heywood spring I see a clumsy wood chuck now at 4 pm out feeding—gray or grizzly above brown beneath—it runs or waddles to its hole 2 or 3 rods off—and as usual pauses listening at its entrance till I start again—then dives in.

Viola cucullatas abundant now. Just on the brink of this Heywood spring I find

\[ ^2 "may" possibly "May" \]
what may be the stellaria borealis (if it is not the longifolia) but it is not in cimes like that only a single flower to each axil, now at least) though Bigelow makes its calyx divisions nerveless– These¹ are 3 nerved– And one flower at least appear has 5 (!) styles. It has been out perhaps² several days– some of the flowers are without petals–others with those very deeply cleft or divided white petals– 2 inch high–leaves rather

The others may have pollen. broad– V the³ 21st

Strawberry well out how long? //

On Amelanchier botrapium many narrow dark bronze-colored beetles (say 3/4 inch long) coupled & at same time eating the flowers calyx and all–

Night warbler– Hickory leafets not so large as beech–beech leaves 2 inch long– say it has leafed a day or 2 White birch pollen X⁴ // //

Beech not out yet– //

Checker berries very abundant on S side of Pine Hill–by P. pine wood– Now is prob best time to gather them–

Cleared out the Beech spring–which is a copious one– So I have done some service–though it was a wet & muddy job– Cleared out a spring while you have been to the wars. Now that warmer days make the traveller thirsty–this becomes an important work.

This spring was filled & covered with a great mass of beech leaves amid & beneath which–damp & wet as they were were myriads of snow fleas–& also their white exuviae; the latter often whitening a whole

¹"T" altered from "t"
²"out perhaps" possibly underlined
³"the" possibly inserted
⁴"X" possibly inserted
leaf—mixed with live ones—it looks as if for coolness & moisture (which the snow had afforded—) they were compelled to take refuge here).

// Cerasus pumila x S side Pine Hill—not yet by Perceive some of that delicious RR.

// Cut woods. meadow fragrance coming over the ↑ causeway Measured a chestnut stump cut last winter on pine hill—25 inch diameter & 56 rings.

// May 16th rainy day?
I think that willow of May 10th q.v. which blooms ap. just before S alba—(on RR at Trillwood both male & female 6 rods this side {are} S. alba below on westside near ring post: 1st large bush—a male—& 2 or more on RR at 1st Walden & elsewhere) about same time with S sericea & cordata is a distinct species from any of them from 3 to 13 feet high—dry looking with reddish or reddish brown twigs—& plain ashy grey bark—leafets or bracts appearing at same time though much less conspicuous than those of S alba—Catkins {of fem} & female an inch or less long—former hairy with yellowish brown ↑ scales longer than their stalks. The Willow↑ inclined to form a wide bush like the earliest ones—not a tree like the alba. There may be {The S. rostrata}

some varieties of it at the Pond on RR.

May 17th ’56

// Rain still or lowering
Pm. to my boat at Cardinal Shore—thence to Lee’s Cliff.

\*"Willow" written over other characters
King bird. The beech twigs I gathered the 15th show anthers today in chamber, so it prob. blossoms today or tomorrow // in woods. V. vacillans ap. a day or 2 at least // Veronica serpyllifolia abundant now on banks // erected– Maryland yel throat heard // afar in meadows as I go along the road toward Hubbards Bridge. It is warm but still overcast & sprinkling occasionally–near the end of the rain and the birds are very lively. A goldfinch twitters // over. In the dry lupine bank pasture, about 15 rods from the river–ap–travelling up the hill–I see a box tortoise—the first I have found in Concord. Beside being longer (5 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches) it is much its upper shell less oval than the one I found on Cape Cod last July–especially it is conspicuously broader & flatter forward–

The 2 rear marginal plates have a triangular sinus between them, while the C. Cod ones come to a point

The 5th & 6th marginal plates do not project by their edges beyond the shell. The yellow marks are much narrower & more interrupted & like oriental characters than on the Cape Cod one–

The Sternum also is less oval–uniformly blackish brown except a few slight bare or horn-colored blotches–while the C. Cod one is light yellow with a few brown blotches.

The scales of the sternum in this are { } much less
sharp angled than in the C. Cod one.

The sternum more hollow or depressed—
the tail about 3/8 of anch long only—beyond
the anus— (?)
The bill is very up-right somewhat like this

A beak like any Caesar's

Fore legs covered with orange colored scales
Hind ones mostly brown or bronze with a few
Beside the usual hiss—uttered in the evening
orange spots. as I was carrying it a single, as it were involuntary, squeak
much like a croaking frog.
or rather vermilion
Iris bright light red—^ remarkable.
Head brown above with yellow spots—orange beneath & neck—
The river is about a foot lower than on the
13th notwithstanding yesterday & to-day's rain.
At the Kalmia swamp see & hear the
flirting & spreading its reddish tail S. Americana & red start
& some yel. birds

// red start—(very lively & restless ^. The sylvias ^
&c are very lively there now after the rain
in the warm moist air—amid the hoary
bursting buds of maples oaks &c
I stand close on the edge of the swamp looking
? for the Kalmia—nothing of its flower to be seen
? yet. The Rhodora there will open in a day or 2—
Meanwhile I hear a loud hum & see a splendid
// male humming bird coming zig zag in
but far swifter
long tacks like a bee ^ along the edge of the
swamp—in hot haste He turns aside to taste the
honey of the andromeda calyculata (already visited
This golden green gem
by bees) within a rod of me—^ It hovers as it
were stationary in the air with an intense
m
hum^ing before each little flower bell of the
humble andromeda calyculata—leaning
Its burnished back looks as if covered
with green scales dusted with gold—^1

^1"Its . . . gold—" written vertically along left margin, from bottom of page up
& inserts its long tongue in each—turning

toward me that splendid ruby on its breast—
even this is coal black in some lights!!

—that glowing ruby—^ There along with me
in the deep wild swamp above the andromeda
amid the spruce— Its hum was heard afar at
first like that of a large bee—bringing a
larger summer— This sight & sound would make
me think I were in the tropics—in Demerara—

another on our cherry blossoms the next day

a long slender black bill.

or Maracaibo (?)

Nemopanthes X on that very swamp edge. //

V. corymbosum? or the high blueberry—X //

Hear the first veery note & doubtless the ?

Musicappa olivacea— //

The S. americana—Particolored warbler &c

is very numerous there—darting about amid

the hoary buds of the maples & oaks &c It\ seems

the most restless of all birds—blue more less deep

above—with yellow dust on the back—yellow

breast & white beneath—(the male with bright

orange throat—& some with a rufous crescent

on breast) wings & tail dark-black—with

2 white bars or marks—dark bill & legs.

At Lees—the Turritis stricta pods 3 inches ?

long. & plant 2 1/2 feet high by measure

get some to press. Myosotis stricta above there //

may be several days. Ranunculus bulbosus //
a day or 2 at least. Arenaria serpyllifolia X //

Mrs Ripley showed me from her son

Gore in Minnesota a few days ago the

first spring flower of the prairie there—
a hairy stemmed—slender divisioned & hairy in-

1"is" poss altered from "&" or "I"

2"It" written over other characters
volucre–6 petall’d blue flower–prob–
a species of hepatica–no leaves with it.

? Not described in Gray. Yes They say it is Pulsatilla Patens

// Yel. columbine well out at Lees 1 rod from
rock 1 rod E of ash–

How plainly we are a part of nature—for we
live like the animals around us– All day the
cow is cropping the grass of yonder meadow
appropriating as it were a part of the solid earth
into her self–except when she rests & chews
the cud–, and from time to time she wends
her way to the river and fills her belly with that.
Her food and drink are not scarce & precious
but the commonest elements of which nature is
composed. The dry land in these latitudes except
in woods & deserts is almost universally clothed
with her food–& there are inland seas
ready mixed of the wine that she loves–
The Mississippi is her drink–the prairie grass
her food.

// The shrub oak–& some other oak leafets just
expanding now begin to be pretty.

in the cavity

Within the shell of my box turtle ^ between its
thighs & its body–were small dry leaves & seeds
showing where it laid. From these I should
say it had come from amidst the alders.

May 18 '56

// Ed. Emerson says he saw at Medford yesterday
many ground birds nests & eggs under apple trees–

1"The" possibly altered from "These" or "This"
R. W. E’s black currant \(\text{^}\) (which the wild R. floridum is said to be much like\(\text{`}\)) may be a day– R. W. E. says that Agassiz tells him he has had turtles 6 or 7 yrs which grew so little compared with others of the same size killed at first–that he thinks they may live 4 or 500 years–

Pm to Kalmia Swamp–

Go across fields from R. W. E’s to my boat at Cardinal Shore– In A Wheeler’s stubble field w. of deep cut–a female (?) goldfinch on an oak–without any obvious black–is mewing incessantly–the note ending rather pl musically When I get over the fence a flock of 20 or more male & female rise from amid the stubble & alighting on the oaks–sing pleasantly all together, in a lively manner–

Going along the Spring path–hear an oft repeated tchip tchar / tchip tchar &c or (This is a common note with birds) tchip tcharry ^ from a large bird on a tree top–a sort of flaxen olive–made me think of a female rose breasted grossbeak though methought the beak more slender.

On the surface of the water amid the maples on the Holden Wood Shore where I landed–I noticed some of the most splendid or opalescence irridescence ^ from some oily matter–where the water was smooth amid the maples—that I ever saw– It was where some sucker or other fish perchance had decayed. The colors are intense blue & crimson–with dull golden The whole at first covering 7 or 8 inches –but broken by the ripples I have made–

\(^1\)Paren written over dash
into polygonal figures like the fragments of a most wonderfully painted mirror. These fragments drift & turn about ap. as stiffly on the surface as if they were as thick & strong as glass– The colors are in many places sharply defined in fine lines– making unaccountable figures, as if they were produced by a sudden crystallization. How much color–or expression can reside in so thin a substance– With such accompaniments does a sucker die & mix his juices with the river–this beauty like the rain-bow & sunset sky marks the spot where his body has mingled with the elements. A somewhat similar beauty reappears painted on the clam’s shell. Even a dead sucker suggests a beauty–& so a glory of its own. I leaned over the edge of my boat & admired it, as much as ever I did a rain-bow or sunset sky. The colors were not faint but strong & fiery–if not angry. Found a young turtle about 2 inches long of a flat roundish form with scales as dull rough as usual–but a red or yellowish spot in middle of each scale & edges beneath were also a pinkish red– Can it be a young yell spot? // I have not noticed a tree-sparrow since December! A. S. Americana–Particolored warbler–in
the Holden wood—sings a-tshea tshea tshea
/ tshré tshritty tshrit

One low Kalmia glauca XXX before //
any Rhodora thereabouts—several Kalmias
no doubt tomorrow. The rhodora there may be tomorrow
elsewhere I find it (in Hub— meadow) today X //

The swamp is all alive with warblers
about the hoary expanding buds of oaks
maples &c & amid the pine & spruce— They
swarm like gnats now—they fill the air
with their little tshrei tshee sprayey notes.
I see close by hopping close up to the
main stem of young white pines—what
you would call a maryland yel throat (?)1 
//
but less chubby—yel throat—beneath—& vent
& dark under tail—black side—but hear
no note

Also another clear pure white beneath—& vent
& side head—black above finely marked with
yellow—yellow bars on wings—& golden crown
black bill & legs—with a clear sweet warble
like tche tche tche, tchut tchutter we Can2
this be a Chestnut-sided3 warbler & I not see it ? //

It is v 20th saw it also the 17th here
the chestnut? ^ Hopping amid oak twigs.
I think I hear a yel— throated vireo. ?
Hear a tree toad. //

Sailed back on Hubbard red-start path—
& there saw a mud turtle draw in his head—
of which I saw the half—about 8 rods off—
Pushed to the spot where the water was
about a foot deep—& at length

1”(?)** possibly added
2”C” written over “c”
3”C” written over “c”
detected him spread out on the
his monstrous head & tail & legs outspread
bottom—\( \uparrow \) prob. directly under where
he had appeared—It first I suspect I
mistook him for a rock—for he was
thickly covered with a short green moss-like
conferva (??)—A venerable object—a true
son of the meadow—suggesting what vigor!
what naturalness—Perchance to make the
moss grow on your back without in-
juring your health! How many things
can he sustain on his shell where the mosses
grow. He looked like an antediluvian under
that green shaggy shell—tougher than
the rock you mistake it for—No wonder
the Indian reverenced him as a god. Think
of the time when he was an infant. There
is your native American\(^1\)—who was before Co-
lumbus perchance. Grown, not gray, but
green with the lapse of ages. Living with
the life of the meadow— I took off my coat
stripped up my shirt-sleeve & caught him
by his great rough tail—He snapped
at me & my paddle—striking his snout
against the side of the boat till he made
of an hour & I could look straight down his monstrous gullet 10 inches—
it bleed. \( \uparrow \) The only way to hold him
& paddle too was to turn him on his
back—then putting the end of a paddle
under a seat slant it over his sternum
& press my foot on the other end—

Though I held him down with an oar for a lever & my foot on it—he would sud-
denly lift all together—or run out his head & knock the oar & my leg aside. He held up his head
to me & with his mouth wide open hissed like in his breathing like a locomotive for a quarter\(^2\)

\(^{1}\)“A” written over “a”

\(^{2}\)“Though . . . quarter” written vertically across entire page in left margin, positioned with caret and line to follow “it bleed.” and precede “of an hour . . . 10 inches—\( \uparrow \), which is interlined above.
He was 14 1/2 inches long x 12—at the broadest places—and weighed 25 lbs & 3 ounces—The claws were 1 1/4 inches long beyond the skin & very stout. You had to exert yourself to turn him over on a plane surface he held down so firmly with his claws, as if grown to it. He took my hand into his shell with his tail, & took the skin off it. The sternum is broadest forward—This turtle was not roundish like the shell I have but—nearly an oblong square—nearly

The usual number of scallops behind.

as long as that but much less wide.

I know of a young lady who when riding came across one in the road—which not wishing to run over, she got out & tried to drive it out of the way with her whip—but it "screamed" at & terrified her. A caravan could not make him budge under those circumstances.

E. Emerson finds half a dozen yellow violets—A hair birds nest building I hear whipporwills about R. W. Es May 19th

Thick fog in the morning—which lasted late into the forenoon—and left behind it rainy clouds for the afternoon—

P. m. to Cedar Swamp—Landed at Island neck—and saw a small striped snake in the act of swallowing a rana palustris within 3 feet of the water—The snake

---

1"A" written over "An"
2"budge" altered from "bug"
being frightened released his hold & the frog hopped off to the water. Hear &

// see a yel. throated vireo which methinks I have heard before--going & coming he is in the top of the same swamp white oak--singing indolently--ullia--eelya varied to & sometimes ^ eelyee

// The tanager is now heard plainly & frequently.

I see running along the water's edge on the Island neck--amid the twigs a new bird slender & somewhat warbler like--but plainly a turdus--with a deep dark choco-
late brown back (ap uniformly) ap-- cream-
colored beneath handsomely & abundantly spotted with dark brown--vent white--light flesh colored legs--yellowish or cream colored line over eyes-- Methinks it tetered or wagged its tail--flew soon & was quite shy. I think it must have been the Turdus aquaticus from its dark choc. brown back--& running along the waters edge--feel pretty sure--yet that is said to have white (?) over eye. I lost it before I had examined fully-- Quite a discovery-- V. gold. C. Thrush carefully.

// // Apple X some no doubt earlier. Night hawk's squeak-- Redwing's nest made--and a--king bird's (?) on black willow 4 ft above water-- without mud.

As I sail up the reach of the Assabet above Dove Rock--with a fair wind--a traveller riding along the highway is watching
my sail while he hums a tune—How inspiring & Elysian it is to hear when the traveller or the laborer—from a call to his horse or the murmur of ordinary conversation rises into song!—It paints the landscape suddenly as no agriculture—no flowery crop that can be raised—it is at once another land, the abode of poetry—

I am always thus affected when I hear in the fields any singing or instrumental music at the end of the day. It implies a different life & pursuits than the ordinary. As he looked at my sail, I listened to his singing. Perchance they were equally poetic—& we repayed each other. Why will not men oftener advertise me of musical thoughts—? The singer is in the attitude of one inviting the muse—aspiring.

The maryland yel– throat amid the alders sings—now whit we chee whit we chee whit we chee whit whit The last 2 fast or whit alone—or none.

Wood-pewee— / // Wooly Aphides on alder— //

The Smilacina Trifolia will ap bloom tomorrow or //

In house the 21st

next day. ^ Returning—stopped at Barrett’s Saw mill while it rained a little. Was also attracted by the music of his saw– He was sawing a white oak log—was about to saw a very ugly & knotty white oak

1Question mark written above and below dash
log into drag plank—making an angle—
Said that about as many logs were brought
to his mill as ten years ago—he did not per-
ceive the difference—but they1 were not so
large—& Perhaps they went further for them.
I observed that he was not grind— No, he said,
it was the first day he had not had a grist
—though he had plenty of water—prob— because
the farmers were busy planting.
There white oak—pine—maple—&
walnut logs waiting to be sawed.

// A bull frog sluggish by my boat place—

On the 13th ult I saw washed up to the
edge of the meadow this side of Clam Shell
portions of one or 2 large bluish white
eggs—ap. a size larger than hen's eggs
which may have been laid last year by
some wild fowl in the meadow.

If my friend would take a quarter
part the pains to show me himself—that
he does to show me a piece of roast beef
I should feel myself irresistibly invited—
He says Come & see

Roast beef & me. I find the

& well done

beef fat, ^ but him rare.

May 20th 56

// Fir balsam (ours in grove) ap 2 or 3 days
for it almost entirely effete—cones white 1 inch
long nearly— Was awaked & put into sounder

1"they" written over "there"
sleep than ever early this morning by the distant crashing of thunder & now Pm (to Beck-Stows)

I hear it in mid-afternoon–muttering crashing in the muggy air in mid heaven a little south of the village as I go through it like the tumbling down of piles of boards –& get a few sprinkles in the sun. Nature has found her hoarse summer voice again–like the lowing of a cow let out to pasture. It is Nature’s rutting season. Even as the birds sing tumultuously & glance by with fresh & brilliant plumage so now is natures grandest voice heard–& her sharpest flashes seen. The air has resumed its voice–& the lightning like a yellow spring flower–illumines the dark banks of clouds. All the pregnant earth is bursting into life–like a mildew–accompanied with noise & fire & tumult– Some oestrus stings her that she dashes headlong against the steeples & bellows hollowly–making the earth tremble. She comes dropping rain like a cow with overflowing udder. The winds drive her–the dry fields milk her. It is the familiar note of a another warbler just arrived–echoing amid the roofs–

I see on a locust in the locust bury-ing ground the Sylvia Striata or Black Poll warbler–busily picking about the locust
buds & twigs– Black head & above with olive (green) wings & 2 white bars white all beneath with a very distinct black line from throat to shoulders–flesh colored legs—bill dark above light beneath– Hear no note— Saw it well. A Moore's swamp on Bed-
// ford road. Myriads of pollywogs 1/2 inch long darken or blacken the shore—chiefly head // as yet. Bank swallows are very lively about the low sand bank just beyond in which are 50 holes.

I now see distinctly the chestnut-sided warbler (of the 18th & 17)—by Beck Stow's It is very lively on the maples birches &c over the edge the swamp—sings 

![ ech eech eech / wichy
wicky / tchea or itch itch itch / witty
witty / tchea Yet this note I represented on the 18th by tche tche tche / tchut tchutter we

The Andromedas has apparently been out several days—but no Buck bean there yet—nor will for a day or 2 (V 21)

See & hear a stake driver in the swamp— It took one short pull at its pump & stopped—

2 marsh hawks—male & female flew about me a long time—screaming—the female largest with ragged wings—as I stood on the neck of the Peninsula— This induced me to climb 4 pines—but I tore my clothes & got pitched all over—& found only squirrel—yet they have no doubt a nest there abouts

"8" written over "/"
Haynes the carpenter calls that large
glaucous puff that grows on the andromeda
paniculata Swamp¹ apple—says he has
eaten as much as 3 bushels! of them & likes
when he was a boy—& likes them. That
is what he was raised on—

After I got him home² I observed a large
leach on the upper shell of my great turtle
— He stoutly resisted being turned over by sinking
his claws into the ground—was aware that
that was his weak side—& when turned would
instantly run out his head to turn himself
back. No wonder the orientals rested the
world on such a broad back— Such
broad health & strength under lies Nature

Wednesday May 21 '56

Pm. to Saw Mill Brook—

Chelidonium X Rubus triflorus abundantly //
out at the Saw³ Mill Brook—how long? //
A robin's nest without mud on a young
white oak in woods with 3 eggs— //
Saw 2 splend rose breasted gross beaks //
with females in the young wood in emerson's
lot— What strong-colored fellows
black—white—&⁴ fiery rose-red breasts—
Strong-natured too with their stout
bills. A clear sweet singer—like a
tanager but hoarse—somewhat—& not
shy. The redstarts are inquisitive & hop near

¹“S” written over “s”
²“home” written over “I”
³“S” possibly written over “s”
⁴“&” possibly written over dash
The Polygonatum pubescens there in shade almost out—perhaps elsewhere already—
At the trough near turnpike near
? Hosmers spring—the perhaps Stellaria borealis of the 15th— I am still in doubt whether it is a stellaria or cerastium—
This is quite smooth—4 to 5 inches high spreading and forking with a single flower each fork on a long peduncle—square stemmed oblong lanceolate leaves slightly ciliate & connate—10 stamens 5 long 5 short—Aspect of a smooth cerastium—but this has 4 to 7 styles oftenest perhaps 5—all apetalous except one petal shorter than the calyx—leaves 1 nerved—sepals 3 nerved! The base—& small plants are reddish stemmed. Can it be Stellaria Longipes?

The buck Bean in Everett's Pool abundantly out—say 4 or 5 days. It is earlier than at B. Stow's
Myosotis laxa by Turnpike near Hosmer spring may have been out several days. 2 or 3 at least
May 22d

Pm to Viola Muhlenbergii—which is abundantly out how long— A small pale blue flower growing in dense bunches—but in spots a little drier than
the v. cucullata & blanda Veronica peregrina
ap. several days. A yellow butterfly over the middle of the flooded meadows. Polygonatum
pubescens at rock ap— X Aralia nudicau-lis ap. a day or 2 where heat is reflected from
the rock on Island— Choke cherry & Crataegus
there in a day or 2— The cornus Florida
does not bloom this year. Hemlock & creeping Juniper not quite yet—The red & cream colored cone-shaped staminate buds of the black spruce will ap shed pollen in 1 to 3 days? They are nearly 1/2 inch long. I see beds of anemonies amid or under clumps of hazels of this form a mass of their pretty leaves & flowers 5 or 6 feet in diameter—I see a common v. vacillans? with a leaf much like that of the V. Pennsylvanicum—also the common v. vacillans with more rounded glaucous leaves.

I noticed a cobweb the other day between the thole pins of my boat which was perfectly black with those little fuzzy gnats which fly at that height—& take shelter from wind—in boats & the like.

A little clammy hairy cerastium? (like a Cerastium viscosum slender & erect) about 3 inches high will open in a day or 2 on the rock near the bass. v June 5th

May 23

Pm to Heywood Spring—Sorrel well open ap X on w side of RR. causeway against H Wheeler's land. Noticed the earliest willow catkins turned to masses of cotton yesterday also a little of the mouse ear down begins to be loose Hear often & distinctly ap. from H. Wheeler’s Black spruce woodlot the phe phee-ar of the new muscicappa Red-eye—& Wood thrush—
Houstonias whiten the fields—& looked
yesterday like snow, a sugaring of snow,
on the side of Lee's Hill. Heard partridges
yesterday & today. Observed
the pads yesterday just begun to spread out
on the surface with wrinkled edges & here
& there a bullet like bud—the red white
lily pads still more rare as yet—

The stellaria at Heywood spring must
be the same with that near the E Hosmer
spring—though the forme has commonly few-
er styles—& rather slenderer leaves— It
appears to be the S. borealis though the
leaves are narrowly lanceolate—has 3 to 7
styles a few petals (cleft almost to the bottom)
or none—pods seem longer than the calyx

{At last} 2½ as long
& ap. 10 ribbed — petals now about the length
of the sepals— keeps & grows & blossoms {in a tumbler}¹

After sunset on river—

A warm summer-like night
A bull frog trumps once— A large devil's
needle goes by after sundown— The ring of
toads is loud & incessant— It seems more
prolonged than it is— I think it not more
than 2 seconds in each case. At the same
time I hear a low stertorous dry but hard
cored note from some frogs in the meadows
& along the river side—often heard in past
years but not accounted for— Is it an
R. Palustris? Daw bugs hum in the
yard—{& were heard against the windows

¹checked against 1906 edition
some nights ago)– The cat is springing into the air for them.

May 24\textsuperscript{th} 56
Pratt gave me the wing of a sparrow (?) //
hawk which he shot some months ago– He was coming from his house to his shop early in the morning whe saw this small hawk which looked like
over the common
a pigeon fly past him ^ with a sparrow in his clutches and alight about 6 feet up the S\textsuperscript{1} buttonwood in front of Tolman’s– Having a small maynard’s revolver in his pocket loaded with a ball size of a pea–he followed–& standing 22 paces from the tree in the road aimed & brought down both hawk & sparrow–at a distance of about 6 rods–cutting off the wing of the former with the ball. This he confessed he could not do again if he should try a hundred times.

It must be a sparrow hawk–ac to Wilson & Nuttall for the inner vanes of the primaries & 2\textsuperscript{nd}aries are thickly spotted with brownish white

Humphrey Buttrick\textsuperscript{2} says that he hears the note of the woodcock from the village—in April & early in May—(too late now) That there or singing
were some this year breeding by the river side in front of Abel Heywoods. He says that that when you see one spring right up straight into the air, you may go to the spot & he will surely come down again after some minutes to within a few feet of the same spot & of you.

\textsuperscript{1}“S” poss written over “E”
\textsuperscript{2}“B” written over “b”
Has know a partridge to fly at once from 1 to 2 miles after being wounded—(tracked them by the blood) without alighting. Says he has caught as many as a dozen partridges in his hands—He lies right down on them & then pa or where he knows them to be—then passes his hands back & forth under his body till he feels them. You must not lift your body at all or they will surely squeeze out & when you feel one must be sure you get hold of their legs or heads—and not feathers merely.

//

To day is suddenly overpoweringly warm Therm. at 1 Pm 94° in the shade! but before in the afternoon it suddenly fell to 56{.} & it continued cold the next 2 days.

May 25th

10 Am To Fair H. Pond with Blake & Brown—

I found 5 arrowheads at Clam Shell Hill. Saw just before on the flat meadow on the right feeding on the edge of the meadow just left bare along with the peet

// weets a—bird a size larger with—an ap. light brown back—a ring or crescent of black on its breast & side of neck & a black patch including the eye—Can it be the Charadrius Semipalmatus? or else Wilsonius? ^ It reminded me of the piping plover—but was not so white—and of the Kildeer
but was not so large

Pyrus on side of F. H. hill yesterday at least

Huckleberry there yesterday also at least—on the Cliffs—Orobanche—Veronica arvensis

well out

the little one on the rocks there ^— Also low

blackberry on the rocks a day or 2— Blackburnian

warbler—& Rose breasteed gross beak—

Lupines ap yesterday X Young phoebes in

the Baker House. The bird flitted out as we entered I reached to an old shelf & felt the warm

nudiflora

yet callow young. Azalea ^ in garden X

Polygala fringed by path beyond Hub. grove how long

May 27th

To Kalmia Swamp with Sanborn—

F. melodia’s nest in midst of swamp—with four eggs made partly of usnea—2 stories i.e. upon an old nest elevated 1 foot above the water— Eggs with very dark blotches Kalmia in prime & Rhodora—ap the oldest blossomed Kalmia the palest. Saw prob. a deer mouse {of} jumping off—by the side of the swamp—short leaps of ap 10 inches. The pyrus (smooth leaved) out ap a day or 2. See men fishing 1 or 2—& often perceive the meadow fragrance.

My 3 kinds of birch sap have now become much more acid—especially the white & canoe birch. The black birch is milder & more agreeable—with sugar it is an agreeable drink— I prefer it to Cream’ o’tartar water. This is the real birch wine—

May 28

Rainy

To Paint. Cup—meadow

Potentilla argentea may be several days.

Trifolium pratense ap X— A seringo or
or yellow browed?? sparrow's nest about 10 or 12 rods
SW\(^1\) of House leek rock—between 2 rocks
which are several rods apart NW & SE \{possibly a drawing\}
4 eggs—The nest of coarse grass stubble
\{at least\} \{possibly a drawing\}
lined with fine grass & is 2/3 covered by a
jutting sod. Egg bluish white ground thickly blotched
pretty fresh
with pale\(^2\) brown \(^-\) yet most like a small ground—
July 2\(^4\) at Nat. Hist rooms Boston saw the egg of yel. shouldered sparrow—light colored
with a ring of brown spots at large end— — — that of savannah sparrow all mottled

// birds egg—rather broad at one end. a cricket creaks
over with brown—!! v June 26

// Hypoxis erecta may be a day or 2— Thalictrum
// diocium abundantly out ap in prime—male
& female—some effete—perhaps a week—near
wall in Paint cup. meadow 15 to 18 inch
high.

I think it was a mass of young
// T. Cornuti leaves which had that rank
yes—& this Thalictrum is generally but a foot high now & expanding

// dog-like scent \(^-\) Paint cup pollen a good while ago
Saw under an apple tree nearly half a
pint of some white grub with a light
reddish head—like a small potato worm 1 inch
long & part of a snake skin making the
greater part of the faeces of some animal—
soft
chiefly the grubs—a formless \(^-\) mass—skunk??
May 29\(^4\) 56

Pm ride to Paint. cup—meadow

// 2 arethusa bulbosas at Hub’s Close ap
// a day or 2— Golden senecio there a day or 2
// at least. White\(^3\) clover X Ranunculus
// repens (sepals not recurved & leaves a spotted look)
// ap. a day. Geum rivale well out.
// Common Crataegus ap some days—Juniper
// repens communis a day or 2 at least—prob more

\(^1\) "SW" possibly "S— W."
\(^2\) "pale" cancelled in pencil
\(^3\) "W" written over other character(s)
To return to Paint-Cup meadow— I do not perceive the rank odor of T. Cornuti expanding leaves today— How more than fugacious it is! Evidently this odor is emitted only at particular times. a Cuckoo's note—loud and hollow from a woodside— Found a painted cup—with more yellow than usual in it—& at length Edith found one perfectly yellow. What a flowery place—a vale of Enna is that meadow— Paint Cup—Erigeron bellid{–}Thalictrum dioicum—V Muhlenbergii—fringed polygala—Buck bean—Pedicularis—orobanche &c &c Where you find a rare flower expect to find more rare ones. Saw sanicle well flower budded. Cherry birds on the apple trees. Blue-eyed grass prob. tomorrow—

May 30 '56
Pm to Linnaea Woodlot—
ap— This flower does not bloom then this year— Yes—it did later—

The Ladies slipper in P. pine woodside near J. Hosmer's desert—prob. about the 27th X That desert—small as it now is (for it is partly reclaimed by using pine boughs as a salve) is scored with circles (like that of Provincetown) made by the dry polyg. articulata blown about.

It is but a lesser Sahara & I cannot see it without being reminded

---

1"Blue-eyed . . . tomorrow—“ possibly added
2"S" possibly written over "s"
that in some parts of the globe sands
prevails like an ocean. What are
those black masses of fibrous roots
mixed with smaller dark grey cone
like tubers?—on the sand—?
// Return via Clam shell— Yellow clover
abundantly out though the heads are
small yet—are they quite open?
// Comandra umbellata ap a day or 2—
Frank Harding caught 5 good
// sized chivin this cold & windy day from
the new Stone bridge— The biggest one was
or coppery
quite red ^—the others but slightly except
the head— Is it a peculiarity of age—?

May 31st 56
Pm to Clintonia swamp (Hubbard’s) Grove¹
// A ground bird’s nest (? Melodia or Gramminea?) with
6 of those oblong narrow gray speckled with much
brown at end—when I looked again 1/2 hour
after 1 egg was hatched— The bird would steal
out through the grass when I came within
a rod & then after running a rod or 2 take to
? wing— Tied a string about a low pyrus
1 rod or so to right of entrance to Hub. Pyrus swamp²
& 2 feet west of of a p pine stump—& pressed a twig of
// // it. Clintonia X Nuphar advena first noticed
may have been out some time in some places but
² or ³
// just out in river— Pink com. wild may be ^ a days³ {X}
for they are very abundant at Heywood peak on June 1st—some white
Sundown to Hill & Island—

¹“G” possibly written over “g”
²“swamp” possibly added
³“days” altered from “day”
Have noticed within a week from time to time the water line on the bushes along the shore the water going down—unusually distinct—for while the exposed parts have leaved out the lower are quite bare & black.

Hemlock—& creeping juniper where had not bloomed the 22nd ult are now entirely out of bloom on the hill. How short their flower lasts—

Ranunculus Purshii¹ X prob earlier in some places but water high

That little cerastium on the rock at the island also noticed the 22nd ult— which prob opened about that time—is now out of bloom— It is about 3 inches high and has long pods more than 2ce the length of the calyx which turned upward. I have seen no petals. It seems to be the C. nutans?² from size—erectness—& form of pods & leaves— It has viscid hairs or with glands at end—

The red oak oak is so forward compared with the rest that it is more difficult to get a sprig in flower small enough (its leaves) to press— As I return in the dusk many night hawks with their great spotted wings are circling low over the river—as the swallows {wer} when I went out. They skim within a rod of me— After dusk these greater swallows come forth & circle and play about over the water like those lesser ones—or perhaps making a larger circuit

¹"P" written over "p"
²"?" possibly inserted
also uttering a louder note. It would not be safe for such great birds to fly so near & familiarly by day.

It has been very cold for 2 or 3 days—& to night a frost is feared— The telegraph

The hickory leaves are blackened by

says it snowed in Bangor today blowing in the cold wind.

to-morrow

June 1st— Horse radish in yard ^ X

Picked up an entire sternothaerus shell yesterday without scales In the upper shell there appear to be 6 ^ segments of shell wholly dorsal—17 wholly lateral (none in front) & 22 marginal 45 in all{.} The ribs in this case spreading out & tight & uniting to form a sharp ^ roof suggest that ribs were the first rafters— So we turn our backs to the storm & shelter ourselves under

The scales upon the shell answer to the shingles on the roof breaking joints backs to the storm & shelter ourselves under

Saw the shell of another turtle ap. a young paint turtle—1 inch long this roof— curiously wrinkled & turned up—like that found in Middleboro—

This had been washed up into mead. some weeks ago. ap.

Pm to Walden—

somewhat warmer at last after several very cold as well as windy & rainy days Was soothed & cheered— but by I knew not what

at first— but soon detected the now more general creak of crickets— A striped yel. bug in fields Most of the leaves of the Polygonatum pubescens which I gathered yesterday at Island had been eaten up by some creature—

A chewink’s nest 1 1/2 rods N of Walden road op. G. P. path under a young oak—covered by over aching dry sedge 4 eggs pretty fresh— I am pretty sure the bird uttered an unusual hoarse & distinct note while I was looking at them. Linaria canadensis

on Emerson Cliff X Rock rose a day or 2 there XX

White weed by RR at pond tomorrow X

Cotton grass several days before the 29th may
Heard a quail whistle May 30th //

about

The late crataegus on hill ^ May 31st

June 2nd

Carum i.e Caraway in garden X & //

Saw most humming birds when cherries were //

in bloom—on them.

Pm with R. W. E to Perez Bloods

auction— Telescope sold for 55 dolls—

See Camilla on rye—undulating //

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

erifera possibly returned by bridle road— Myrca ^ ap yesterday //

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

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

more— Eng. Hawthorn will open up in 2 days //

Agassiz tells his class that the intestinal

worms in the mouse are not developed till

the except in the stomach of the cat.

5 Pm to azalea nudiflora which is

in prime— Ranunculus recurvatus //

the same—how long— Whit maple //

key is conspicuous— //

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

I read that with one of the early telescopes

they could read the Philosophical2 transactions

at 500 feet dist.

Tuesday June 3d

Surveying for John Hosmer beyond Pail-

Factory— Hosmer says that seedling

white birches do not grow larger than

your arm—but cut them down & they

spring up again & grow larger.

---

1Dash written above period

2"P" written over "p"
While clearing a line through shrub-oak he asked what is shrub-oak made for? R Hoar? I believe, bought that (formerly) pine lot of Loring’s which is now coming up shrub oak—Hosmer—says that he will not see any decent wood there as long as he lives.

H. says he had a Lot of pine in Sudbury which being cut shrub oak came up—He cut & burned & raised rye—& the next year (it being surrounded by pine woods on 3 sides) a dense growth of pine sprang up.

As I have said before, it seems to me that the squirrels &c disperse the acorns &c amid the pines—they being a covert for them to lurk in, & when they pines are cut the fuzzy shrub oaks &c have the start. If you cut the shrub oak maples

soon prob. pines will or birches & other trees which have light seeds will spring next—because squirrels &c will not be likely to carry acorns into open land. If the pine wood had been surrounded by white oak prob. that would have come up after the pine.

While running a line in the woods close to the water on the S. W. side of Loring’s Pond—I observed a chicadee sitting quietly within a few feet. Suspecting a nest—

// I looked & found it in a small hollow maple stump which was about 5 inches

\cite{Line in margin not clear in digital image (need better copy)}
in diameter––& 2 feet high. I looked down about a foot & could just discern the eggs––

Breaking off a little I managed to get my hand in & took out some eggs– There were 7 making by their number an unusual figure as they lay in the nest–a sort of egg-rosette–a circle around with one (or more) in the middle. In the mean while the bird sat silent though rather restless within 3 feet. The nest was very thick and warm– of average depth––& made of the bluish slate rabbits (?) fur. The eggs were a perfect oval––5/8 inch long white with small reddish brown or rusty spots especially partly developed about larger end ^– The bird sat on the remaining eggs next day. I called off the boy in another direction that he might not find

Plucked a white lily pad with rounded sinus & lobes in it. Loring’s pond–a variety.
Picked up a young wood tortoise about an inch & a half long––but very orbicular––Its scales very distinct & as usual very finely & distinctly sculptured––but there was no orange on it––only buff or leather color on the sides & size beneath– So the one of similar rounded form ^ & with distinct scales but faint yellow spots on back–must have been a young spot. turtle I think after all.

June 4th
Surveying for J. Hosmer

Very warm

While running a line on the west edge of
Loring's pond S of the brook–found open
on a hummock in the ^ swamp in the midst
of bushes at the foot of a p– pine a nest
about 10 inches over made of dry sedge
// & moss. I think it must have been a ducks nest. This pond & its islets half flooded and inaccessible affords excellent places

Anthony Wright says that he used to get ? slippery elm bark from a place S– W. of Wetherbee's Mill about 10 rods south of the brook.

He says there was once a house at head of Hollow next beyond Clam Shell– Pointed out the site of Perch Hosmer's house small
in the ^ field S of road this side of Cousin's –all smooth now– Dr Heywood worked over him a fortnight while the perch was dissolving in his throat– He got little compassion generally--& the nickname Perch¹ into the bargain. Think of going to sleep for 14 nights with a perch–his fins set & his scales! dissolving in your throat!!
What dreams! What waking thoughts!
Also showed where one Shaw–whom he could just remember used to live in the low field N of Dennis' barn & also another family in another house by him–
// Eng– hawthorn from poplar hill blossoms in house X

Thursday June 5th
P. m to Ind. Ditch–

¹"P" written over "p"
Achillea Millefolia ap X? Black cherry ap //
yesterday X. The M. Cooperi sings pe pe pe //
sitting on the top of a pine--& shows white
rump? &c unlike king bird.

Return by J. Hosmer Desert-- Every where now
in dry p. pine woods--stand the red ladies slippers
over the red pine leaves on the forest floor--rejoicing
in June--with their 2 broad curving green leaves--
(some even in swamps{.})1-- Uphold their rich striped red
drooping sack. This while rye begins to wave
richly in the fields A brown thrasher’s nest with //
4 eggs considerably developed--under a small
white pine on the old N edge of the desert lined
with root fibres. The bird utters its peculiar tchuck

Froth on p. pine-- -- -- -- //

near by P. pine out—the first noticed on low //
or 2
land maybe a day ^ X A blue-jay’s nest on a //
white pine 8 feet from ground—next to the stem² of twigs
dark dull greenish with dusky spots equally distributed all over
lined with root fibres 3 fresh eggs ^-- In Hosmer? pines
27 paces E of wall & 57 from Factory road by wall. jay
screams as usual. Sat till I got within 10 feet at first.

A cuckoo’s nest ^ with 3 fresh light bluish
partly developed

green eggs ^--short with rounded ends nearly of a size //
In the thicket up RR this side high wood—in
black
a ^ cherry that had been lopped 3 feet from ground—amid
the thick sprouts—a nest of nearly average depth ?
of twigs lined with green leaves pine needles
&c & edged with some dry branchy weeds. The
bird stole off silently at first. 5 rods S of RR
I must call that cerastium of May 22nd

---

1Paren written over dash
2"stem" altered from "twigs"
C. nutans??, at least for the present
Oakes in his Catalogue in T's Hist. of Vermont says it is not
though I do not see grooves in stem—^ It
found in N. E. out of that state. The pods of the common one also turn upward.
is about 4 flowered—no petals—pods which
have formed in tumbler, more than 2½ but not
3½ as long as calyx—bent down nearly at rt
angle with peduncles—& then curving upward
The common cerastium is in tufts spreading—
a darker green & much larger—hairy but not
 glutinous, pods but little longer than calyx
I afterward see these curving upward like the
(as yet) & upright. former—!
June 6th '56
Pm—to Andromeda Ponds—
// Cold mizzling weather. In the large cir-
cular hole or cellar at the turn-table on
the RR—which they are repairing—I see
// a star-nosed mole endeavoring in vain to bury him-
sel in the sandy & gravelly bottom{.} Some inhuman
fellow has cut off his tail. It is blue black
with much fur—a very thick plump animal
ap. some 4 inches long—but he occasionally shortens
himself 1/3 or more—looks as fat as a fat
hog— His fore-feet are large & set sidewise
or on their edges & with these he shovels
the earth aside while his large¹ long starred
snout is feeling the way & breaking ground
I see deep indentations in his fur where
his eyes are situated and once I saw dis-
tinctly his eye open—a dull blue?-black
head—not so very small—and he very plainly

¹"large" written over "long"
noticed my movements 2 feet off— Yet
He was using his eye as plainly as any
creature that I ever saw— Yet Emmonds
says it is a question whether their eyes are
not merely rudimentary. I suppose this
was the Condylura macroura—since that
is most common—but only an inch of its tail
was left—& that was quite stout. I carried
him along to plowed ground where he buried
himself in a minute or 2.
Still see cherry-birds in flocks of 5 or 6.  //

A cat bird nest on shore of Andromeda Pond
in shruboak. 3 feet high—twigs & oak sh
bark shreds lined with root fibres 3 fresh eggs—

Those nests in the andromeda are blackbird’s
— Many sound the alarm while I am wading
through the swamp— Noticed one with 3 eggs fresh  //

That willow male & female op to
Trillium Woods on the RR I find to be the
S. rostrata or long-beaked willow—one of
(I had remarked the peculiar yellow of its flowers) (fulvae)
the ochre-flowered ^ willows ^ of Baratt. It
is now just beginning XXX to open its long beaks.
The S. Cordata is another of the ochre flowered ones.

How well suited the lining of a bird’s
nest—not only for the comfort of the
young—but to keep the eggs from breaking—
—fine elastic grass stems—or root fibres—
pine needles or hair or the like.
These tender & brittle things which you
can hardly carry in cotton, lie there without harm.

J. Hosmer who is prosecuting Warner for flowing his land—says that the trees are not only broken off when young by weight of ice—but being rubbed & barked by it—become warty or bulge out there—

June 8th '56

We have had 6\textsuperscript{1} days either rain—threatening or rainy—the last 2 somewhat rainy or mizzling—

Pm to Cedar swamp—

// Put strings on two little willow stems 2 or close to present water edge

3 feet high ^—which I will call the Stringed

3

Whiting—about 2 1/2\textsuperscript{2} rods from Hoars wall It ap. bloomed about with S cordata.
female catkins—lateral, about 1 inch long—have flowered with 2 or 3 bracts at base—ovaries rather silky—on stalks 1/3 their length—with

a little

brown scales ^ longer than stalks rounded at apex & very hairy— The leaves are delicate smoothish both sides glaucous beneath—serrulate—especially toward point—pointed at both ends, now 2 or more inches by 1/2—with no noticeable stipules.

Pulled up a yellow lily root\textsuperscript{3} 4 feet long & branching—2 1/2 inch diameter & about same size at each end where it had broken off—tree like— Broken off it floats—

\textsuperscript{1}“6” written over “3” or incomplete “5”

\textsuperscript{2}“2 1/1” cancelled in pencil

\textsuperscript{3}Possibly “roots” or possibly “root” altered from “roots”
Great white rootlets\(^1\) put out all along it.

I find an andromeda racemosa in flower—it is dead at top & slightly leaved below—was it the severe winter—or cutting off

It grows 4 or 5 rods from knoll near a sawed stump bet two large red maple clumps the protecting evergreens? \(^^\)

The 3 leaved sol seal has almost entirely done—while the 2 leaved is quite abundant. Stellaria longifolia op. barbarea shore not yet out. It is obvi-ously dif. from what I call S. borealis—much more tall (1 foot high) & upright with branches ascending the other grows in a dense mass at Corner Spring (not spreading \(^\_\_\)). leaves longer & more linear & not at all ciliate like the other—stems much sharper angled, almost winged—flower buds more long & slender—& grows in high grass—& is later\(^2\)

I observe in a mass of damp shavings & leaves & sand there in the shade a little prostrate willow just coming into flower—(perhaps a black willow) pulling it up I find it to be a twig about 16 inches long 2/3 buried in the damp mass—This was probably broken off by the ice brought down washed up & buried like a layer there—& now—for 2/3 its length it has put out rootlets an inch or 2 long abundantly & leaves & catkins from the part above ground—So vivacious is the willow—availing itself of every accident to spread along the river bank. The ice that strips it—only disperses it the more widely. It never

\(\text{\footnotesize \textsuperscript{1}“rootlets” altered from “roots”} \)

\(\text{\footnotesize \textsuperscript{2}“& is later” possibly added} \)
says die–may I be as vivacious as a willow.
– Some species are so brittle at the base of
the twigs that they break on the least
they are as tough above as tender at base &
touch–but ^ these twigs are only thus shed like seeds
which float away & plant themselves in
the first bank on which they lodge–

I commonly litter my boat with a shower of
these black willow twigs whenever I run into

// them. A king birds nest on a black
Comm above barbarea shore–loosely con-
cherry–
struction with some long white rags dangling
1. egg. At Cedar swamp saw the
Pe-pe catching flies like a wood pewee
–darting from its perch on a dead cedar
twig from time to time & returning to it
It appeared to have a black crown with some
crest–yellowish (?) bill–gray brown back
black tail–2 faint whitish bars on wings
dirty
a ^ cream white throat–& a gray or ash white
breast & beneath–whitest in middle.

I had noticed when coming up the
river 2 or 3 dead suckers–one with
a remarkable redness about the anal fins–
& this reminded me of the ephemerae–
It was the 2nd of June 54 that I ob-
served them in such numbers. When
I returned to my boat about 5–the
weather being mizzling enough to require
an umbrella–with an easterly wind–&
dark for the hour—my boat being by chance at the same place where it was in 54—I noticed a great flight of ephemerae over the water—though not so great as that. The greater part were flying down stream against the wind—but if you watched one long enough you would see him suddenly turn at length & fly swiftly back up the stream. They advanced against the wind faster than I floated along. They were not coupled —(I only noticed 2 coupled)—but flew—most of them—with their bodies curved—their wings curving or more & from time to time each one descended to the water & touched it—or rested on it a second or 2—sometimes several minutes—^but very often before it arose—or not being able to rise it was seized by a fish—^they are met by While some are flying down ^ others coming up. The water was dimpled with the leaping fish. They reach about 10 or 15 feet high over the water, & I also saw a stream of them about as thick over a narrow meadow a dozen rods from the water in the woods. The weather was evidently unfavorable—what with the wind & the rain—& they were more or less confined to the shore—hovering high over the bushes & trees, where the wind
was strong over the river. I had not noticed any on leaves—At one place against Dodge’s brook where they were driven back by a strong head wind at a bend—more than usual were wrecked on the water—& the fishes were leaping more numerously than elsewhere—The river was quite alive with them & I had not thought there were so many in it—great black heads & tails continually thrust up on all sides of my boat—. You had only to keep your eye on a floating fly a minute to see some fishy monster rise and swallow it with more or less skill & plashing—Some skillfully seized their prey without much plashing rising in a low curve & just showing their backs others rose aright up perpendicularly half their length out of water showing their black backs or white bellies or gleaming sides—others made a noisy rush at their prey & leaped entirely out of water with falling with a loud plash—You saw 20 black points at once. They seemed to be suckers—large fish at any rate—& prob. various kinds. What a sudden surfeit the fishes must have!

They are of various sizes but generally their solid yellowish tinge transparent bodies about 3/4 of an inch long or less ^ with rows
of brown spots—wings gauze like with a few
3 which I brought home were dead the next morning.
opaqe brown spots. A shadfly on our window is rather smaller than the av. of the
former—has but 2 streamers & no dark spots on wings.

June 9th 56

Pm to Corner Spring—
Without an umbrella thinking the weather
settled at last. There are some large
cumuli with glowing downy cheeks floating
about—Now I notice when an elm is
in the shadow of a cloud—the black elm
//
tops—& shadows of June. It is a dark
eye-lash which suggests a flashing eye
beneath. It suggests houses that lie under
the shade—The repose & siesta of summer
noons—the thunder cloud—bathing &
all that belongs to summer—These veils
are now spread here & there over the village.
creak of crickets a June sound now fairly begun

It suggests also the ^ sultry hum of insects.
inducing contemplation & philosophic thoughts—
A yel. birds nest in a poplar on Hub—
bridge cause way 4 fresh eggs. 10 ft high. 3 rods
beyond fence. Veronica scudellata how long
?
compelled to squat under a bank
at Corner spring— I stand under a wood pile through a shower

6 1/2 Pm up Assabet—
Again about 7 the ephemerae came out
in numbers as many as last night—now
many of them coupled—even tripled—& the
fishes snap leap as before—
A young robin abroad. //

June 10
Already the pads are much eaten before they are grown—& under neath on the under side of almost every one are the eggs of various species of insect—some so minute as to escape detection at first in close flat straight sided nests.

// The yel. lily & Kalmiana are abundantly out— The under sides of the pads—their stems—& the r. Purshii & other water plants are thickly covered & defiled with the sloughs perhaps of those little fuzzy gnats (in their first state) which have so swarmed over the river— It is quite difficult to clean your specimens of them.

Pm to Dugan Desert—
up RR

// C. alternifolia a day or 2 ^ may—be longer elsewhere

// Spergularia rubra by RR X it having been dug up last year and so delayed—The cuckoo of June 5 has deserted her nest & I find the fragments of egg shells in it—prob. because I found it.

// Oxalis freshly out how long?—ap but 2 or 3 days

// I find some linnaea well out after all within a rod of the top of the hill—ap 2 or 3 days— If it flowered more abundantly—prob. it would be earlier— Chewinks nest

// with 4 young in the dry sproutland of Lorings thick wood that was under a completely overarching tuft of dry sedge
grass— I hear the huckleberry bird now add to its usual strain a-tea tea tea tea tea— A Painted tortoise laying her eggs 10 feet from the wheel track on the Marlboro¹ road. She paused at first but I sat down within 2 feet & she soon resumed her work—had excavated a hollow about 5 inches wide and 6 long in the moistened sand— & cautiously with long intervals she continued her—work—resting always on the same spot her fore feet—& never looking round, her eye shut all but a narrow slit. Whenever I moved perhaps to brush off a mosquito she paused. A wagon approached—rumbling afar off—& then there was a pause till it had passed & long long after—a tedious natur-langsam pause of the slow blooded creature—a sacrifice of time such as those animals are up to which slumber half a year—& live for centuries. It was 20 minutes before I discovered that she was not making the hole—but filling it up slowly—having laid her eggs— She drew the moistened sand under herself—scraping it along from behind with both feet brought together—the claws turned in hard In the long pauses the ants (as the mosquitoes me) troubled her ^ by running over her eyes—which made her snap or dart out her head suddenly striking the shell. She did not dance on the sand—nor finish covering the hollow quite as carefully as the one observed last

¹"M" altered from "m"
suddenly (&
year. It went off ^ quickly at¹ first) with a
slow but sure instinct through the woods²
toward the swamp
// The clustered black-berry of Dugan desert
not yet out–nor ap. for 2 or 3 days.
at most
// Sweet viburnum ap. 2 or 3 days ^ by Warren
miles–nut meadow pond.
    In a hollow apple tree–hole 18 inch
// deep–young pig. woodpeckers–large &
    well feathered–they utter their squeaking
    hiss whenever I cover the hole with my hand
    ap. taking it for the approach of the mother
    – A strong rank fetid smell issues from
    the hole.
// Ripe straw berries X even in a meadow on
    sand thrown out of a ditch, hard at first to detect
    amid the red radical leaves–
    The flower buds of late there have now that
// rank smell. Lambkill out X at Clam shell
// The C. crus galli is out of bloom. Arenaria Serpyl-
    Abundant there June 20
    ? lifolia is out of bloom at Clam shell–
    // Side flowering sand-wort abundantly out this side
    // of Dugan Spring. Solanum well out, by Wood's Bridge
    June 11th 56
    Pm To Flint's Pond–
    // The locust in graveyard shows but few blossoms
    // yet. It is very hot this Pm–& that peculiar
    stillness of summer noons–now reigns in the
    woods– I observe & appreciate the shade–as it
    were the shadow of each particular leaf on

¹"at"; "a" written over a dash, which is written over a closed parenthesis; "t" written over "&", suggesting
two layers of revision: T first wrote "quickly–&"; then he wrote a closed paren over the dash possibly cancelling
the dash; finally he wrote "at first" over the dash, the closed paren, and the ampersand.
²Possibly "wood" or "wood" altered from "woods" or vice versa
the ground. I think that this peculiar darkness of the shade—of the foliage—as seen between you and the sky, is not accounted for merely by saying that we have not yet got accustomed to clothed trees—but the leaves are rapidly acquiring a darker green—are more & more opaque—and beside the sky is lit with the intensest light. It reminds me of the thunder cloud—and the dark eye-lash—of Summer—Great cumuli are slowly drifting in the intensely blue sky—with glowing white borders—The reg-eye sings incessant & the more indolent yel—throat vireo—and the creeper & perhaps the red start? or else it is the particolored warbler—

I perceive that scent from the young sweetfern shoots—and withered blossoms—which made the first settlers of Concord to faint—on their journey.

Saw yesterday a great yellow butterfly with black marks. See under an apple tree at entrance of Goose Pond path from Walden road a

8 or 9 inches high Great fungus with hollow white stem whose black funereal top has melted this morning—leaving a black center with thin white scales on it. All the cistuses are shut now also that I see—and the veiny leaved hieracium with one leaf on its stem—not long open.

I notice no white lily pads near the bathing rock in Flint's Pond. See a breams nest 2 1/4 feet diameter—laboriously scooped-out &

---

1"Goose" possibly written over "goose"
the surrounding bottom for a diameter of 8 feet!! comparatively white & clean—while all beyond is mud & leaves &c—& a very large green & cupreous bream with a red spot on the operculum is poised over the center—while half a dozen shiners are hovering about, ap. watching a chance to steal the spawn—A Partridge with young in the sawmill brook-path—Could hardly tell what kind of creature it was at first, it made such a noise & fluttering amid the weeds & bushes—Finally ran off with its body flat & wings somewhat spread.

// Utricularia vulgaris very abundant in Everett’s pool. A beautiful grass-green snake about 15 inches long—light beneath with a yellow space under the eyes along the edge of the upper jaw—

// The R. Triflorus ap. out of bloom at Saw mill before the high blackberry has begun.

// Rice tells me he found a turtle doves nest on an apple tree near his barns in Sudbury 2 years ago—with white eggs—so thin a bottom you could see the eggs through.

Pm to Conantum on foot
Sophia has sent me in a letter from Worcester part of an orchis in bloom ap. P. Hookeri? or smaller round leafed orchis from the Her-

June 12th 56
mitage wood so called N. E. of the town—but
the 2 leaves are elliptical. Utricularia vulgaris
was abundantly out yesterday in Everett's pool
how—long? Side-saddle flow numerously out
now— Ap. a small pewee nest on apple
in Miles meadow bird on & not to be frightened off
though I throw sticks & climb the tree to near her—
Friday June 13

To Worcester—
See the Common iris in meadow in Acton—
Brown shows me from his window the word guano
written on the grass in a field near the hospital
say 3/4 of a mile distant. It was one of the lions
of Worcester last year & I can now read some of the
letters distinctly so permanent are the effects of
the guano. The letters may be 2 or more rods
long—& the green is darker and more luxuriant—(on
the side of a hill)—

June 14th
Walk to Hermitage woods—with Sophia
& aunts— Uvularia perfoliata very com-
mon there now out of bloom— Rham-
nus Catharticus—(common buck-thorn) natural-
ized in those woods—now going out of bloom.
It is dioecious¹ 12 feet high. N side.
Maple-leaved viburnum out a day or more
there ap— Mallows abundantly out in street

June 15
Mrs Brown reads a letter from John Downs in

¹"dioecious": "oe" obscured by inkblot. Loudon describes the plant as "dioecious" ("Arboretem et Fruticetum Britannicum," vol. 2, p. 529)
Philadelphia— in which he remembers his early youth in Shrewsbury—& the pout accompanied by her young. A Miss Martha Le Barron describes to me a phosphorescence on the beach at night in Narragansett Bay— They wrote their names with some minute creatures on the sand.

Pm to some woods SW of Worcester The moist bass bark just stripped from a sapling smells just like a cucumber. A night flowering Cereus opens 3 or 4 times at a Mrs Newtons while I am there— Once it opened at about 9 pm & closed & drooped & came to an end like a wet rag wrung out at daylight— Transient as my mushroom— was about a foot in diameter— but an ordinary stem like the turkey's

June 16

Saw at the Nat. Hist. rooms a shell labelled Haliotis splendens ap same with mine from Ricketson's son with holes & green reflections—

To Purgatory in Sutton by RR & line to Wilkinson{-}ville in the NE corner of Sutton 30 cts—& by buggy 4 or 5 miles to Purgatory in the S or SE part of the town some 12 miles from Worcester—the stream rising from the bottom of it must empty into the Blackstone perhaps through the Mumford river. Sutton is much
wooded– The woman at the last house told
an animal seen in the neighborhood last year
– Well she "had no doubt that there had
been a bad animal about–" a Mr. Somebody
bet. there & Sutton center
{who} who could be relied on ^ had been aroused by
noised early one morning & looking out saw this
animal near a wood pile in his yard–as big
as a good sized dog. He soon made off
making nothing of the walls & fences–before
He & his sons got their guns ready– They
raised part of the town–a body of shoe-
makers, & surrounded a swamp into which
it was supposed to have entered–but
they did not dare to go into it–. Also a strange
large track was seen where it crossed the
road– Found at the very bottom of
this Purgatory where it was dark & damp
on the steep moss & fern covered side of a
rock which had fallen into it–a wood-
thrushes nest–scarcely a doubt of the bird
though I saw not its breast fairly–heard
the note around–& the eggs (one of which
I have) correspond. Nest of fine moss from
the rock–(hypnum?) & within lined with pine
needles–3 eggs–fresh.
Found in the Purgatory–the Pannicled elder
ribbed
Sambucus pubens partly gone to ^ seed but
some in flower–new to me. Polygonum
Clinoida
Dumetorum? not yet in flower. Moose
//
wood or striped maple–& also close by above
Actaea alba out of bloom & a chestnut

oak common—Cow wheat numerously out—

Heard around from within the purgatory—not only Wilson’s¹ thrush—but ev. forest note—tanager & saw chip-squirrels within it.

June 17th

Go to Blake’s—

Indigo bird on his trees—Am ride with him & Brown & sophia round a part of Quinsigamond pond into shrewsbury—The southerly end of the pond covered for a great distance with pads of yel & white lily—measured one of the last 9 7/8 inch long by 9 6/8

with sharp lobes &c & a reddish petiole. Small primrose well out how long? The cedar swamp—source of Assabet must be partly in Grafton (as well as Westboro near R. R. ac to a farmer in Shrewsbury.

P. m. Went to Rev. Horace James' Reptiles—(Orthodox) He had set up a barred owl without horns & a little less than the catowl—Also a large lobe-footed bird which I think must have been a large grebe—killed in Fitchburg. He distinguished the R. halecina in the alchohol by more squareish? spots—showed me the horned frog.? or toad? also alive in bottle with moss & water the violet colored salamander—S. venenosa with yellow spots (5 or 6 inch long) prob—same I found in stump at Walden

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

He finds a var. of Emys guttata with striated scales—(mentioned by Holbrook—& Storer.)

Saw a ^ box turtle shell with initials in sternum—One thought that what ever was cut in the scale was renewed in the new scale.

Saw in spirits the Heterodon platirhinos from Smithfield R. I. flat snouted—some what like a striped snake—& a very small brown snake.

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

At Nat Hist rooms a great cone from a southern pine—& a monstrous nut shell from the E Indies? seed of the Lodoicea Sechellarum Sechelles Islands²

June 18

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

June 19th

Looked at a collection of the rarer plants

¹"S" written over "s"
²"Sechelles Islands" altered from "sechelles islands"
made by Higginson & placed at the Nat. Hist. Rooms. Among which noticed Ranunculus Purshii–var α & β. with no
diff. apparent–unless in upper leaves being more or
less divided.
Ribes Lacustre or Swamp Gooseberry with a loose
race me such as I have not seen–from Wht mts.
A circsea or Enchanter's nightshade with a very large
race me–with larger branchlets than I
have seen methinks.–^no not larger
Calla Palutris very different, from the
Peltandra virginicum.
Cerastium arvense with linear leaves–quite new to me.

Smilacina stellata from Dr Harris–very diff from
the racemosa being simple.
Sedum latifolium from Wht mts rather broader leafed
than mine from Maine.
Barbarea Sativa from Cambridge ap like my B.

vulgaris.
Is the Smilacina racemosa with such
long lower branchlets–peculiar? there in Worcester^2?
I saw several in woods. in Lancaster

// On way to Concord see Mt Laurel^3 out ^=—ap X
had seen none out in Worcester.

Friday June 20th

Am to Baker Farm with Ricketson.

// A very hot day
// 2 Sternothaerus odoratus by heap in Sanborn's garden
one making a hole for its eggs—ap the rear
of its shell partly covered. See a great many
of these out today on ground & in willows

^1Pencilled dash written above ink period
^2"W" possibly altered from "w"
^3"Laurel" possibly altered from "sorrel"
Swamp pink out ap 2 or 3 days at Clam shell //
ditch– Late Thalictrum ap a day or 2 there //
Arch angelica ap 2 or 3 days
A phoebe nest 2nd time with 4 cream white
the 2nd brood in the same nest
eggs–got one ^–saw a snap turtle out //
Prob. the water was too warm for him
in sun on tussock op. Bittern Cliff. ^ They
had at Middlesex house yesterday–snuff flavored
with ground or or pulverized black birch bark.

Walking under an apple tree in the little Baker
farm peach orchard–heard an incessant shrill musical
twitter or peeping as from young birds over my head
–{and} & looking up saw a hole in an up right dead
bough some 15 feet from ground– Climbed up
& finding that the shrill twitter came from it
–guessed it to be the nest of a downy woodpecker–  //
V. July 19th

which proved to be the case–for it reminded
me of the hissing squeak or squeaking hiss
of young Pig. woodpeckers–but this was
more musical or bird-like. The bough was
4 1/2
about 5 inches in diameter–& the hole
perfectly circular about 1 1/4 inch in diameter.
– Ap. nests had been in holes above now broken
out–higher up–when I put my fingers in it
the young breathed their shrill twitter louder
than ever. Anon the old appeared & came
quite near while I stood in the tree keeping
up an incessant loud & shrill scolding note
& also after I descending–not to be
relieved.– Potentilla norvegica ap. X.
ap petals blown away. 5 young phoebes
// in a nest ap. upon—a swallow nest in Conant
old house—just ready to fly—Rudbeckia
// hirta budded.

June 21
// Pm to Walden—Much pine pollen
is washed up on the NW side of the pond—
Must it not have come from pines at a distance?
Very hot day—as was yesterday—98° at 2 Pm
99° at 3 & 128° in sun. Night hawks
numerously squeak at 5 pm—& boom. Saw
them fly low & touch the water like swallows
// over walden—Find a dozen of the hydropeltis
out—ap. several days. My canoe birch
wine {with} smells & tastes like mead considerably.
All my birch wines are now more acid—& very
Am surprised to see it effer-
white
good indeed with sugar. vese & all white with ^ sugar only like
a soda water

Sunday June 22d
Pm to Walden—
Ricketson says that they say at N—Bedford—
that the song-sparrow says—maids, maids,
maids—hang on your tea-kettle—ettle
ttle ettle ettle—
R. W. E imitates the wood-thrush by
He willy willy—ha willy willy—O
willy Q The woods still resound
with the note of my tweezer bird
—or S. Americana.
June 23d
To New Bedford—with Ricketson—
In R’s mowing—ap. Lucerne out some //
days—His son Walton shewed me one of
4 perfectly white eggs taken from a hole
in an apple tree 8 ft from ground. (I examined
the hole) He had seen a blue bird there
& I saw a blue feather in it & ap. a blue
bird's nest. Were not these the eggs of a
downy woodpecker laid in a blue bird’s nest?
They were all gone now

Bay wings sang morning & evening about
R's house—often sitting on a bean pole—and
dropping down & running & singing on the
bare ground amid the potatoes—Its note
somewhat like—Come, here here, there
fast
there,—quick quick quick,—or I'm gone.
Prinos laevigatus common & just begun

to bloom behind R’s house—
June 24th
To Sassacowen Pond & to Long Pond—
Common Yellow thistle abundant about R’s.
open a good while. Maryland yel. throats
very common in bushes behind his house—nest
with young. American holly now in prime. //
The light-colored masses of Mt laurel
were visible across Sassacowen—
A king birds nest just completed in an
apple tree—Lunched by the spring on

---

1Dash written above comma
the Brady Farm— & there it occurred to me how to get clear water from a spring—when the surface is covered with dust or insects. Thrust your dipper down deep in the middle of the spring & lift it up quickly straight & square—this will heap up the water in the middle so that the scum will run off—

We were surrounded by white weed— The week before I had seen it equally abundant

In many fields the flowers placed in one plane would more than cover the surface)

had a dark ring of small black insects on its disk— Think of the many dense white fields between here & there, aye and for a thousand miles around—& then calculate the amount of insect life of one obscure species!

Went off to Nelson’s Island (Now Brigg’s)

in Long Pond by a long & narrow bar (50 rods as I paced it) in some places the water over shoes—& the sand commonly only 3 or 4 feet wide. This is a noble island—maybe of 8 or 10 acres—some 30 feet high and just enough wooded—with grass ground and grassy hollows There was a beech wood at the west end—where R’s son Walton¹ found an arrowhead when they were here before & the hemlocks resounded with the note of the tweezer bird—S. americana

¹“Walton” possibly altered from “walton”
There were many ephemerae half dead on the bushes—R. dreams of residing here.

June 25

An abundance of the handsome corn ap. in prime midst of cockle—(Lychnis) in a rye-field—together with morning-glories by the Acushnet shore.
Black grass in bloom—partly done. A kind of rush? with terete leaves—& a long spike of flowers 1 to 2 feet high somewhat like a loose plantain spike— It inclines to grow in circles a foot or more in diameter.
Sea side plantain—& rosemary, not long out. Veronica arvensis 1 foot high! on the shore there— Spergularia rubra var. marina P. m. Called at Thomas A1 Greene’s in New Bedford—said to be best acquainted with the botany of this vicinity— (Also acquainted with shells & somewhat with geology—)

In answer to my question—what were the rare or peculiar plants thereabouts he looked over his botany deliberately—& named—the Aletris farinosa or star-grass—the Hydrocotyle vulgaris [prob in terrupta of Gray] which he thought was now gone— Proserpinaca pectinacea at the shallow pond in Westport where I went last fall with Ricketson—Panax trifolium

That Chenopodium-like plant on
the saltmarsh shore—with hastate leaves
// mealy under sides is atriplex patula—
not yet out—

Brewer in a communication to Audubon¹ (as I read in his 100? dollar edition) makes 2 kinds of song sparrow—& says that Audubon has represented one—the most common about houses, with a spot in the center of the breast, and Wilson the other more universally spotted on the breast. The latter's nest will be 2 feet high in a bush—& sometimes covered over & with an arched entrance—& with 6 eggs (while the other has not more than 5) larger & less pointed than the former's & ap. almost wholly rusty brown. This builds further from houses. V June 23–60

Thursday June 26th
In Loudon's Ecyclopedia of Agriculture far (Of² the Romans) is translated Ind. corn or Zea!

the Fringilla passerina
Ac. to Audubon's & Wilson's plates ^ has a for
? the most part clear yellowish white breast—
& next page to this
V. May 28th But the Savannah sparrow no conspicuous yellow on shoulder—a yellow brow—
& white crown line.

Rode to Sconticut Neck or point in Fair Haven 5 or 6 miles—& saw ap—
the F. savannah—near their nests—(my seringo note) restlessly flitting about me from³

¹“A” possibly written over “a”
²Possibly “of” or “of” altered from “Of”
³Drawing of Brady Farm laid in or waxed in the middle section of this page. Caption in Ricketson’s hand reads: “June 24th 1856 / H. D. T / D. R / Brady Farm / Freetown Bristol Co / Mass”. For an image of this MS page, see Appendix, p. 335.
rock to rock within a rod. Distinctly yellow browed
& spotted breast—not like plate of passerina
– Audubon says that the eggs of the
Savannah sparrow "are of a pale bluish
color, softly mottled with purplish brown." &
those of the yellow winged sparrow are
"of a dingy white, sprinkled with brown
spots."– The former is ap my seringo’s egg
Is not Nuttal mistaken when he describes the notes
of may 28th of the Savannah sparrow in March in Georgia as "very long,
piping, & elevated" and says that they sometimes have a note like a cricket. Wilson
& audubon refers to the last note only.
Saw a farmer on the Neck¹ with one of
Palmers patent wooden legs–he went
but little lame–& said that he did his
own mowing & most of his ordinary farm
work–though ploughing in the present
state of his limb, which had not yet healed,
wrenched him some. He had lost a leg
just below the knee–& was supported
mainly on his thigh above the stump.

The old{er} houses about N. Bedford
–as on this neck–(& one a hundred
years old is an old one) have commonly
stone chimneys–which are agreeable
to my eye–& built with more taste than
brick ordinarily–i.e. more elaborately–
Yet they are now pulled down–& brick
subsstituted–or else concealed with
a coat of mortar!

This neck like the N. Bedford country
generally–is very flat to my eye²

¹"N" written over "n"
²Drawing of Martha Simons’ house laid in or waxed in the middle section of this page. Caption in
Ricketson’s hand reads: "Martha Simons’ house / Sconticut Neck / D. R. / June 26th 1856". For an image of this
MS page, see Appendix, p. 335.
even as far inland as Middleboro—

When’ R. decided to take another
guess from the latter place be-
cause it was less hilly— I said I
had not observed a hill in all
our ride. I found on the rocky &
rather desolate extremity of this Point\(^2\)
the common oxalis stricta on the sea
shore— abundant— going to seed— bea ap—
carrots? naturalized— atriplex not yet out

An abundance

beach pea still out and going to seed. of the small

iris in the field near by.

It was thick weather— after a drizzling
fore-noon & we could just see across
Buzzards Bay from the point— to Falmouth—
—Mattapoisett was the point next
above on this side. I had been expecting
to find the aletris about N. Bedford—
& when taking our luncheon on this
Neck— what should I see rising about
the luncheon box between me & R but
what I knew must be the aletris farinosa

// not yet out— but one near by
would open up in 2 or 3 days.

I was struck by the number of quails
thereabouts— & elsewhere in this vicinity—
— They keep up an incessant whistling—
these days— as also about R’s house.
— within a stones throw of it— & I
several times saw them in the

\(^1\)“When” possibly “Where”

\(^2\)“P” altered from “p”
middle of the road in front of his house covies & on the road fence there– Also saw cowbirds in flocks on the road there. Around R's shanty was heard an incessant whistling of quails–& morning & evening the strain of the baywing–& some rather feeble purple finches–young males without the purple–dark colored–

Talked with a farmer by name of Slocum hoeing on the Neck– A rather dull & countrified fellow for our neighborhood, I should have said. Asked him by chance about getting to Cutty-hunk–if it was safe to cross the bay in a whale boat– Yes–or Ye-e-s His boat was only some 12 feet long and went over 2 or 3 times a year– His relations lived there. Perhaps he understood navigating here– Well he'd been round the world considerably– Have you been master of a whaler– Yes–he'd been to most all parts of the world–

Heard of & sought out the hut of Martha Simons–the only pure blooded Indian left about N. Bed. ford. She lives alone on the narrowest point of the neck near the shore in sight of N. Bedford– Her hut stands some 25 rods from the road on a

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\[^{1}\text{on}^\text{written over in}^\]
small tract of Ind Land—now wholly hers—
It was formerly exchanged by a white man
for some better land then occupied by Ind.
at Westport—which he wanted— So said
a Quaker Minister, her neighbor. The squaw
was not at home when we first called— It was
a little hut not so big as mine— V. sketch
by R. with the bay not far behind it—
No garden only some lettuce amid the
(white)
& a great ^ pile of clam & quahog shells one side
thin grass in front. ^ She ere long came in
from the sea side—& we called again.

We knocked & walked in—& she asked
us to sit down— She had half an acre
of the real tawny Ind. face—broad with
black eyes
high cheek bones, ^ & straight hair
originally black—but now a little gray—
parted in the middle. Her hands were
several shades darker than her face—
She had a peculiarly vacant expression—
perhaps characteristic of the Indian—&
answered our questions listlessly—without
being interested or implicated—mostly in mono-
syllables—as if hardly present there— To
judge from her physiognomy she might have
been King Philip’s own daughter—
Yet she could not speak a word1 of
Indian and knew nothing of her race—
said She had lived with the whites—gone
out to service to them when 7 yrs old—

1“word” altered from "world"
Had lived part of her life at Squaw
Betty's neck—Assawampsett Pond—Did she know Sampson's—She'd ought to—she'd done work enough there. She said she was sixty years old but was probably nearer seventy. She sat with her elbows on her knees & her face in her hands—& that peculiar vacant stare, perhaps looking out the window between us—not repelling us in the least but perfectly indifferent to our presence—

She was born on that spot—Her grand-father also lived on the same spot—though not in the same place—He was the last of her race who could speak Indian. She had heard him pray in Ind. but could only understand "Jesus Christ" Her only companion was a miserable tortoise shell kitten which took no notice of us—She had a stone chimney—a small cooking stove

fore

without ^ legs—set up on bricks within it—& a bed covered with dirty bed clothes. Said she hired out her field as pasture—better for her than to cultivate it. There were 2 young heifers in it. The question she answered with most interest—was—"What do you call that plant?", and I reached her the aletris from my hat—she took it, looked at it a moment—& said "That's husk root, It's good to put into
bitters for a weak stomach—“The last years
light colored & withered leaves surround the present
green star—like a husk—This must be
the origin of the name. The root is described as
intensely bitter. I ought to have had my hat
full of plants. ¹A conceited old
Quaker minister her neighbor—told me
with a sanctified air—"I think that the Indians
were² human beings; dost thee not think so?"
He only convinced me of his doubt & narrow-
ness.

June 27ᵗʰ
P. m Went with³ R & his boys—in
the steamer Eagle wing—with a crowd
& band of music to the N. E. end of
Naushon—"Woods Hole⁴"—some 15
miles from New Bedford—about 2
hours going. ⁵ Saw all the Elizabeth
Isles going & coming—They are mostly
bare except the E. end of Naushon—
This island is some 7 miles long by 1 to 2
wide. I had some 2 1/2 hours there—
I was surprised to find such a noble
primitive wood—chiefly—beech—such
as the Eng. poets celebrate—. & oak—
(black oak I think) large & spreading
like pasture oaks with—us though in a
wood—The ground under the beeches
was covered with the withered leaves—

¹Walton Ricketson reviewed the Journal MSS before they were published in 1906, using a vertical pencil
line and the letter "R" to indicate material he preferred not to have published. The vertical pencil line begins
between "plants." and "A" and stops below "convinced" five lines down the page, with "R" appearing at the top of
the pencil line. Despite Ricketson’s mark, these lines appear in the 1906 Journal. (need better copy)
²"were" possibly altered from "are" ("w" possibly added in margin; "ere" possibly altered from "are")
³Ricketson’s vertical pencil line begins above "with" and continues through the end of the page, ending
between "covered" and "with" on the last line, with "R" appearing below the "with" in the first line of the entry.
Despite Ricketson’s mark, these lines appear in the 1906 Journal. (need better copy)
⁴"H" altered from "h"
& peculiarly free from vegetation— On the edge of a swamp I saw great tupelos running up particularly tall without lower branches—2 or 3 feet in diameter with a rough light colored bark. Noticed a thorn—perhaps—cockspur with an undivided leaf—gooseberries—staghorn sumac not in bloom— Most of the passengers expected to find strawberries. Saw a common wild grape vine running over a beech which was ap—flattened out by it—which vine measured at 6 feet from ground 23 inches in circumference—

It was large below, where it had already forked. At 6² feet from ground it divided into 3 great branches. It did not rise directly—but with a great half spiral sweep—or anguish. No sight could be more primeval. It was partly or chiefly dead. This was in the midst of the woods by a path side. Just beyond we started up 2 deer—

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

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¹Ricketson’s vertical pencil line begins above "from" and continues through "beyond we", twenty-two lines down the page, with "K" appearing below "from". Despite Ricketson’s mark, these lines appear in the 1906 Journal. (need better copy)
²"6" possibly altered from "5"
// with "storks nests")! in the pines– Were
they Blue herons?

    Naushon is said to be part of the
township of Chilmark– Martha’s Vineyard–
& to Belong to Mr. Swain of N. Bedford
& Forbes of Boston– some say to Swain alone.

    Walton Ricketson went down in
a schooner the next day again, &
found the pond near Swains well stocked
with pickerel of which he caught many
in a few hours.
Returning I caught sight of Gay head
& its light house– with my glass between
Pasque & Nashawena– This light house
ac. to Congdon, who says he measured
it trigonometrically, is not more than
150 feet above the sea. The passages between
the islands are called "holes". Quick's
is one. Cuttyhunk was very plain. Congdon
said that he was there about 30 years
ago– but could see no traces of Gos-
old there– & does not believe there are
any– Capt. Slocum (of the day before)
who has relations there, never saw any–
Mr Wall– said that there was one
old gentleman still alive a Mr
Howland who went on there with
Belknap– who could tell all about
it. The island is cultivated.
June 28\textsuperscript{th}

*Lamium amplexicaule* still out behind R's shanty— I picked up 2 arrow heads // amid oyster & clamshells by a rock at the head of the creek opposite Rs. One was of peculiar form quite blunt & small—thus— of quartz— ap to knock over small game without breaking the skin.

Pm\textsuperscript{1} I had paddled up the Acushnet— about 1 mile above the paper mill as far as the ruined mill—in Walton's\textsuperscript{2} skiff with Arthur R. (Walton was named from I. Walton the angler—& Arthur from Danas hero in—"Sun not set yet" &c I never saw such an abundance of *pellan* peltandra as borders that sluggish & narrow stream—in bunches alternating with pickerel weed—leaves of very various forms & sizes.

Sunday June 29\textsuperscript{th}

P. m. Bathed in the creek—which swarms with terrapins?—as the boys called them— I find no account of them in Storer.!! ?

They put their heads out & floated about just like the E. picta—& often approached and played?) with each other. Some were ap. 7 or 8 inches long & of a yellowish color— A man by the river side

\textsuperscript{1}Possibly "P–m–" or "P. m."

\textsuperscript{2}"Walton's" possibly altered from "skiff"
told us that he had 2 young ducks which he let out to seek their food along the river side at low tide that morning. At length he noticed that one remained stationary amid the grass or salt weeds—& something prevented its following the other. He went to its rescue—& found its foot shut tightly in a quahog's shell amid the grass which the tide had left. He took up all together—carried to his house—& his wife opened the shell with a knife—released the duck—& cooked the quahog. Bathed again near Dogfish bar—It was warm & dirty water—muddy bottom. I prob. found an Indian's bone at Throgg's point—where their bodies have been dug up—

Monday June 30

Am. to Middleboro' Ponds—in the new town of Lakeville—(some 3 yrs old) what a miserable name!—It should have been Assawampsett— or perchance Sanacus if that was the name of the Christian Indian killed on the pond. By the road side Long Plain North Fair Haven observed a tupelo 7 feet high with a rounded top—shaped like an umbrella 8 feet diameter

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1“t” inserted in pencil
2“i” in “knife” obscured by ink blot or bleed-through
3“Throgg’s point” enclosed in pencilled parentheses, with pencilled “x” following dash after “point”; “x Coggeshallo Point” written in pencil below “been dug up—”. The pencilled material is not in T’s hand; it may have been added by Walton Ricketson.
4Exclamation mark written above and below dash
5“Sanacus” poss underlined in pencil
spreading over the wall—& the main stem
 divided suddenly at 2 feet only below the
top—where it was 6 inches in diameter!

On the right hand in the old Orchard
near the Quitticus Ponds—heard & at
last saw my tweezer bird—which is extremely
restless flitting from bough to bough & apple
tree to apple tree—Its note like AL—
zre zre zre—zritter zritter zrit
S. Americana particolored warbler—with //
golden green reflections on the back—2 white
bars on wings—all beneath white—Large
orange mark on breast—bordered broadly
with lemon yellow—and yellow throat—
These were making the woods ring in
Concord when I left—& are very common

Saw a haymaker with his suspenders crossed before as well
hereabouts. as behind. A valuable hint which I think I shall improve upon
since I am much troubled by mine slipping off my shoulders.

Borrowed Roberts’ boat—shaped like
a pumpkin seed—for he wished to paddle
on Great Quittacus. Roberts is the mean
Calvinist minister from England a dozen
or more years since— Ricketson was invited
to dine there once— There was a great parade
and all the forms of hospitality—but the
chief food was one pigeon—all of which
was eaten by the sang son. On parting
with him Roberts said the next time
you come bring a joint of meat with
you— We landed & lunched on Haskell's
Island—which contains some 25 or 30 acres—Just beyond this was Reed’s Island which was formerly cultivated—the cattle being swum across or taken over in a scow—A man praised the soil to me & said that rye enough had been raised on it to cover it 6 inches deep. At one end of Haskell’s Island was ap. a piece of primitive wood—beech, hemlock &c—under the first I found some low dry brown plants—perhaps—beech drops & the like 2 species—but saw none of this year—One who formerly owned this island Reeds island said that a man once lived on Haskell’s I. & had a henery there. The tweezer birds were lively in the hemlocks.

Rode on to the Pond Meeting house—whence there is a fine view of Assawampsett—It is probably the broadest lake in the state—Uriah (?) Sampson told me it was about 8 or 10 feet deep in the middle but some what deeper about\(^1\) of these ponds the sides—The main outlet is N. E by Taunton river—though there is some connection with the Mattapoisett River—And Assonet R. drains the neighborhood of Long Pond on the west. 2 men spoke of Loon’s eggs on a rocky isle in Little quitticus—I saw

\(^1\)“about” possibly altered from “on”
the Lobelia Dortmanna in bloom in the last. //

A. S. W breeze springs up every afternoon at this season—comparatively cool & refreshing from the sea.
As we were returning a Mr. Sampson was catching perch at the outlet from Long Pond—where it emptied into Asawampsett with a swift current—The surface of the rippling water there was all alive with yellow perch & white ones—whole schools showing their snouts or tails as they rose for the young alewives which appeared to be passing out of Long Pond the brook. These, some of which I have in spirits, were about 1 1/2 inches long. Sampson fished with these for bait—trailing or jerking it along the surface exactly as for pickerel & the perch bit very fast. He showed me one yellow white perch. It was a broader fish than the yellow—but much softer scaled—& generally preferred. He said they would not take the hook after a certain season—He swept out some young alewives (herring) with a stick onto the shore—& among them were young yellow perch also 1 1/2 inches long with the transverse bands perfectly distinct. I have some in spirit. The large ones were devouring these no doubt together with the alewives.

1"yellow" possibly underlined
Is not June the month when most of our freshwater fish are spawned?

July 1st

Pm Paddled on the Acushnet--passed through some schools of fishes—which were rippling the surface about us in midstream. The back fins very long & sharp projected 2 or 3 inches above water. Walton said afterward that they were Menhaden--

July 2nd

Return to Concord. Looked at the birds in the Nat. Hist. Rooms in Boston. Observed no white spots on the Sparrow hawks wing—nor on the Pig. or sharp-shinned hawks—Indeed they were so closed that I could not have seen them. Am uncertain to which my wing belongs.

? May I not have seen the White crowned sparrow in company with the white-throated? They are much alike. Yet Wilson says they rarely associate

The Hemlock and Pine Warbler are much alike—Is it possible I have confounded them?
July 3rd
Pm— to Assabet R.
In the main stream at the Rock I am surprised to see flags and pads—laying the foundation of an islet in the middle where I had thought it {dep} before— Ap. a hammock lifted by ice sunk there in the spring—and this may be the way in which many an island has been formed in the river.

I scare up 1 or 2 woodcocks in dif. places by the shore where they are feeding & in a meadow— They go off with a whistling flight. Can see where their bills have probed the mud.

See a sternothaerus on a small stump 2 feet over water. I approach & take hold of it but cannot easily remove it. It appears to be shrunk on—withering away & dying there—it barely moves its head & eyes ap. a male slightly—and its flippers look—very much shrunken—yet it tumbles off after I leave— I notice after ward, on succeeding days—many of them resting thus sluggishly—and find that I can approach & handle them—and leave them as I found them. They ap. much more sluggish than the other kinds were—though they were active enough in the spring.
The tortoises improve every rock--& willow slanting over the water--& every floating board & rail-- You will see one on the summit of a black willow stump several feet high--& 2 or more part way up--

Some tumble from a height of 5½ or 6 feet into the water before you-- Even the great snap turtle puts his head out & climbs up a rock on the bank with the rest.

July 5th

Am² to Loring’s Pond.

Pink colored yarrow-- Epilobium coloratum

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

// Plucked some large luscious purple pyrus

// berries. Lactuca some days out.

Borrowed Witherells boat & paddled

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

Much of this Pond is now very shallow & muddy & crowded with pads &c-- I can hardly push through them. Yet I can see no more white lily pads shaped as that appears to have been which I found here a few weeks since. Many pickerel dart away from amidst the pads &

---

¹"5" possibly altered from another number
²"Am" possibly altered from "am"
in one place I see one or 2 great snap-turtles—

I notice 2 vars? perhaps of Asclepias Cornuti now out—one in the RR meadow this side the Brooks’ Crossing—the other beyond the 1st mile post above. The last has broader

more decidedly

leaves & blunter—^ mucronate—& pedicels & peduncles quite downy the^ former little more than 2ce

the length of the petals. The other has narrower & more pointed leaves—peduncles & pedicels but little downy comparatively—the latter more than 3 times the length of the petals—^ & not so numerous as in the other— V. their pods, if spiny, by & by.

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

The notes of barn swallows—perhaps with their young—are particularly loud now & almost metallic

vibrating ^ like that of a mackerel gull.

The large evening primrose—below the foot of our garden—does not open till sometime or sundown between 6 1/2 & 8 P. m^2 ^ . It was not open when I went to bathe—but partly out in the cool of the evening at sundown—as if enjoying the serenity of the hour.

July 6th

Pm to Assabet Bath.

^"the" possibly altered from "all"

^"P" written over "a"
Campanula aparinoïdes roadside opposite centa-several days

Early low blueberries ripe—

Crossed the river at Bath Place—on the sanday

bank opposite saw a wood tortoise voraciously
eating sorrel leaves—under my face—

In A. Hosmer's Ice bared meadow S of turnpike see hear the distressed or anxious peep of a peetweet & see it hovering over its young

half grown which runs beneath—& suddenly

hides securely in the grass when but few feet from

me. White avens—evidently Bigelows

a good while

G. allium ^ (which Gray makes only a var

of G. Virginianum) very rough & so much
earlier than the G. virginianum—that only
one flower remains X the heads have attained
their full size with twisted tails to the awns—

While the other will not open for some days.

I think Big. must be right. Lysimachia lanceolata

/ / / / a day or 2{.} Rhus Typhina in our

yard—how long? did not see it out in New-

Beford 10 days ago. There is a young

red mulberry in the lower hedge beneath the

Celtis.

My clustered rubus is not long & running on

the ground like the R. canadensis—&

short and semi erect thus & the

blossoming branches are arrange like

a raceme about last years stems— Each

little raceme is many flowered (10 more or

less) with short (1/2 to 3/4 inch) spreading

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1"L" altered from "$l$"
pedicels—with long linear lanceolate bracts
while the Canadensis is few flowered (3 or 4), the
pedicels 2 or more inches long—& all upright
The former is much the least prickly—& the
green branchlets are quite smooth—while the
other & the villosus have recurved prickles ^
(The 11th of July—see at end of Balls (?) Hill near
? the wall a sort of var. of the clustered rubus
still in bloom—with weak bristles on the pe-
duncles & pedicels & old stems. Some of these
last in Press.
G. Emerson says the sweetbriar was doubtless
introduced—yet ac. to Bancroft Gosnold
Found it on the Elizabeth Isles—
? July 7— I see a dif. now between the
alder leaves—near Island—& edge of meadow
westward—on hill—the former—slightly downy be-
neath—the latter (ap. A serrulata) green
& smooth—but yet not pointed at base.
Do I not see a taller kind of wool grass ?
in that birch meadow E of Hill?
Pm. to Gowing’s swamp.
The purple finch still sings over the street ?
The sagittaria large form is out—road side //
Moore’s swamp. The vac. oxycoccus is //
almost entirely out of bloom & the berries are
as big as small huckleberries ^ (while the V. macro-
carpum is in full bloom & no berries appear on it.)
It must therefore have begun about the 1st of June
Saw the Kalmia glauca by the small cranberry
on the edge of betrayed by its 2-edged twig.—
The snake head arethusa is now abundant amid the cranberries there.

July 8th

3 Pm. to Baker Farm by boat—

// River down to lower side of long rock—
When I landed on Hosmer flat shore started
// a large water adder ap. sunning on the bank—
It ran at once into the river & was lost under
// the pads. Ranunculus reptans is abundantly out at mouth of brook, Baker shore, Is that
// small sparganium there, now abundantly out, about 18 inch high—with leaves narrow & convex below—concave above—the same species with the larger? some in press.
// Got the Downy woodpeckers nest some days empty V 19th
Find several large & coarse potentilla

{ } 2 1/2 feet high & more

// argutas ^ at Bittern Cliff nearly out of bloom— Flowers in crowded corymb—
They are white, not yellow, as Gray calls them.
In the side-hill woodlot (or Spring woodlot) behind—where the wood was out last winter—
// Poke leaved milkweed—A. Phytolaccoides ap a some days
// day or 2 & Circaea alpina—^ a foot high with opaque leaves & bracts (in press) This I find to be the same with the forme small also bracted
^ one at Corner spring (whose leaves were: perhaps when
more transparent ^ in shade, but which now grows v 4 ps forward & also July 24
larger in sun).

Sophia saw this^ P. m. 2 great snap—
turtles fighting near the new stone bridge—making a great commotion in the river—& not regarding the spectators she & another—& a teamster who stopped his team to observe them.

Sam. Wheeler—who did not know there were snap-turtles here—says he saw op. to his boarding house on the side-walk in New York the other day—a green turtle which weighed 720 lbs which in a short time dropt eggs enough to fill a vessel some feet in diameter—He partook of some of the soup made of it—& there were several eggs in it,—where were luscious.

After Jules Gerard the Lion Killer had hunted lions for some time, & run great risk of losing his life—Though he struck the lions in the right place with several balls—(the lions steadily advancing upon him even though they had got a death wound—) he discovered that it was not enough to be brave & take good aim, that his balls, which were of lead, lacked penetration & were flattened against the lions bones—and according he {sent to France & obtained} \(^1\) (afterward used) balls which were pointed with steel—& went through & through both shoulder blades.

So I should say that the weapons or—balls which the Republican\(^2\) party uses—lacked penetration—& their foe steadily

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\(^1\)read against 1906 edition
\(^2\)"R" altered from "r"
advances nevertheless to tear them in pieces—with their well-aimed balls flattened on his forehead. In Gerard’s book I find acc to a Mohammedan tradition "When the lion roars, he says, 'Ya rabi, ma teçallot mi à la ed-dâbôme,' which signifies 'Seignior, deliver to my power the wicked only, & let the good go free.'"

July 10

// Yesterday a heavy rain
A. m. to Laurel glen—Chenopodium
// // album X by RR. Succory a week or more
// by RR. causeway—Stachys aspera well out 2 or
// 3 days low ground—Chimaphila umbellata
// some days—Pyrola elliptica how long?
// P. Chlorantha done—near part of Cut woods
// P. rotundifolia how long? Cut woods hollow
of Bigelow
// Galium triflorum ^ (?) prostrate—from one center
Laurelglen hill side. how long? (also G.
// Circaezans gone to seed) but the branches are
not 3 flowered, but have 3 pedicels—and one 2
or all of them (commonly {but} one) are subdivided
// into 2. I have pressed ap. Galium lanceolatum.
Seriocarpus
// Aster Conyzoides x Deep cut path—
// Asclepias obtusifolia, which was out well on
the 5th ult, has a bloom & the curved horns
are elevated above the flower.
// See and hear young barn swallows about
5 P. m. up Assabet.
As I was bathing under the swamp white oaks at 6 pm. heard a suppressed sound often repeated—like perhaps the working of bees through a bung hole—which I already suspected to produced by owls— I was uncertain whether it was far or near. Proceeding a dozen rods up stream on the S side toward where a cat bird was incessantly mewing, I found myself suddenly within a rod of a screech owl sitting on an alder bough with horns erect—turning its head from right side to side—and up & down & speering at me in that same ludicrously solemn & complacent way that I had noticed also horned in one in captivity— Another more red, repeats the same warning sound—or ap. call to its young about the same distance off in another direction. When they took to flight they made some noise with their wings. with their short tails & squat figures they looked very clumsy— all head & shoulders. Hearing a fluttering under the alder's I drew near and found a young owl a 3d smaller than the old, all gray without obvious horns— only 4 or 5 feet distant. It flitted along 2 rods & I followed it— I saw at least 2 or more young. All this was close by that
thick hemlock grove—and they perched on
alders & an apple tree in the thicket there.
These birds kept opening their eyes when
I moved as if to get clearer sight of me—
The young were very quick to notice any motion of
the old—and so betrayed their return—by looking
in that direction—when they returned—though I
had not heard it. Though they permitted me
as if bereft of half their senses—
to come so near with so much noise ^—they
at noticed the coming & going of the old
birds—even when I did not. There were 4 or
5 owls in all. I have heard a somewhat similar
note further off & louder in the night.

I find (July 14th) at Muhlenbergii Brook—
// circaeas—which are distinctly branched & with large
leaf like bracts—some nearly 2 feet high.
Yet they are evidently the same species that
I have found before & I think that there
hereabouts
is but one ^— Say C Alpina which however
is poorly described by Gray & inadequately
by Big— It is from 4 or 5 (in shade) to
as here, about 2 feet high—in sun.
Is never pubescent. has but quite
smooth round stemmed—swelling at the
joints—more or less branched—in large
specimens some times very much so (V pressed
one—) with bracts quite small & slender
in small ones & very large & leaf life
(2 on a common axillary branch) in large plants.
Leaves opaque in open places—heartshaped rather slightly & distantly toothed—of the large specimens, at least, not shining. 

July 11th

AM. To Tarbell Swamp Hill—all day with W. E. C.

Landed at Path end Great meadows— No haying there yet— In the now isolated ditches &c there thousands of little pouts about 1 inch long more or less— The water is muddy & I see no old ones— They are rather difficult to catch (like minnows generally but less so) but I got two & have them in spirit— I scare up several. ap. snipes? which go off with a crack— They are rather heavy looking like wood cocks but have gray breasts. are probing the meadow. Quite numerous there. The Ludwigia sphaerocarpa which had been out ap a week on the 6th of Aug. '55—shows hardly a sign of a flower yet—so it will hardly open before Aug 1st— The grass on the islets in those pools is much flattened in many places by the turtles which lie out sunning on it— They tumble in before me—& by the sound & marks of one I suspect it a snap-turtle. They are commonly E. picta.

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1Unreadable text written in pencil (need better copy)

2"L." possibly altered from "I"
Bathed & lunched under the oak. at Tarbell's first shore. It is about as cool a place as you can find—where you get the S. W. breeze from over the broad meadow—for it draws through the valley behind—While sitting there saw some 25 rods up stream amid the pads on the S side

where we had passed—several ap. young ducks—which soon disappeared again in the meadow grass. Saw them hereabouts Aug. 6th last year—They regularly breed hereabouts—& the broad meadow affords lurking places. The meadow is so broad & level that you see shadows of clouds on it as on the sea. A great snap. turtle floated by us with his head out in mid stream—reconnoitering us. Rambled over the

hill at angle—Allium out sometime on the shore—I have only seen it here methinks & on the assabet shores.

Hear now the link of bobolinks—& see red wing quite a flock of ^ black birds & young (?) milkweed

The water ranunculus or A. Pulcha—ap. X July 12 P. m. Down Turnpike to red lily meadow—

Hear the plaintive note of young blue birds—a reviving and gleaming of their blue ray—In moore's meadow by turnpike see the vetch in purple patches
weighing down the grass–as if a purple tinge
were reflected there. White vervain ap. X
Smooth sumac ap yesterday XX Rhue is be-
beginning now to whiten the meadows on all
hands. The Ranunculus aquatilis,
appears to be about done–though it
may have been submerged by the rain of yesterday–
I see hardly one freshly open & it quite moist
& lowering yet. By the myosotis ditch
there–is an abundance of Galium trifidum
(ap. obtusum or latifolium—in press)

quite
it is densely massed & ^ prickly–with 3 corolla
lobes. As yet I think¹ I have observed only 2 vars
of G. trifidum—smooth & rough.

Lactuca sanguinea some time—with
dark purple stem—widely branched–
Pycnanthemum muticum & the narrowleaved
several days at least still wet
not long. ^ In the ^ road on the hill
just beyond Lincoln bound—a short-tailed shrew
of Say
Sorex brevicaudis ^—dead after the rain. I have
found them thus 3 or 4 times before— It
is 4 1/2 inches long, tail 1+ head & snout 1+
Roundish body somewhat
^ Lead color above ^, lighter beneath—with a long
snout 3/8 inch beyond lower jaw—incisors black
—delicate light colored (almost silvery) mustachioed
bristles—& also from lower lip nose emarginate²
^—nails long & slender.—a purple bar across
each—ears white & concealed in the fur
the nostrils plainly perforated—though

¹"think" altered from "have"
²"emarginate" followed by cancelled drawing
Emmonds says—that in the specimens of Sorex he had seen he could detect no perforations with a microscope. It has a peculiar, but not very strong muskiness. There was an insect wing in its mouth—Its numerous teeth distinct. Have I not commonly noticed them dead after rain? I am surprised to read in Emmonds—that it was first observed in Missouri & that he has "not been able to meet with it" & doubts its existence in the state—retains it on the authority of former catalogues

— Says it nests on the surface—& is familiar with water. In spirits. V. Oct 25th 56

Red lilies in prime—single up right fiery flowers—their throats how splendidly hardly & variously spotted—not 2 of quite the same hue—and not 2 spotted alike—Leopard spotted. averaging a foot or more in height. amid the huckleberry—& lambkill &c—in the moist—meadowy pasture. ap. A blue bird's? egg—in a wood peckers hole—in an apple tree—2nd brood—just laid. in Collection. Parsnip at Bents orchard how long? also on July 5th almost out. Agrimony well out. Chestnut in prime. See Lysimachia Quadrifolia with from 3 to 5 (or 6?) leaves in a whorl Iberis umbellata Candy-tuft road side
Tuttles naturalized—how long? New plant.

July 13th

Pm to Corner Spring.

Orchis lacera ap several days. lower part of spike—willow row Hubbard side op. Wheildon’s land.

large

See quite a flock of chattering redwings—the flight of 1st broods. Thimble berries are now fairly ripe & abundant along walls—to be strung on herd's grass—but not much flavor to them—honest & wholesome—see where the mowers have plucked them. Gather the large black & blackening ones—No drought has shrivelled them this year

Heard yesterday—a sharp & loud Ker-
surprised

pheet—I think from a woodchuck—amid bushes—the Siffleur. Reminds one somewhat of a peet-weet—& also of the squeak of a rabbit—but much louder & sharper—& all is still.

Hub meadow—(or I will call it early meadow)

aster some days—now rather slender—&
small bushed— Drosera longifolia &
also rotundifolia some time. Polyg sanguinea

some time—Hub mead path—say meadow paths
& heard

& banks. Saw 2 or 3 red starts at
red start woods where they prob. have

nests— Have noticed bright red Geranium
& pyrus leaves a week or more.

In Hubbards Euphorbia pasture Cow b. birds

resting &

about cows. At first the cows were rumi-
nating in the shade & no birds were seen. Then one after another got up & went to feeding—straggling into the midst of the field. With a chattering appeared a cow-bird & with a long slanting flight lit close to a cow's nose within the shadow of it—& watched for insects—the cow still eating along & almost hitting it—taking no notice of it—Soon it is joined by 2 or 3 more birds.

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

Pm to Muhlenbergii Brook.

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

? There is a pyrus 20 feet high with small fruit at Assabet spring.

// Noli me tangere already springs at Muhlenbergii brook—some days—
Saw ap. my little ruby? crested wren?—on the weeds there—Senecio long gone to seed & dispersed. Canada thistle some time on Huckleberry Pasture side beyond. Ceratophyllum dense

with a whorl of 12 little oval red dotted ap. flower buds (?) in an axil.

While drinking at Assabet spring in woods—noticed a cherry stone on the bottom. A bird that came to drink must have brought it—half a mile—So the tree gets planted!

July 15

P. m. to Hub’s Close & Walden—Carrots by RR—how long? I notice the froth concealing a grub, not only on trees & bushes but on Potentilla Norvegica, Pyranthemiun muticum—even lobelia inflata—red clover—aster puniceus great fruited Lechea—{minor}, &c &c—^ This spots my clothes also aug 1st or sweet-gale & Roman wormwood—when going through bushes Both small hypericums. Canadense & mulilum ap—some days at least by Stows3 ditch. Bobolinks are heard—their link link above & amid the tall rhue which now whitens the meadows.

Checkerberry a day or 2

Spiranthes gracilis well out—in dry—slender grass by roadside. I do not notice the Krigia out in my afternoon walks—& so it is not know by many—but in the morning its disk is very commonly seen—When I crossed the entrance(d)

1”?” possibly inserted
2”?” possibly inserted
3”S” altered from “s”
to the Pond meadow on a stick—
a pout ran ashore & was lodged so
in the grass
that I caught—it ^ ap. frightened.—
While I held it, I noticed another, very
large one approach the shore very
boldly within a few feet of me. Going
in to bathe I caught a pout on
the bottom within a couple of rods
of the shore— It seemed sick—then
wading into the shallow entrance of
the meadow I saw a school of
a thousand little pouts about 3/4
inch long without any attending pout—
& now have no—doubt that the pout
I had caught (but let go again) was
tending them—& the large one was the
father ap. further off. The mother had
perhaps gone into deep water—to recruit after
her air-bath. The young were pretty
shy—kept in shallow water—& were
taking pretty good care of themselves.
If the water should suddenly fall, they
might be caught in the meadow.

Ludwigia alternifolia not quite. in a day or 2
Amid the high grass or rushes by that
meadow side started a water adder—
It was about 3 feet long—but
large round in proportion—with about
140 abdominal plates—& a long slender tail.
It was black above with indistinct transverse brown bands. Under its head white—1st half of belly white with triangular or conical dark brown-red marks on sides—the white gradually becomes more narrow & yellowish for the latter half of the abdomen, bordered by more {numeral} & still darker reddish marks—becoming confluent & alternating with silvery ones—giving a handsome regularly mottled or spotted look. The silvery thus across the belly The barred part dark reddish.— Under the tail {was} reddish.

Corylus rostrata differs from common—in the twig being smooth—& not glandular hairy.

Scutellaria galericulata same time. //

Polygonum sagittatum almost. //

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

July 16

Sium out not long. I see many young prob. minnows //

shiners? (they have the longitudinal bar) //

1 to 2 1/2 inches long—& young breams 2 or 3 inch long & quite broad—

1"half" possibly altered from "part"
Geum virginianum ap 2 or 3 days.
See several bull frogs lying fully
out on pads at 5 pm. They trump
wet these nights. raising the river—a little flattens down the
heart leaf & other weeds at bathing places—

July 17
Found a great many insects in white lilies
which opened in pan this Am which had
never opened before— What regular &
handsome petals—regularly concave
toward the inside—& calyx hooked at
tip.
Pm. To Water dock meadow & Linnaea Hillside.
Hear a new note from Bank swallows
when going over the Hosmer¹ pastures—a
sort of screech shrill & like what I
have referred to the barn swallow. They are
prob. out with young.

Ludwigia palustris & Ilysanthes have been
out ap. some time on the flat Hosmer
shore or meadow—where the surface has
been laid bare by the ice. There too the H.
sarothra has pushed up abundantly.
I see many young toads hopping about
on that bared ground amid the thin weeds
—not more than 5/8 to 3/4 inch long—also
young frogs a little larger. Horsemint
out at Clam Shell ap 2 or 3 days.
Bathed at Clam Shells—see great

¹"H" altered from "h"
schools of minnows—ap. shiners hovering in the clear shallow next the shore. They seem to choose such places for security. They take pretty good care of themselves—& are harder to catch with the hands than you expect—darting out of the way at last quite swiftly. Caught 3 however between my hands. They have brighter golden irides—all the abdomen conspicuously pale golden—the back and half down the sides pale brown—a broad distinct black band along sides (which methinks marks the shiner) & comparatively transparent beneath behind vent. When the water is gone I am surprised to see how they can skip or spring from side to side in my cup shaped 2 hands—for a long time—This to enable them to get off floating planks or pads or the shore when in fright they may have leaped on To them—But they are very tender & the sun & air soon kill them. If there is any water in your hand they will pass out through the smallest crack between your fingers. They are about 3/4 of an ch long—generally though of various sizes.

Half a dozen big bream came quite up to one as I stand in the water—They are not easily scared in such a case.

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1"the" written over "they"
The large skunk cab. fruit looks quite black now where the haymakers have passed. Stooping to drink at the Hosmer spring—I saw a hundred cadis cases of light colored pebbles at the bottom—& a dozen or 20 crowded half way up the side of the tub—ap. on their way out—to become perfect insects.

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

The Great water dock has been out some days at least— Its valves are quite small at first but lower leaves pointed. I hear in the meadow their a faint incessant z-ing sound as if small locusts in the meadow grass. Under the oak in Brown's moraine pasture by water dock meadow— a great arum more than 3 feet high—like a tropical plant in open land with leafets¹ more than a foot long.

There is rich-weed there. ap. not quite out Going up the hill side—between J. P. Browns & rough cast House² am surprised to see great plump ripe low blackberries.

¹"leafets" altered from "leaves"
²Possibly "house"
How important their acid (as well as currants) this warm weather. It is 5 Pm. The wood thrush begins to sing

A very warm Pm.\(^1\) Thermometer at 97°+ at the Hosmer desert– I hear the early locust. I have come to collect bird’s nests. The thrashers is ap. made partly beneath the surface–some dirt making its sides. I find the nests by withered twigs & leaves broken off in the spring.–but commonly nearly concealed by the recent growth.

The jay’s nest had been filled with white oak leaves–not one could have been blown into it. On Linnaea hill many thimble-berries & bluebe some raspberries.

Evening by river to Ed. Hosmers– Hear at distance the hum of bees from the bass with its drooping flowers at the Island– It sounds like the rumbling of a distant train of cars.

a few minutes only before sunset. Returning after ten by moonlight–see the bull frogs lying out at full lengths on the pads where they trump.

July 18

Pm to Wheeler meadow to look at willows What I have called the stringed Whiting’s is ap. the S alba–without serrations at tip. or\(^2\) rather is what I have called the S. lucida (?) N Wheeler mead &c

Can that be S go sericea (or what is it–?) about Wheeler’s White maple?–as big as my

\(^1\)“P” possibly altered from “p”

\(^2\)Possibly “Or”
In the Wheeler Meadow I notice perhaps 3 kinds of willow prevailing:
2. *ap– discolores*– The one with rather broad leaves & conspicuous stipules—the other smaller leaves & no stipules.

The 3d (in press) *S nigra* like but without stipules—low— *V. clump 2 rods west of rock in S. W. part of meadow.

Notice large broad wrinkled (pellucid?) leaves with short petioles.

They are similar to those of *Kalmiana* but more of yel. lilies— & even of heartleaf, no generally decayed now

Again scare up a wood cock—*ap* nested or sheltered

in shadow of ferns in the meadow or the cool mud in the hot Pm.

// R. Carolina some time at edge of Wheeler meadow near Island neck.

You see almost every where on the muddy river bottom—rising toward the surface

1st the coarse multifid leaves of the *R. Purshii* now much the worse for the wear—

2nd perhaps in coarseness—the *ceratophyllum* standing up right—3d perhaps the *B. Beckii* with its leaflets at top—then the *Utric− vulgaris* with its black or green bladders

& many lesser *Utricularias* in many places—

July 19th

P. m. Marlboro Road via RR−& Dugan woodlot.

// A box tortoise killed a good while on the RR. at Dogwood swamp—quite dry now

\[1"^1/a^1" \text{possibly added in margin}\]
This the 4th I have ever found—First one alive in Truro—2d one dead on shore of Long Pond Lakeville—3d one alive under—Fair Haven Hill—& 4th this.

This appeared to have been run over—but both upper and under shells were broken into several pieces each—in no case on the line of the serrations or of the edges of the scales—(proving that they are as strong one way as the other) but at various angles across them.

which I think proves it to have been broken while the animal was alive or fresh—and the shell not dry

^ I picked up only the after half or 2/3ds & 1 foot

The upper shell was at the widest place 4 3/8 inches—It was broken irregularly across the back from about the mid of the 2d lateral^ scale from the front on the left—to the mid of the 3d lateral on the right and was at the angle of the marginal scales about 16/40 to 17/40 of an inch thick measured horizontally—The sides under the lateral scales & half the dorsal were from 4 to 5/40 inch thick—The thinnest part was about 3/8 of an inch from mid of back or between on each side—directly under ^ the spring of the {sides} where it was but little more than 2/40 thick.

So nature makes an arch.

I have the about 1/2 half the sternum—the rear of it at one point reaching to the hinge. It is thickest vertically just at the side hinge where it is 1/4 thick—thinnest 3/8 from this each side where it is 1/8 thick & thence thickens to the mid of the

^"lateral" altered from "scale"
sternum where it 7 1/2 / 40 thick.

The upper shell in this case (V may 17 '56) is neither pointed nor notched behind—but quite straight. The sternum & the lower parts of the marginal {pl} scales are chiefly dark brown.

The marking above is sufficiently like that of the Cape Cod specimen—with a still greater proportion of yellow—now faded to a pale yellowish brown—

// On Linnaea-hills—sarsaparilla berries. X

// Lobelia inflata perhaps several days X¹ little—white glands (?) on the edges of the leaves.
On the underside of a Lobelia spicata leaf—a sort of loose spun cocoon about

// 5/8 inch long—of golden-brown silk beneath which silky mist a hundred young spiders swarm.

Examined Paint-tortoise eggs of June 10th one of those great spider (?) holes made there since then close to the ggs. The eggs are large & methinks rather pointed, methinks

// at the larger end. The young are half developed.

// Fleets of yellow butterflies on road.

// Small white {sof} rough coated puff balls (?) in pastures. Appear not to have 2 coats like that of Potters path. q.v.

As I came by the apple tree on J. P. B's land—where I heard the young woodpeckers hiss a month or so ago—I now see that they have flown for there is a

¹"X" written over dash
cobweb over the hole.

Plucked a handful of gooseberries at prob. ripe some time

J. P. B's bush— it is of fair size red-purple & greenish to ap. like the first in garden—except it is not slightly bristly like that, nor has so much flavor & agreeable tartness— Also the stalk is not so prickly, but for the most part has one small prickle where that has 3 stout ones. Our 2nd goose-ours berry is more purple (or dark-purple with bloom) & the twig less prickly than the wild. Its flower is insipid & in taste like the wild.

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

On the sand thrown out by the money diggers I found the first ripe black berries there abouts— The heat reflecte from the sand had reflect ripened them earlier than elsewhere. It did not at first occur to me what sand it was, nor that I was indebted to the money diggers—or their moll-pitcher who sent them hither for those blackberries— I am probably the only one who has got any fruit out of that hole. It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good— Looking up I observed that that they had dug another hole a rod higher up
the hill last spring—(for the 
black berries had not yet spread over 
partly filled 
it—) & had not covered it up again. 
So the result of some idler's folly 
& some spiritualist's nonsense—is that 
I get my blackberries a few days the earlier. 
The Downy woodpeckers nest which 
I got July 8th—was in a dead & partly 
& upright 
rotten & apple bough 4 3/4 inch diameter—
Hole perfectly elliptical (or oval) 1 2/16 x 1 5/16 
inches—whole depth below it 8 inches. It 
is excavated directly inward about 3 1/2 inches 
with a conical roof also arching at back 
with a recess in one side on 
level with the hole, where the bird turns. 
Judging from an old hole in the same 
bough, directly above, it enlarges directly 
to a diameter of 2 1/4 to 2 1/2 inches 
not in this case descending exactly in the 
middle of the bough—but leaving one 
side not a quarter of an inch thick. 
At the hole it is left one inch thick. 
At the nest it is about 2 3/8 inch 
\{at\} first 
diameter—(I find nothing in them but bits 
of rotten wood, remains of insects &c when I 
tip it up. for I cannot see the bottom—Yet in the 
old one there is also quite a nest of pine stubble (?)
bark shred (?) &c mixed with the bits of rotten wood.

\*"J" poss written over "j"
\*"(?)
possibly inserted
\*"(?)
possibly inserted
July 20
Pm up Assabet–
Button bush ap 2 or 3 days //
I suspect that those very variously formed leaves in & about woods which come to nought—(like the river in deep water) are of the Nabalus. ?
Caught a mid sized copper colored Devil’s needle (with darker spots on wings) sluggish on a grass stem with many dark colored elliptical eggs packed closely outside under its breast. //

July 21st
Pm to A.2 Wheeler’s Grape meadow–
Mimulus not long. Hyp. corymbosum //
a day or 2. Rusty Cotton grass how long? // //
What is that small lanceolate & toothed leafed clean stemmed weed—by Hub’s proserpinaca pool? ?
Find in Potter’s Hydrocotyle field a new (?) hypericum, which has been out some days at least. I think either H. angulosum or a var of Canadense. The stem is not simple (?) but conspicuously 4 angled. The some 15 to 18 inches high—Leaves linear lanceolate—broadest near base 1 1/2 inch long—black dotted beneath—closely sessile, or clasping—Stamens 20 or more ap.
collected in parcels of 4 or 5—styles 3 distinct Petals copper yellow broad elliptical, about

1: “1” written over “0”
2: “A.” possibly inserted
the same length with the \(^{\ast}\) narrow {purple} pod
–corolla about 3/8 inch diameter V. 25 prox.
The small hypericums are open only in the
forenoon– Pursley also in our garden
opens now not till 8 am & shuts up before
12 M.

The flat Euphorbia is now in prime on
the sandy path beyond potters desert–5 finger
fungus path{,}, Plucked\(^{\dagger}\) a handful
of huckleberries from one bush! The V.
vacillans thick enough to go picking & prob–
for a day or 2 in some places. Low\(^{\ast}\) blackberries
thick enough to pick in some places 3 or 4 days–
Thimble berries about the 12 ult &
V. Penn. sylvanicum much longer.

These hot afternoons I go panting through
the close sproutlands & copses–as now from
Cliff Brook to Wheeler Meadow–& occasionally
come to sandy places a few feet in diameter
where the partridges have dusted themselves–
Gerard the Lion Killer of Algiers speaks
of seeing similar spots when patient tracking
& his truth in this particular is a confirmation of the rest of his story
or patiently waiting the lion–there \(^{\ast}\)– It is inter–
But his pursuit dwarfs this fact & makes it seem trivial. Shall not my pursuit also
esting to find that the same phenomena, however
contrast with the trivialness of the partridge's dusting?
simple, occur in different parts of the globe.
I have found an arrow head or 2 in such
places even. Far in warm sandy woods
in hot weather–when not a breath
of air is stirring– I come upon these
still sandier and warmer spots where
the partridges have dusted themselves–&
now all still a deserted
\(^{\ast}\) am not relieved–yet pleased to find

\(^{\dagger}\)“P” possibly altered from “p”
\(^{\ast}\)“L” possibly altered from “l”
that I have been preceded by any creature.

Grapes ready to stew—

Gathered grape leaves from under the rocks

at Wheeler meadow & also from the path side

a little higher up—omitting the V. labrusca or
downy stemmed ones—. Another at Bittern Cliff wood & also Black-

berry hill side beyond Elms—

The\(^1\) vine by the path—\(^2\) appears to be the V. sinuata

of Pursh—(made a var of aestivalis in Big—)

Its leaves are almost all 3 to 7 lobed in a peculiar

manner—almost rayed about center—with

rhomboidal sinuses—(& a few somewhat simpler

leaves—) slightly \(^3\) ciliate on the margin—

teeth hardly mucronate—cobwebby beneath

only on the ribs &c—smooth between them.

The recent shoots, petioles tendrils &c purple

on one side & smooth—or some times

with a few short hairs or bristles. V pressed

under this

ones—though some ^\(^4\) are from another smooth

vine close to it—with many more single leaves—
yet ap the same species.

(more of this or of the very last (if they are not one) at Bittern Cliff wood

& Black berry hill side

& between

Another ^\(^5\) smooth vine under the rocks

also a peculiar ivy shaped one over the barberry bush by wall at

hill side

dge of meadow—perhaps the same species—

has some of those long clusters of very small

opposite a leaf

grapes slightly branched ^\(^4\) above ^\(^5\)—leaves more

only 3 lobed a few of them

simple—\(^5\) {form than} the very first one, more

cobwebby & rusty beneath, the young leaves

reddish above above—all mucronate

pointed—with rounded sinuses—twigs petioles

&c like the last— Is it V. aestivalis? Yet

I think the fruit not edible. V. pressed\(^6\)

\(^1\)possibly "One"
\(^2\)Caret written below dash
\(^3\)"purple" altered from "purplish"
\(^4\)Caret possibly written after "only 3 lobed a few of them"
\(^5\)Caret written below dash
\(^6\)"V. pressed" possibly added
Is that S. lucida stringed on whiting’s shore—very common on Wheeler meadow—one clump e.g. 2 rods w of a rock—V. pressed shining above stringed Whiting—&c. It is glaucous beneath at recent shoots yellow { } slender uprightish present. The very minute stipules falling very early—so it appears to have none of these leaves falcate

Mr Russell wrote me today that he visited the locality of the Magnolia glauca

the 18th ult yesterday—on Cape Ann & saw lingering still a few flowers & flower buds—It is quite open & rising above the bushes—

The brook cress, might be called river cress, for it is very abundant rising above the surface in all the shallower parts of the river.

Verbena hastata ap. several days Sonchus some time.

This has been a peculiarly fine afternoon—When I looked about casually was surprised at the fairness of the landscape—Not only the Though warm, it is clean & fresh, & the air imparts[2] to all surfaces a peculiar without mistiness fine glaucous color full of light, ^ like leaves the underside of the S. lucida (?) at present. Not only the under sides of the leaves but the very end afternoon landscape has become Glaucous.[3] Now when the Nahant fashionable world goes to Saratoga & New port—we frequent our oldest haunts with new love & reverence—& sail into new ports with each fresh
Varnish of the air.

July 23d

9 Am up river for N. Kalmiana's
with Russell–

Pasture thistle not long– Hypericum sarothra
not long–perhaps some days.
Antennaria margaritacea ap X
Scutellaria lateriflora ap some days

R. says that my five finger fungus
is the {Lycoperda} (?) stellata & can be found now
I find it in some places
(It is different from the white rough coated
puff ball now found) It was exhibited lately in Boston as the "resurrection plant!!" to
compete with the one imported from Palestine.

that what I have called fresh water
sponge is such–Spongea fluviatilis &
like the marine is uncertain whether vegetable
or animal. When burned it leaves a mass
of white spicula which have been mistaken
for infusoria! Thinks the dry brown last
years plant I brought from Haskell's Island
Lakeville the Epiphegus– That
the Rubus Canadensis, low blackberry, is
not found far west of us. That there
is described, he thinks in Hooker's English
Flora–a certain massing up of a conferva
similar to that of my eriocaulon balls
Has seen a mexcan species (allied to the
potatoe)–cultivated hereabouts–which
became a weed–would not become larger
than a walnut. Speaks of the young

pouts—*with their bladders attached* accompanied by the old. – That the berries of

the celtis are pleasant to taste—those

of the sassafras abominable.

showed me the Dulichium spathaceum

—leaves in 3 ranks. so common along river—now in bloom also the Carex lupulina (?)

or retrorsa (?) hop sedge—with the inflated perigynia— Said that those reddish

clusters of buds on a rush or carex were enlarged by disease—

That the 2 white cottony masses

(*Eriophorum*)—were prob but one species

taller & shorter—also the 2 wool grasses

(*Trichophorum* & *Sibirhus*) were prob but one species the tall

& short— That there was an account

of the Lecheas by Tuckerman in Silliman's Journal. A young s

Pm to Walden for Hydropeltis.

// A young sternothaerus which R. picked

up recently dead on the shore of the pond—was 1 1/16

inches long the upper shell—prob therefore a

last years one—or not yet one year old.

Very high & sharp back—but broader than old. No hook to upper bill.

That fern-leaf on my coal (?) is prob. the Neuropteris

as figured in Richardson's botany.

Saw at Hydropeltis mead a small bull

frog—in the act of swallowing a young—

but pretty sizeable ap. v. palustris such

\[1\] Possibly "that"
as now hop about—He took it down head foremost—{—} as the legs were slowly taken in—stuffing himself—for the legs were often straight-end out— I wondered what satisfaction it could be to the larger to have that cold slimy fellow entire lying head to tail within him! I sprang to make him dis-gorge—but it was too late to save him—though¹

I was tossed the bull frog out of the water—the palustris was entombed—So little while had he been in the light when he fell into that recess! Bathing in Walden I find the water considerably colder at the bottom—while I stand up to my chin—but the sandy bottom much to my feet warmer ^ than the water—The heat passes through the water with being absorbed by it much— as if blown up by wind.

The water adder killed on the 15th ult I left hanging on a twig—has decayed wonderfully— I perceive no odor— & it is It is already mere skin and skeleton—as empty as flute— I can count already falling to pieces— I can see most the bones ribs & it inoffensive to the smell of its ribs & through & through & many directions—!!

See ap young goldfinches about—very freshly bright golden & black.

The small Potamogeton—Heterophyllum² (?)  // or Hybridum (?) out some time Ludwigia aternifolia 5 or 6 days X  //

¹"though" altered from "he"
²"H" poss. altered from "h"
July 24th

// Pm To Flint's Pond—S. Stricta Ingraham path well out. now some days—
// Chimaphila maculata 3 flowers ap.
but few days—(while the umbellata is quite
done there.) Leaves just shooting up.
See those light bordered dark spots on
// tall & other golden-rod leaves (fungi?)
say Russell—In the low F. Pond
rough
path beyond Brittons the tall ^ goldren
rods. makes a thicket higher than my
head. Many hazel nut burrs now
look rough & reddish about the base.
// Tobacco pipe—much blackened out a long
time—
  I find at the shallow stone wharf shore
// 3 balls in good condition—walking
about 1/2 the length of that shore—Methinks
it was about a week earlier than this that
they were found last year—There is on the
surface of the water washed up & floating
about a good deal of the eriocaulon
—Loosened up perhaps by pouts or other creatures
—& also some other fine weeds with it—Yet
the eriocaulon has but just begun to bloom!
So also the valisneria was washed up some time in river
There is also a very fine rush (?) on the bottom there—like hair
?
Is that a little submerged kind of utricularia
sandy
or ranunculus on the ^ bottom in shallow
water there looking thin & dissolving from
above—like a conferva?—like little
regular green masses of conferva—
  The red lilies are completely out of
// bloom now at smith’s meadow pasture

1Paren written over dash
but the yellow ones are still very abundant in the meadows.
The Ranunculus Purshii is now very hard to meet with—Saw one double flower with 16 petals (at least) in 2 rows. Time to get seeds of it. Hard hack well out how long?
The small purple fringed orchis ap 3 or 4 days at least—The fall has already come to skunk cabbage & Hellebore.
Their yellow & black decaying leaves and stems now cover the floor of the swamp which they recently clothed in early green.
The Lobelia Dortmania—{still}—but ap no full spikes—It is the worse for the wear.
The oldest stems of it are covered here & there with ap. the red ova of some insect.

Some gnaphalium uliginosum going to seed—how long?
The Circaea at Sawmill Brook is NB the same with that at Muhlenbergii Br. It differs from Gray's C. Lutetiana in the stem not being mostly pubescent (but ap not to say stipules some the latter conspicuous smooth)—there being ^ bracts, ^ sometimes very large—the hair of the fruit.

Yes it is rather so Aug. 26th not being bristly ^

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

1"leaves" altered from "stem"
It differs from Bigelows Lutetiana
in leaves not being pubescent (except
under a glass)–petals not being reddish
white–

From B's Alpina in not being a
particularly small & humble plant, &

the leaves not being very distinctly {heartt}
// shaped. Call it Circaea simply V Aug 13th 56

Friday July 25

{s} Am up river to see Hypericums out–
// Lycopus Virginicus with its runners perhaps
some days–in Hosmer Flat meadow–
Whorled utricularia very abundantly out ap.
// in its prime. Lysimachia ciliata some days–

The Hieracium canadense–grows by the
road side fence in Potters hydrocotyle field
some 7 or 8 inches high in dense tufts!

The hay makers getting in the hay
from Hubbards meadow–tell me the
cockerel says we are going to have a

? long spell of dry weather or else very wet.
Well, there's some difference between them
I answer– how do you know it– I just
heard a cock crow at noon–& that is
a sure sign it will either be very dry or
very wet.

The Hypericum Perforatum–corymbosum
& ellipticum are not open this forenoon–
But the angulosum–canadense–
mytilum–& sarothra–are partly curled
up (their petals) even by 9 Am.
perhaps because it is very warm—for
day before yesterday methinks I saw the
last 2 {—} mytilum & sarothra open later.

    The street is now strewn with bark
under the buttonwood at the Brick House.
Has not the hot weather taken the bark off?

    The air begins to be thick & almost
smoky—

Sat 26th
5 Am— Up Assabet—
The sun's disk is seen round & red //
for a long distance above the horizon
    but cloudless
through the thick ^ atmosphere—threatening
heat—hot dry weather—
At 5 the lilies had not opened, but //
began about 5 1/4 & were abundantly
out at 6.
Arranged the hypericums in bottles this
morning & watched their opening.

    The H. angulosum (?) has a pod 1 celled //
(with 3 parietal placentae{—}) conical oblong
acute at length longer than the sepals
purple (~The Canadense has from 3 to 5! placentae
& the mytilum 3 to 4! as I find, not withstanding
Gray) Styles 3 short distinct & spreading
stamens 20 more or less oscurely clustered
Petals oblong— (Do not see the single
lateral tooth mentioned by Eaton) Corolla 12 to
14/40 of an inch in diameter. It is strict

1"?" possibly current (that is, only parens are inserted)
slender 10 to 20 inches high; stem sharply
4 angled, like Canadense & cyme as naked

The large ones make a singularly compact (flat-topped) corymb—of many
or more so—& Leaves oblong lanceolate
narrow pods at last
or linear lanceolate—commonly blunt—but
gradually
often & tapering & acute, broadest near the
base & clasping 1 to 1 1/2 inches long x 1/8
to 3/8 wide, black dotted beneath. Ground
neither very dry nor very moist.

It differs from Canadense, which it resembles, in
being a larger plant every way—narrower in prop— to
height—having more stamens—& in the
form of its leaves.

Corolla of mytilum 9 to 11/40 inch in diameter—
Canadense 12 to 13/40 corymbosum 18/40
The Corymbosum in chamber shut up at night—
which may not be advanced enough
All but sarothra^ (I have no elodea) opened
by 5 Am—corymbosum & angulosum very
fairly— but mytilum—canadense &
angulosum curled & shut up by 9Am!!
— The Corymbosum shut up in Pm. The
Perforatum & Ellipticum alone were open
all day. The 4 lesser ones are very
shy to open & remain open very little while—
this weather at least. I suspect that
in the field also they are open only very early or on
H. canadense & mytilum are often 15 inches high

cloudy days
The largest & most conspic. purple pods
are those of the ellipticum. Those of the
are smaller & more pointed &
angulosum{−}& canadense^ & are also purple—
& the mytilum perhaps duller purple &
less conspicuous
The pod of the Ellipticum when cut smells like
a bee—the united styles arm it like a beak—
or spine. This appears to be the most nearly
out of bloom of all. I am surprised that
Gray says it is somewhat 4 angled. It is
distinctly 2 angle & round between.

v. Aug 21 ’54

The Hub. aster may be the A. Tradescanti
The large Potamogeton off Dodd’s seems to
be. the Natans from size of nutlets &c–
Then there is the 2d off Clam Shell
a long time out observed yesterday v. Aug 3d
& The 3d–Heterophyllum? 2 or what3
I have called Hybridum also long out.

Drank up the last of my
birch wine– It is an exceedingly
grateful drink now–especially the
aromatic mead like–ap. checker-
berry flavored one which on the whole
I think must be the Black birch.
It is a surprisingly high flavored drink
thus easily obtained–& considering that
it had so little taste at first. Per-
haps it would have continued to im-
prove.

Pm
To Poor House Pasture–
Nettle some time. Ambrosia botrys
ap. a few days–X A. radula ditch by Pasture
several days ap. Lycopus sinuatus sometime
I see young larks fly pretty well before
me. Smaller burr-reed s. Americanum
judging from form of stigma ovate & oblique–yet
the leaves are almost entirely concave! Stow’s ditch–

1”Heterophyllum”: “t” corrected from “c”, possibly in pencil (need better copy). If it is indeed corrected in pencil, omit “possibly” from the note; if the correction is in ink, omit entire footnote
2?” possibly in pencil (need better copy). If “?” is in pencil, revise 14 pt to 11 pt, change black color to gray, and omit this footnote
3“or what” very faint in appearance–possibly in pencil (need better copy)
Is this the same with that in river? How long?

// It is very still & sultry this Pm—at 6 Pm
even. I cannot even sit down in the pasture
for want of air—but must keep up & moving
else I should suffocate—Thermometer 97 & 8
today—The pig pants & melts in his pen—
& water must be cast on him.
Agassiz says he has discovered that the
Haddock a deep sea fish is viviparous.

July 27th '56

// Lobelia cardinalis 3 or 4 days X with
similar white glands (?) on edges of leaves
as in L. spicata. Why is not this noticed?

// Cornus sericea about done—As I was
paddling by Dodges Brook a great
Devils needle lit on my paddle between
my hands—It was about 3 inch long
& 3 1/2 in spread of wings (without spots)
black & yellow—with green eyes (?)—It
kept its place within a few inches
of my eyes while I was paddling some
25 rods against a strong wind—cling-
ing closely. Perhaps it chose that
place for coolness this hot day.

more

To day as yesterday it is {more comfortable
^ at 2 & 3 Pm when there is wind—but at
5 the wind goes down & it is very still
& suffocating.
I afterward saw other great devil’s needles the forward part of their bodies light blue & very stout.
The stellaria longifolia is out of // bloom & drying up—v. some of this date pressed.
At Bath Place above many yel— lily pads are left high & dry for a long time—in the Zizania hollow—a foot or more above the dry sand—yet with very firm & healthy green leaves almost the only ones not eaten by insects now— This river is quite low—the' yel, lilies stand up 7 or 8 inches above the water—& op to Mer- riam's the rocks show their brown backs very thick—(though some are concealed) like sheep & oxen lying down & chewing the cud in a meadow. I frequently run onto one—(glad when it's the smooth side—& am tilted up this way or that—or spin round as on a central pivot— They bear the the red or blue paint from many a boat—& here their moss has been rubbed off—

Ceratophyllum is now ap in bloom // commonly
^ with its crimson dotted involucre.
I am surprised to find Kalmiana lilies scattered thinly all along the commonly reddish Assabet—a few small pads in middle of river—but I see no flowers— It is their great bluish (some green) waved radical leaves which I had mistaken for those of the heartleaf—

These and vallisneria washed up some time the floating leaves being so small—

The rad.— leaves of the heart leaf are very small & trian rather triangular. I see on a rock in mid stream a peetweet within a foot of a turtle—both eyeing me anxiously within 2 rods—but not minding each other.

Examined—& preserved in paper (v. drawer) sometimes

the seeds—& pressed what I have called v. Aug. 1st potamogeton hybridus— but it cannot be that for the submerged leaves are not capillary. I will called it the Smallest dense—

with grass-like immersed leaves & has been out a long time—many nutlets beneath

floating P. It is 1 to 3 feet long

stem above 1 1/2 / 40 to 2/40 inch diameter smaller & branched below.

Floating leaves (sometimes wanting) opposite 7/8 to 1 inch long by 2/8 to 3/8 inch wide elliptic oblong slightly tapering at base—regularly 6 to 12 nerv'd—petiole flat about the length of the leaf or a little less—conspicuous inverting bracts or stipules inverting the petioles for 1/2 their

"&" possibly inserted

"S" altered from "s"
above ap. free from petioles
length above. ^ The immersed leaves are
ap. 1 nerved
very numerous–grassy linea entire ^ 1 1/4 long
wide
by 1 1/2 / 40 inches long blunt with clasping base at
{pointing} axles–or else with a shething
base–opposite or solitary.
Upper emersed spike cylindrical 1/4 of an
inch long x 2 1/2 / 40 broad with rather flat pe-
duncles large as stem 1/4 to 7/8 of an inch
long–the shortest somewhat clubshaped.
all
The lowest immersed spikes (now ^ in fruit)
almost sessile, ovate, with a dozen nutlets,
or whorled with only 3 or 4–nutlets lenticular
with blunt edge ap–becoming concave on sides
2/40 inch diameter. Fruiting abundantly
the whole length of the stem.

Next the prevailing one on assabet
Yes just below boat & elsewhere
and prob. common enough on main stream ^–
long
Rather flat {&} petioled floating
which I will call for present the Simple    //
now done blooming
Leaved[^1] ^ 4 to 6 feet long, stem ap
simple 2 to 3/40 inch diameter, leaves
no, there are a few grassy linear 6 or more inch long on branches immersed
flat but thick & petiole like!
all coriaceous ^ & long petioled ^ (have lower
leaves vanished?)–alternate, & sometimes opposite,
obleng ovate, rounded or a little heart-
shaped at base–sometimes narrower &
more pointed–2 3/4 (1 1/2 to 3 1/2) inches
inch
long x 5/8 to 10/8 wide– Indistinctly 15 to
20 nerved– Petioles flattish 3 to 12 inches
stipules 2 or more inches long sheathing the stem–
long ^– Spikes 1 to 2 inch long

[^1]"Simple Leaved" poss cancelled in pencil
narrow–loose flowered–whorls 1/8 inch apart– Peduncles 3 to 5 inch long larger than the stem, or 3 to 4/40 inch diameter. Nutlets semicircular (the largest) 1/8 of inch long–some-what pointed–rounded on back. V. some in bottle.

prob. no 3 { }\(^1\) floating leaves

What is that ^ (these at least–i.e. op. Dakins field) all pellucid & mem-branous leafed are 4 to 6 feet long floating at top but not flat–stem 3 to 3 1/2 / 40 diameter–often branching–leaves say numerous linear lanceolate (~or linear & acute) sessile 3 to 4 inches long x 1/4 inch wide tapers both ways–acute–wavy\(^2\) edged with about 5 nerves & veiny netted beside!? V. July 30\(^{th}\) & Aug. 3\(^{rd}\)

Zizania scarce out some days at least July 28

At 1 1/2 a thunder shower–which was much needed–the corn having rolled & trees suffered– 3 1/2 Pm to Climbing Fern–

Virgins Bower–ap 2 or 3 days. Nabalus

albus a day or 2 X

Sand cherry ripe X The fruit droops in umbell peduncles like clusters 2 to 4 ^ together on each side the axil of a branchlet or a leaf– Gray & Emerson call it dark red– It is black when & {the} Gray & Big ripe– Emerson–speaks of it as rare in

\(^1\)Unreadable text written in pencil (need better copy)

\(^2\)"wavy" altered from "waved"

\(^3\)3 1/2" possibly added
this state! It is common enough here.
I have seen it as abundant as any where

was it not choke berry?

on Weir (or Ware)? Hill: in Sudbury Big's own
town. Cherry 3/8 inch diameter–peduncle 7/16
long. Emerson calls it eatable! On Linnaea
Hill– By Factory road clearing–the small
rough sunflower 2 or 3 days{.} X Gerardia
flava ap several days– Cicuta bulbosa
several days. Rich-weed at Brown's oak several
days (since 16th say 22nd–

July 29

Rhexia X– Prob. would be earlier if not
mowed down. What I have called H. Gronovii
with 3 cauline leaves & without veins–has achenia
like H. venosum so I will give it up. Its rad
leaves are very hairy beneath especially along
mid-rib. Another smart rain—with

Lightning

Pratt gave me a chimney swallows nest
which he says fell down Wesson's chim
with young in it 2 or 3 days ago. As it comes
to me it is in the form of the segment of the
circumference of a sphere whose diameter is
3 1/2 inches–the segment being 2+ wide one
(It bears a little soot on the inner side)
side of course longer than the other ^– It
may have been placed against a slanting
part of the chimney–or perhaps some of
the outer edge is broken off. It is
composed wholly of stout twigs 1 to 2
inches long 1/16 to 1/8 inch diameter piled

1"rad" written over "lower"
2"held" in 1906 edition
quasi cob fashion _so as to_
form a sort of basketwork³ 1/3 to 1/2 inch
thick without any lining—at least in
this—but very open to the air—These
twigs which are quite knubby—seem to be
firmly
of the apple clan & the like & are ^ fastened
together by a very conspicuous whitish semi-
transparent glue which is laid on pretty
copiously—sometimes extending continuously one
inch— It reminds me of the edible nests
of the chinese swallow—who knows but their
dibiliteness is due to a² similar glue secreted
by the bird & used still more profusely in
building its nests. The chimney swallow is
said to break off the twigs as they fly.

Pratt says he one day walked out
with Wesson with their rifles—as far as
Hunt's³ bridge— Looking down stream he saw
a swallow sitting on a bush very far off—at which he took aim & fired with ball.
He was surprised to see that he had
touched the swallow for it flew directly
across the river toward Simon Brown's
barn—always descending toward the
earth or water—not being able to main-
tain itself—but what surprised
him most was to see a 2nd swallow
come flying behind & repeated

¹"basketwork" altered from "basket" ("work" inserted)
²"a" written over "to"
³"H" written over "h"
strike the other with all his force beneath
so as to toss him up as often as he
approached the ground & enable
him to continue his flight--& thus he
continued to do till they were out of sight.
Pratt said he resolved that he would
never fire at a swallow again.

Looked at a sharpe's rifle–a
colts revolver–a maynards & a Thurbers
revolver– The¹ last fires fastest (by a
steady pull) but not so smartly, & is
not much esteemed.

July 30th
PM to Rudbeckia laciniata via
Assabet.
Amaranthus Hybridus & albus both some  // //
days at least--1st ap longest  //

This is a perfect dog day– The atmosphere
thick–mildewy–cloudy– It is difficult
to dry anything– The sun is obscured–yet
we expect no rain– Bad hay weather–
The streams are raised by the showers
of yesterday & day before--& I see the
farmers turning² their black looking
hay in the flooded meadows with
a fork– The water is suddenly  //
clear–as if clarified by the white
of an egg or lime– I think it
must be because the light is re-

¹"The" altered from "the"
²"turning" altered from "turned"
flected downward from the over arching dog-day sky— It assists me very much as I go looking for the ceratophyllum—potamogetons &c

All the secrets of the river bottom are revealed— I look down into sunny depths which before were dark—the wonderful clearness of the water—enabling you to explore the river bottom & many of its secrets now—exactly as if the water had been clarified. This is our compensation for a heaven concealed—

– The air is close—& still— Some days ago—before this weather—I saw dressed

haymakers at work— ^ simply in a straw hat—boots—shirt & pantaloons—the shirt worn like a frock over their pants—

– The laborer cannot endure the contact with his clothes—

Beside the 2 (or 3) Potamogetons of July 27 (q.v.) There is of course what I will call the Great P off Dodds—

// will call the Great P off Dodds—
at rock above boat—off Merricks &c &c— Perhaps it is P. Natans of same— It is 3 ft long more or less—stems 1/8 inch diam.
simple below— Floating leaves 2 1/4 2 to 4 inch long x 1 1/4 to 2 1/2 broad ovate oblong or elliptical—rounded or slightly heartshaped at base—the other end more

1"the" altered from "&"
pointed—principal nerves 10 or 12—all together
30 or more—Petioles 2 to 4 or 5 inches long
flat or channelled on one side—convex the
other—alternate & opposite—stipules 2 or 3
inches long—Immersed leaves pellucid
–5 or 6 inches long—ovate lanceolate acute
& tapering (?) curled (& waved on the edges)
with 20 or more distinct nerves—alternate
short-petioled 1 inch or more (or perhaps lower
sessile?)—but commonly evanescent by decay
sometimes putting forth little fresh pellucid leaflets in the axils of
the decayed ones along stem—
& commonly wanting ^ – – Spikes 1 to 3 inches
long—dense, cylindrical, peduncle larger
than stem—3 to 6 inch long sometimes 1/5
inch diameter—Nutlets, when one prevails,
7/40 of an inch long x 4 to 5/40—pointed
–rounded on the back—(not keeled)
– Else 1/3 or 1/4 as large & longer in proportion.

There is then observed this year ^ the Great Pot,
2nd the Long flat petioled—floating—with
(v.6 ps forward) quite done in river
a few grassy linear petiole-like submerged^
Elliptic leaved a long time—still out aug 3d
3d v aug 3d The clam shell ^ one with long & broad grass like
(commonly) submerged leaves
4th What I have ^ called Hybridus (?)
in prime or a little more
called it smallest floating.
with grass-like immersed leaves

Perhaps to these are to be added
P. Claytoni (?) of Jennies Brook '54 aug 16
" out at E. {guttata} ditch July 7 '54
" Small one at F. Pond & another at Walden (Heterophyllus
" A nar—leaved one at Hub. bath—June 12
v. Aug. 1st

^or" altered from "to"
// Frontrank Polyg. ap X
A. S. Stricta (?) just out on Island

rays

–has commonly 7 or 8 petal–some 12!

stem commonly strict–heads either a one side

pyramid or sheaf like or erect

& more wandlike on one side like nemoralis

Leaves spreading & recurved

Many abortive rad. leaves about.

Is there not a dif. one also I may call

yes first ap s. virgata {var juncea}

? the meadow stricta–more wandlike–

& strict with upright somewhat appressed leaves

upper more entire above & stem yellowish–just

opening? up RR. &c

I am struck with the splendid crimson red

under sides of the white lily pads where my

boat has traversed them at my bath

place near the Hemlocks– For these pads

(i.e. the white ones) are but little eaten yet.

// Rudbeckia laciniata perhaps a week–

When I have just rowed about the Island

// a green bittern crosses {f} in in my rear

with heavy flapping flight its legs

dangling not observing me– It looks

deep slate blue above–yellow legs–

–whitish streak along throat & breast,

slowly

& ^ plows the air with its prominent

breast bone like the stakedriver–
I think that I distinguish 4 if not 5 kinds of Lecheas—

1st The **great villous** broad leaved

2d The appressed hairy—broad linear sometimes ob-

lanceolate (or narrow elliptic) leaved Per-

haps a var. of the 1st

3d The **Large fruited**—(As on Linnaea Hill)

& near Hemlocks

4 The Smaller densely branched—hoary tipped

F. H. Hill side—stems tufted or

(or peduncled) linear leaved—crowded and

assurgent fine bushy

5 The Spreading = with a few minute linear leaves

are some early falling? near Peter’s

Bedford Road Field—& Hemlock Plain

Entrance to Thrush alley stems tufted or crowded together

The 1st is very villous with spreading hairs

broad elliptic mucronate pointed leaves—becoming

red—as does the stem—fruit small & crowded

1 foot to 18+ inches high very short pedicels

appressed hairs lighter green

The 2nd has more narrower leaves less mucronate,

& ap. not becoming red—branches with many small

but in less crowded flat-topped clusters about same

very narrow leaves—fruit &c like last height as last

Ap. early losing leaves—

The 3d is still less hairy than last—linear

lanceolate acute leaves—panicle very thin

& open—{fruit} larger than any of the others

& longer peduncled—Not quite so tall

as the 1st

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

—leaves linear—most hairy on mid rib beneath—

very densely branched—branches commonly 4 whorled

—pedicels & fruit &c hoary—fruit about same size

with first plant 8 to 10 inches high or more

is nearly smooth—slender stem

The 5th ^ has very few minute linear leaves

1/4 inch long—& is very bushy & spreading—often

^Curved line crosses letters "l", "e", and "f"
as wide as high—the branches making a more obtuse angle with the stem—and much longer than those of any of the others—and further from being opposite than the 1st 2nd 3rd & 5th small panicles of the 1st 2nd 3d & 5th. Whole aspect very fine dense & bushy—spreading. v. pressed specimens.

Thursday Pm2 July 31st to Decodon Pond.

 Erigeron canadense some time—Alisma mostly gone to seed—Thoroughwort several days
 Pensthorum a good while—Trichostema has now for some time been springing up in the fields—giving out its aromatic scent
 when bruised & I see one ready to open—
 For a morning or 2 I have noticed dense crowds of little tender whitish parasol
toad stools 1 inch or more in diameter, & 2 inches high or more—with simple plaited wheels—about the Pump platform; first fruit of this dog day weather—
 Measured a Rudbeckia hirta flower more than 3 inches & 3/8 in diameter—
 As I am going across To3 Bear Garden Hill
 I see much white polygala sanguinea with the red—in A. Wheelers meadow—(next to Potter’s—) Also much of
 the Bartonia tenella which has been out some days at least 5 rods from ditch & 3 from Potter’s fence—Near head
 of Boundary ditch close by a new Potamo

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1 Possibly “3rd”
2 “P” written over “A”
3 “To” possibly “to”, written over “from”
now ap. in prime
geton out ap not a great while–I will \{narrow\}
Give this name to the Clam shell P. of which
it the \underline{Narrow–Elliptic leaved Floating} \underline{^\_—}
this is ap
a \{ditch\} \{5\}th kind of \underline{floating P. \{now\}1 this year} v 27 & 30th ult & forward this
day.

It is here only 7 or 8 inches long–stem simple
except branching within the mud–about 3/40
of an inch diameter–floating leaves alternate
or opposite–narrowly or oblong elliptic or
sometimes lanceolate–elliptic–or lanceolate
spatulate elliptic–very pretty 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches
long x 1/2 to 5/8 inch wide with 5 or 6 principal
nerves–more or less tapering (the lower very
\underline{gradually} tapering) into a very flat broad petiole
concave above 3 to 5/4 inches long– \_— Immersed
leaves pellucid–sessile linear alternate, 3 or
4 inches long x 1/5 of an inch wide (or more)–with
3 principal nerves & some veins– Spike
cylindrical 1 to 3/4 inches long– now \underline{Immature}
nutlets minute, ap. sharply keeled on back
& pointed–peduncles 3/4 to 1 inch long & slightly

This is \underline{at most} only a var of the Clam shell P. (or a
club-shaped smaller specimen–) for which see Aug 3d
Went through Potter’s A radula swamp
this dog-day Pm– As I make my way amid
rank
high weeds still wet with the dew–
the air filled with a decaying musty
scent & the Z’ing of small locusts–I hear
the distant sound of a flail & thoughts
of autumn occupy my mind–& the
late
memory of past years.– Some \^ rhue
leaves on a broken twig have turned all a
uniform clear purple. // 

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1 Cancelled “\underline{now}” possibly cancelled “\underline{seen}” (see same phrase, not cancelled, on p. 206)
How thick the berries—low blackberries—V. vacillans—and huckleberries on the side of F. H. Hill—^ They are very abundant this year to compensate for the want of them the last. The children should grow rich if they can get 8 cts a quart for blackberries as they do.

Again I am attracted by the hoary—as it were misty morning—light on the base of the upper leaves of the velvety Pycnanthemum incanum—It is the most interesting of this genus here. The smooth sumac is pretty generally crimson berried on the Knoll—& its lower leaves are scarlet tipped (though there are some blossoms yet) but the R. copallina there is not yet out. now in its prime

See dense fields of the great epilobium^
like soldiers in the meadow—resounding with the hum of bees.—The butterflies are seen on the Pearly everlasting &c &c

Hieracium paniculatum by G. Quercifolia path in woods under Cliffs—2 or 3 days—X

Elodea 2 1/2 feet high—how long? the flowers at 3pm nearly shut—cloudy as it is—Yet the next day later I saw some open I think.

Another short-tailed shrew dead in the wood path—Near well meadow

hear the distant scream of a hawk—ap anxious about her young—& soon a large ap hen hawk? comes & alights on the very top of the highest pine there
within gunshot & utters its angry scream.
– This a sound of the season when
the prob are taking their first (?) flights
see yel– Bethlehem star still. //

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

   The S. gigantea (?) 3 ribbed–out a long
   time–at Walden shore by RR. more perfectly
   out than any S I have seen– I will call this
   S. Gigantea– Yet it has a yellowish green
   stem–slightly pubescent above–& leaves slightly
   rough to touch above–rays small about 15–
   V Aug 2nd

   Mine must be the A. radula (if any) of
   Gray–yet the scales of the involucre are not
   appressed–but rather sub-squamosa–nor
   or the Radula
   is it rare. Pursh–describes it as white flowered
   –& mention several closely allied species.

   Waded through the Northernmost androme
da pond– Decodon not nearly out there. //
Did I not see some kind of sparrow about the shore
with yellow beneath? That pond is very
low now & I found often left high & dry—a
just done?

small form of Potamogeton–ap. of No 2 6 ps
back–in all respects–except that is only
about a foot long as that is the depth
of the water—with smaller & in proportion—
broader leaves 1 to 2 inch long x 4 to 10/8 wide
also the spikes are not loose flowered 1/2
to 1 inch long x 1/2 inch broad, or more, in fruit—
Nutlets the same form & size except
that there are many great brown
globular ones, ap abortive 1/4 of an inch
in diameter—v. in drawer—Call it as
// yet The Big-seeded var of no 2i.
// Mt cranberries ap. full grown, many at least,
Aug 1st to Ludwigia sphaerocarpa
// Burdock several days at least.
// Erecthites ap 2 or 3 days X²—by Peters path end
of Cemetery—the middle flowers first.
// Crotalaria in fine lechea field how long—still
// out & some pods fully grown—Liatris will
// ap open in a day or 2—Dip. umbellatus X
some time
// at Peters well—Desmod. Canadence —several
great stems 5 feet high a little spreading.
In the ditch behind Peters—(& in pools
// in Great Meadow) the ap. true Potamogeton
in prime 5
NB hybridus—^ the 6th kind of Floating P. seen this year—
This then I must call the Smallest 3 Floating
P. with immersed capillary leaves—stem about
1 foot long x 1/25 of an inch diameter, branching
below—Floating leaves sharp elliptic—but
inclining to be broadest at base—smaller ones
lanceolate acute 5 to 7/8 inch long x 7 to 16/40
wide very distinctly 7 (5 omitting those next edge)
nerved beneath—ap. all opposite—
Petioles 2 to 12/8 long flattish—Immersed
1/80 inch diam.
leaves capillary but flat under a lense alternate
2 to 3 inch long—on short branches—Flowering

{→}

spikes cylindrical 1/4 inch long immersed & fruited
ones more globular with fewer nutlets—which
are circular 1/20 of an inch diam. minute pointed flattened
on sides keeled on back—Peduncles clubshaped
as large as the stem, 2 to 5/8 inch long—I will
call this P. Hybridus for present, though
the spike is not globular, nor the petioles
commonly less than the leaves.

Since July 30th inclusive we have had perfect //
Dog days—with interruption—The earth
has suddenly invested with a thick musty mist—The sky has become a mere fungus
A thick blue musty veil of mist is drawn
before the sun—The sun has not been visible—except for a moment or 2 once
or 2⁴⁄₅ a day—all this time nor the stars by night. Moisture reigns—You
cannot dry a napkin at the window—nor press flowers without their mildewing.
You imbibe so much moisture from
the atmosphere that you are
not so thirsty nor is bathing so
grateful as a week ago—The burning
heat is tempered—but as you lose sight
of the sky & imbibe the musty misty air
you exist as a vegetable or fungus.
Unfortunate those who have not got their hay—I see them wading in over-flowed meadows & pitching the black—& mouldy swathes about in vain that they may dry— In the meanwhile vegetation is becoming rank—vines of all kinds are rampant— Squashes & melons are said to grow a foot in a night—

But weeds grow as fast— The corn unrolls—Berries abound and attain their full size. Once or twice in the day there is an imperfect glow of yellow sunlight for a moment through some thinner part of the veil—reminding us that we have not seen the sun so long—but no blue sky is revealed. The earth is completely invested with cloud—

yet fear no rain and need no veil

like wreathes of vapor ^—beneath which

flies buzz ^ & mosquitoes hum & sting more busily than ever— as if they were born of such an air— The drooping spirits of mosquitoes revive & they whet their stings anew—legions of buzzing flies blacken the furniture—

(For a week at least have heard that snapping sound under pads) We have a dense fog every night—which lifts itself but a short distance during the day. At sundown I see it curling up from the sun—& meadows—However I love this moisture in its season— I believe it it good to breathe—wholesome as a vapor bath.—Toad stools shoot
up in the yards & paths
The Great meadows being a little wet—hardly as much as usual—I took off
my shoes & went barefoot some 2
miles through the cut grass—from
Peters to Sphaerocarpa pools & backward
by river—Very little grass cut yet there. //
The cut grass is bad for tender feet—& you
must be careful not to let it draw through
your hands—for it will cut like a fine
saw. I was surprised to see dense beds of //
rhexia in full bloom there—ap on
1 rod diam.
hummocks ^ left by the ice—or in long
ridges—mixed with ferns & some lysimachia
lanceolata—arrowhead &c They make a
splendid show—these brilliant rose colored
patches—especially in the neighborhood
of Copan—It is about the richest color
to be seen now—Yet few ever see them
in this perfection—unless the hay maker
who levels them—or the birds that

broad
fly over the meadow—Far in the ^ wet
meadows—on the hummocks & ridges
these bright beds of rhexia turn their
faces to1 the heavens—seen only by the
bitterns & other meadow birds that
fly over—We dwelling & walking in
the dry upland do not suspect their
their existence—How obvious & gay to

---

1"to" possibly written over "on" or other characters
those creatures that fly over the meadow—seen only by birds & mowers. These gay standards otherwise unfurled in vain.

// Snake head arethusa still in the meadow there
// Ludwigia sphaerocarpa ap a week out 1 1/2 to 2 feet high.

What is that short ^ glaucous leaved willow so common on the great meadows

? 2 or 3 feet high?—possibly S. pedicellaris ^ of Gray or Eriocephala. v n p—

Aug 2nd Pm to Hill.

// A Green bittern comes noiselessly flapping with stealthy & inquisitive looking to this side the stream & then that 30 feet above the water. This antediluvian bird–creature of the night—is a fit emblem of a dead stream like this musketicook–This especially is the bird of the river–There is a sympathy between its sluggish flight & the sluggish flow of the stream–its slowly lapsing flight even like the rills of musketicook & my own pulse sometimes

Very common now as the few green emerald

// leafets of the B Beckii which will ere long yellow the shallow parts–

// // Acalypha ap. not long– Dodder not long of July

(not out 27th ult ^ at RR Bridge) say 4 or 5 days–

// A 3 ribbed G. rod by small apple by wall at foot E side of Hill (S. gigantea?2 or one of the 2 proceeding) not nearly out.–it differs from my Gigantea ap. only in the leaves being perfectly smooth above—& the stem smooth & pink glaucous (excepting a little pubescence near the top) Very tall. v it by & by.

---

1"This" poss. altered from "There"

2"?" poss. inserted
That Glaucous osier of yesterday—found in Grt meadows—also in river mead at Holden swamp—has a very thick firm leaf allmost elliptic (but too pointed) frequently obovate—petiole 1/4 inch long—no stipules—dull (some what glaucous) & & distinctly veined mostly green above gl light glaucous beneath ^.

Some times ap the same occurs—narrower leafed—lanceolate 3 inch long by 5 to 6/8 inch wide—with the lower leaves slightly serrated.

The lower leaves of some catnep are now of that delicate lake or claret color—

Some waxwork leaves have felt the heat & slight drought—their green is spotted with yellow—distinct yellow & green—others a very delicate clear yellow—others faded quite white.

Aug 2d Sunday—

Pm to Lee’s Cliff—by river—

Sparganium Ramosum (?) with linear stigmas = to the style—sometimes more than equal—

Monroes & Dodds shore— I have pressed the smallest specimen— This is the tall one of the river— The length of the stigma is very variable ^ & I think it doubtful if there is more than one species! how long? some is gone to seed. Like the sium & perhaps smallest of the N. Kalmianas it is common in mid stream but ap. abortive there—

Lower third of the leaves convex, rest concave—

¹"has" possibly altered from "is"
Landing at Flat shore— The sium & sarothra
// ap. now in prime— The central umbel of the
sium going or gone to seed—
// The whorled utricularia is open all day—
// The Hypericum ellipticum is ap out of bloom—there
from July 30th inclusive
at least— At length ^ the cloudlike wreathes
// of mist—of these dog-days lift somewhat
& the sun shines out more or less a short
time at 3 Pm.
The Elliptic Leaved Potamogeton off
Clam shell also just above RR Bridge—is
// still out
The stem is perhaps 5 feet long
branching below—3 to 4/40 inch diam.
Floating leaves—{few}—opposite—narrow elliptic—
inclined to taper at base 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inch long
x 4 to 5+/8 wide—distinctly about 7 nerved,
indistinctly 15 or more 1 1/2 inches (or 1 to 2 1/4)
long—broad flat (or slightly channelled) on
one side & convex on the other—
Immersed leaves brown or green pellucid—opposite
linear
sessile ^ 3 to 6 inches long x 1/8 to 1/4 inch wide
distinctly 3, indistinctly 5, nerved, & veined beside
? (handsome under a {d}ense with their cells contain-
ing globules)— Upper immersed leaves becoming
lanceolate 1/2 inch wide curved & waved
Spikes dense cylindrical 1 to 1 1/4 inches
long—nutlets circular 4/40 diam.
sharply keeled on back—peduncles size of
stem 1 to 2 inches long.
It stands as follows with the floating Potamogetons at present. I think I distinguish 5 kinds arranged thus in the order of their size—
1st The Great—v. July 30
2nd The Long, Flat Petoled—with immersed thread {forme} leaves (v. July 27)—with perhaps a var in Andromeda Ponds (v July 31st)
   Perhaps a narrow pointed leaf variety in Walden v. aug 6th
3rd The Elliptic Leaved (off Clamshell & above RR) with a smaller var in Potters ditch—(v July 31st & aug 3rd)
4th The small Floating with Flat-grassy immersed leaves—
v. July 27 everywhere in River
5th The Smallest (P. Hybridus (?)) with capillary immersed leaves—
   Stains the paper Great mead pools & ditches v. aug 1st
   bright yellow in press Hydropeltis Pond—

I should say this had been the order of their blooming to judge from present appearances—
2nd done a week or 2
1st done a week
3rd Lingering still
4th not uncommon now
5 common—
   The sun coming out when I am off Clam abundant
Shell—the ^ small dragon flies of different colors—bright blue & lighter looped along the floating valisneria make a very lively & gay appearance. I fancy these bright loops adorn or set forth the river like triumphal arches for my procession—stretching from side to side—
The floating valisneria is very thick at
the shallow bends— I see many of its narrow erect spear shaped tops—^ also prob. pickerel weed
Polyg. hydropiperoides ap X or a day or 2–
C. alternifolia berries ripe X–as I go from Holden Swamp shore to Miles swamp–
They are in open cymes dull blue somewhat depressed globular with tipped with the persistent styles– but has yet already as usual mostly fallen– But handsomer far– are the pretty (bare) red peduncles & pedicels like fairy fingers spread– They make a show at a distance of a dozen rods even– Something light & open about this tree–but a sort of witch’s tree nevertheless–

The purple utricularia abundant–but I did not chance to notice it July 25th– At Bittern Cliff–again lucky enough to find Polygonum tenue ap out but a short time say 1 week–at most. have marked the spot by a stone from the wall further N than formerly.

Selaginella rupestris (?) shows yellow fruit now at Bittern Cliff.

Gerardia Quercifolia 3 to 4 feet high out there ap 2 or 3 days. Yet none of the leaves I have are pinnatifid.

Penny royal there ap some days

Dip. Cornifolius some time– Desmod. acuminatum a long time out–& also gone to seed.

Lespedeza hirta Blackberry steep how long?

High blackberries beginning a few ripe–

Parietaria a foot high some time under the slip. elm.

1"tight" in MS
2"witch’s" altered from "witches"
3"N" poss. "W"
What is that tall (4 feet) long bearded\(^1\) grass now nearly ripe under this end of Lee’s Cliff?  
Ap. Galium pilosum? (a var of it)  
not long out–midway Lee’s Cliff 1 rod off–  
(Perhaps rather as described by Pursh?) leaves  
Yes I see fine grain glandular dots  
not dotted \(^\dagger\) It is somewhat circæazans like–  
(4 leaved)  
but smaller leaves \(^\dagger\), scarcely 3-nerved, –with dull purple flowers–(some 3{-}petalled) \(4\) lea Flowering  
also some very small plants  
portion large & much branched \(^\dagger\) But it is not  
not more so than G.\(^2\) Circæazans  
particularly hairy! The fruit is either bristly.  
I see blackened hay cocks on the meadows–  
Think what the farmer gets with his hay–  
what his river meadow hay consists of–  
& sweet gale  
how much–of fern–& osier \(^\dagger\)–& P hydropiper–  
& Lysimachia  
oides–& rhexia &c &c (I trust the cattle love the scent of it as well as I–) and  
rhue–& sium–& cicuta– In a meadow now being mown I see that the ferns & small osiers are about as thick as the grass–. If modern farmers do not collect elm & other leaves for their cattle—they do thus mow & cure the willow &c &c– to a considerable extent–so that they come to large bushes or trees only on the edge of the meadow.  
2 small ducks (prob wood ducks)  
\(\dagger\) flying S. Already grown–& at least looking S.!! It reminds me of the swift revolution of the seasons.

\(^{1}\)"ed" poss. added  
\(^{2}\)"G." inserted
Our river is so sluggish & smooth—that sometimes I can trace a boat a mile that has passed half an hour before by the bubbles on its surface which have not burst—I have known thus which stream another party had gone up—long before. A swift stream soon blots out such traces.

// Cirsium lanceolatum at Lee's Cliff ap
  long pointed &
  some days—its leaves are ^ a much darker green than those of the Pasture thistle.
  On the under sides of its leaves I noticed very large ants—attending a peculiar large dark-
// colored aphides—for their milch cows.

// The prevailing willow off Holden Swamp is sericea-like but the leaf is narrower more shining above—& merely glaucous beneath—longer petioled—the serratures not so much bent toward the point. The twigs not nearly so brittle at the base, but bringing away strings of bark. stipules prob. fallen or inconspicuous—Can it be S. petiolaris?—& is it the same with that above Hemlocks no

N side? (or is it S. lucida?? ^) v. in press

Edge of grass² field next Bittern Cliff wood common spurge & with it—ap the same—half?
ascendant & covered or spotted with a minute fungus.

¹"?" possibly altered from period
²"grass" possibly altered from "grain"
Aug 4th

Pm carried party a berrying to Conantum in boat—

Lespedeza violacea Perhaps the largest leafed var— leafets 1 inch x 1/3 inch—petioled. Well out on side of Blackberry steep—

Scare up a young ap. summer duck floating amid the pads—& the same again coming within gun shot— I think it young because it is not shy very shy.

Have heard the alder cricket some days

The turning point is reached.

Conantum hill-side is now literally black with berries— What a profusion of this kind of food Nature provides—as if to compensate for the scarcity last year—

Fortunately that these cows in their pasture do not love them—but pass them by.

The blackberries are already softening—and of all kinds there are many many more than any or all creatures can gather— They are literally 4 or 5 species deep— First away down in the shade under all you find still first the great very light blue (ie with a very thick blue flower) V. Pennsylvanicum in heavy clusters—that early ambrosial fruit—delicate flavored thin skinned & cool next the Olympian fruit— Then next above the still denser
bunches or clusters of V. vacillans of various varieties firm & sweet solid food & rising above these large blue & also shining black huckleberries Gaylussacia\textsuperscript{1} resinosum—of various flavors & qualities—& over all runs rampant the low Blackberry rubus Canadensis—weighing down the thicket with its

Also here {&} there the high blackberry just beginning towers over all wreathes of black fruit. ^ You go daintily wading through this thicket—picking perchance only the biggest of the blackberries—as big as your thumb—& clutching here & there a handful of huckleberries or\textsuperscript{2} blueberries but never perchance suspecting the de-licious cool blue-bloomed ones under all. This favorable moist weather has expanded some of the huckleberries to the size of bullets. Each patch—each bush seems fuller & blacker than the last. Such a pro- fusion—yet you see neither birds nor beasts unless ants & the huckleberry bug!! eating them! ^ I carried my hands full of bushes to the boat—& returning the 2 ladies picked fully 3 pints from these along—casting the bare bushes into the stream.

The Frontrank Polygonum // may be described thus
Stem (simple?) assurgent (at least on land) 20 inch high 1/12 inch diameter or 1/6 inch diameter at joints which are about

\textsuperscript{1}"G" altered from "g"
\textsuperscript{2}"or" altered from "&"
1 1/2 inches apart—very slightly appressed hispid

Leaves narrow lanceolate tapering (also tapering at base or slightly rounded) 2 3/4 to 3 1/2 inches long x 6 to 8/16 inch wide—entire, very frequently with a distinct dark spot, slightly brown roughish (when stroked backward) above—(or hispid) & the same on the mid-rib beneath. Scabrous on edge—on very short petioles 1/16 inch or less below—not acrid. Sheathes 1/2 inch long—{lit} a little brown hairy—upper half of the lower ones rusty-colored—fringed with appressed bristles 1/8 inch long—Spikes erect

Commonly 2 on pretty long naked peduncles {—} Perhaps "pedunculo elongato distachyo" as loose ^ slender—scarcely linear 3/4 to 1 1/4 inches x 3/16

P. says of The P. hirsutum—wide. Flowers white tinged with rose—(bright rose red in the bud.) Calyx 5 parted—styles 3 spreading—united midway, stamens 8—anthers red—or white—calyx not dotted—Achenia triangular & sparsely dotted shining & very minutely ^ bristle—^ (?) when ripe—

It is, perhaps, the P. mite of Pursh—"P. floribus 8-andris semi-3-gynis, foliis anguste lanceolatis subhirsutis, ochreis [stipules ie sheathes?] hirsutis promisse ciliatis, spicis (I do not understand the last 3 words] linearibus, bracteis ciliatis subimbricatis." ^ He refers it to Persoon—considers it the P. hydropiperoides of Mich. says it grows "in inundated places, along ditches & ponds,"—"Flowers pale purple; leaves not acrid."—It is perhaps also the P. mite not of Beck & Eaton (though hardly {a crowded} a crowded spike) & Eaton—for all call the leaves narrow lanceolate

Gray3 appears to omit this—but to describe

---

1"P." inserted
2"bristle-" altered from "bristly"
3"G" altered from "g"
the larger plant which resembles the hydropiper
as well as general aspect
in its spike ^--& might hence be call hydro-
calling that the {mite} of Persoon
piperoides--^ (If you regarded the general aspect
also
of my^ plant this ^ might often be called hydro-
piperoides.) Yet Gray says that the calyx of his
is not dotted--!!^ but my hydropiperoides is
Aug 5th
Am On river-- Mikania a day or 2
// // Polyg. amphibium--in water--slightly hairy well out.
// Polyg. Orientale how long?
   Pm to House leek
      via Assabet bath--
   // Trichostema--may be several days in some places
   // Night-shade berries how long?
      When I crossed the new Stone Bridge a
   // great water adder lay on it full 5 feet
      long--& nearly as big round as my arm.
      It turned & ran along with a coarse
      grating rustle to the end of the railing
         head foremost
      & then dropped deliberately ^ from the last
      abutment--full 9 feet to the gravelly
      ground--amid the osiers making a
      loud sound when he struck--at once
      took to the water & showed his head amid
      the pads-- I also saw another similar
      one at house leek rock.
   // Centaurea well out how long?
   // A. dumosus ap a day or 2 with its large
      conspicuous flower buds at the end of the branchlets
      & linear spatulate involucral scales--
A Haunted house site—as at Bitten Cliff grain-field—I see much ap Euphorbia maculata semi erect in the grass—Eupatorium pubescens ap X by Pear Path—

I now find¹ an abundance of the clustered rubus ripe. It is not large—& has a clammy sub acid taste—but some are very sweet clusters generally drooping.

Now at 4 Pm this dog day—cloudy weather the Hypericum mytilum is abundantly open in the S. lanceolata path—sometimes 15 inches high—while the Canadense & angulatum are shut. S. lanceolata some days. //

S. nemoralis 2 or 3 days //

Choke cherries near house leek rock begin to be ripe—though still red—They are scarcely edible—but their beauty atones for it. See those handsome racemes of 10 dark or 12 cherries each bright glossy red—

\^ semi-transparent—You love them not the less because they are not quite palatable. Along fences or hedge rows.

To my surprice one House-leek² ap Semper vivum tectorum of Dewey—has shot up 22 inches high and is ap. nearly out ^—though the petals are erect, not spread—The stem only smaller & is clothed with the same thick leaves ^ lessening upward—& forming a column about 1 1/2 inches in diam (with the leaves) The

¹"find" possibly written over "fond"
²"H" possibly written over "h"
tip is a broad raceme (?) about 8 inches wide & 2/3 as long of 11 long spreading slightly & recurred branches lined with flowers on the upper side only– These consist of 12 lanceolate to 13 calyx segments–& as many still longer about pistils dull purple petals & 20 or more stamens; & short {stamens} {around} them within. It is a strange–but rather stately cactus-like plant–

The children call the pretty clusters of rad– leaves–hen & chickens–

In this case the rad. leaves are withered & a fusiform root sustains the flower–

This one is not on the rock but lower amid the huckleberry bushes–

At the Assabet Stone bridge–ap. freshly in flower–(though it may have been out nearly as long as the Androsaenifolium) ap. the Apocynum androsaemi Cannabinum–var hypericifolium?– The tallest is 4 feet high

The flowers very small (hardly more than 1/8 inch diameter) the segments of the corolla not revolute but nearly erect. There are 20 to 30 flowers at end of a branch– The divisions of the calyx are longer than in the common–long ovate– Yet it differs from Grays hyper–rose

? Hypericifolium is a separate species in Pursh– & some others–

And the branches are less ascending than the common making an angle of about 62° with the stem (the 4 lower) while 3 of the lower of a com. one make an ang of 44°
Aug 6th ’56

Copious & continuous rain in the night //
deluging soaking rain–with thunder
& lightning–beating down the crops–
& this morning it is cooler & clearer–
& windier.

Pm to Walden

The wind, or motion of the air, makes
it much cooler on the RR causeway–or
hills–but in the woods it is as close
& melting as before. S altissima a small–
specimen a day or 2 Apios tuberosa some days
Rubus hispidus ripe. Middle umbels of
the bristly aralia ripe. Desmod nudiflorum
some time out at Peak– It is sometimes 3 feet
high! Holly berries ripe– Clethra how long?
Some anychia shows green seed. Desmod–
Rotundifolium some days at least.

Cynoglossum morisoni–mostly gone to seed
Roadside at Grapevine just beyond my bean-
field–some is 5 feet high– A. macrophyllus
ap 2 or 3 days at hill side under beaked hazel
Eupat. purpureum at Stow’s pool ap. several
days–but more common there the tall hollow
one–whorled to top, also out. Hear a nut-
hatch. Hieracium scabrum X

Artificial denaturalized persons
cannot handle nature without being
poisoned. If city bred girls visit their
country cousins—go a-berrying—with them they are sure to return covered with blue-
berry bumps at least— They exhaust all the lotions of the country apothecary for a week after— Unnameable poisons infect the air—as if they were pursued by imps. I have known those who forbade their children going into the woods at all.

// In Walden—at my meadow entrance {a} Potamogeton (see no fruit) (perhaps a var of Long Flat-petioled with Thread-formed Immersed leaves) Call it for present var also Narrow-pointed-leaved ^ P. In the shallow water there 6 inch long-stem 3/40 diam. Floating leaves lanceolate 2 1/2 inch x 3/4 wide—the larger rounded at base & acute at point—about 5 principal nerves & 12 in all— Petioles small flat or channelled on one side convex the other 1 to 1 1/2 / 40 3 to 4 inch wide, 3/4 inches long— There seemed to be a very few small thread like immersed leaves—as if petioles not come to surface.

Aug 7th

// Hemp perhaps a week.

Heard this Am what I thought at first to be children playing on pumpkin stems in the next yard—but it turned out to be the new new steam-whistle-music—what the call the Calliope! in the next town It sounded still more like the pumpkin stem

---

1"l" altered from "i"
2"ing" possibly inserted
3Possibly "in"
4"ex" added to "inch"
5"stems" possibly written over "in"
near at hand only a good deal louder— Again— I mistook it for an instrument in the house or at the door— when it was 1/4 of a mile off— from habit locating it by its loudness— at Acton 6 miles off— it sounded like some new seraphim in the next house with the blinds closed— All¹ the milkmen & their horses stood still to hear it. The horses stood it remarkably well— It was not so musical as the ordinary whistle.

Pm— With a berry party ride—

to Conantum

At Blackberry steep ap an early broad, leafed //
var of Desmodium Paniculatum 2² or 3 days
– This & similar plants are common there
& may almost name the place. The D. Rotund-
difolia is there abundant— also, beside,
& capitata.

Lespedeza hirta ^— The elliptic-oblong L. violacea
& the angustata &
³ as also at Heywood Peak— all these plants

Are rarely upright, but spreading wand-like
seem to love a dry open hill side a steep one ^.

A. Patens a day or more— Inula sometime // //
Mulgedium perhaps a fortnight— //
Eupat sessilifolium ap. about Aug. 5th X //
I suspect that I see but one species of
smooth stemmed grape as yet
I must contrast the G. circaezans & Pilosum?
more carefully— v. if the 1st ever has purple flowers?
The only dif perhaps that I yet notice is
that the leaves of the latter are scarcely 3 nerved

¹“All” possibly underlined
²“2” written over “a”
& are more rounded or ob-ovate & it is a later plant
// I see that common gall in goldenrods now on an S. caesia
The river has been raised by the rain & water stands still in low grass ground–
The leaves in low land, as of the mulgedium are white with mildew–owing
the continued dampness of dog days– One Mulgedium at Corner Spring is at least 10 feet high & hollow all the way.

Those who have weak eyes complain of the darkness of the late dog days–
Aug 8th ’56

// Rain, lightning & thunder all day long in torrents– The ground was already saturated on the night of the 5th & now it fills all gutters & low grounds– No sooner has one thunder shower swept over & the sky begun to light up a little–than another darkens the west. We were told that lightning cleared the air & so {clered} itself– but now we lose our faith in that theory–for we have thunder after thunder shower & lightning is become a drug– Nature finds it just as easy to lighten the last time as
at first, & we cannot believe that
the air was so very impure.

3 1/2 Pm
When I came forth—thinking to
empty my boat & go a-meditating
along the river—for the full ditches
& drenched grass forbade other routes—
except the high way

(& this is one advantage of a boat)
I learned to my chagrin that
Fathers pig was gone— He had leaped
out of the pen sometime since his break-
fast—but his dinner was untouched—
Here was an ugly duty not to be
shirked—a wild shoat that weighed
but 90 to be tracked caught & penned—
an afternoon’s work at least (If I
were lucky enough to accomplish it
so soon—) prepared for me—quite
different from what I had an-
ticipated— I felt chagrined it is true—
but I could not ignore the fact—
nor shirk the duty that lay so near

Do the duty that lies nearest thee

1 "3 1/2" possibly added
2 Paren written over dash (or touching dash)
3 Thomas Carlyle quote
4 Final “e” in “where” possibly inserted in pencil (need better copy)
{for} I could run faster than father

Father looked to me, & I ceased to look
to the river– Well let us see if we
can track him. Yes–this is the
corner where he got out–making
a step of his empty\(^1\) trough–thanks
to the rain his tracks are quite dis-
tinct–here he went along the edge
of the garden over the water & musk-
melons–then through the beans
& potatoes–and even along the
front yard walk I detect the
print of his divided hoof–his

\(\text{ungulae}\)

2 sharp toes \(^{--}\) It’s a wonder we

How\(^2\)
did not see him–& here he passed out

How naked he must

under the gate--across the road--

have felt!

into a grassy ditch & whither next–

Is it of any use to go hunting him up

unless you have devised some mode of

catching him when you have found?--\(^3\) Of

what avail to know where he has been

even where he is? He was so shy the

little while we had him–of course

he will never come back--he cannot

be tempted by a swill-pail– Who knows

how many miles off he is--perhaps

he has taken the back track & gone

\{or Ohio!\}\(^4\)
to Brighton \(^{--}\)at most probably

we shall only have the satisfaction

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\(^1\)"empty" cancelled in pencil
\(^2\)"How" possibly cancelled in pencil (need better copy)
\(^3\)Question mark written above and below dash
\(^4\)Read against 1906 Journal
of glimpsing the nimble beast & as from
time to time as he trots swiftly through
the green meadows & cornfields–
– But now I speak–what is that
I see pacing deliberately up the middle of
the street 40 rods off–? It is he– As
if to tantalize–to tempt us to waste our after-
noon–without further hesitation–he
thus offers himself– He roots a foot
or two & then lies down on his belly in
the middle of the street– But think not
to catch him a napping– He has his eyes
about–& his ears too– He has already
been chased– He gives that wagon
a wide berth, & now seeing me
he turns & trots back down the street.
He turns into a front yard– Now if
I can only close that gate upon him
99/100 of the work is done–but ah!
he hears me coming afar off
he foresees the danger–& with swinish
cunning & speed he scampers out–
My neighbor in the street tries to head him
he jumps to this side the road–then to
that before1 him–but the 3d time
the pig was there first & went by–
Whose is it–?2 he shouts?– Its ours–
He bolts into that neighbor’s yard &
so across his premises–he has been there

1\"before\" possibly \"be-fore\"
2\"?\" in pencil written above and below dash in ink
2ce before it seems—he knows the road—see what work he has made in his flower-garden! He must be fond of bulbs—Our neighbor picks up one tall flower with its bulb attached—holds it out at arms length—he is excited about the pig—–it is a subject he is interested in. But where is gone now The last glimpse I had of him was as he went through the cow yard—here are his tracks again in this cornfield—but they are lost in the grass—We lose him—we beat the bushes in vain—he may be far away—But hark I heard a grunt—Nevertheless for half an hour I do not see him that grunted—At last I find fresh tracks along the river—& again lose them—Once more he crosses our neighbors garden—& is said to be in the road—Each neighbor whose garden I traverse tells me some anecdote of losing pigs—or the attempt to drive them by which I am not encouraged—But I am not there yet—it is a good way off—At length my eyes rest on him again after 3/4 of an hour's separation—there he trots with the whole road to himself—& now again

---

1"our" written over "my"
2"said" written over "in"
drops on his belly in a puddle—Now he starts again—seeing me 20 rods deliberates—considers which way I want him to go—& goes the other At one place a sm There was some chance of driving him along the side walk—or letting him go rather—till he slipped under our gate again—but of what avail would that be—How corner & catch him who keeps 20 rods off—He never lets the open side of the triangle be less than half a dozen rods wide—There was one place where a narrower street turned off at right angles with the main one just this side our yard—but I could not drive him past that 2ce he ran up the narrow street—

he knew for ^ I did not wish it—but though this main street was broad & open & no traveller in street—when I tried to drive him past this opening he invariably his piggish head toward me turned ^—dodged from side to side & finally ran up the narrow street or down the main one as if there were a high barrier erected before him. But really he is no more obstinate than I— I cannot but respect his tactics & his independence. He will be he—& I may be I—my reasons

He is not unreasonable because he thwarts me—but only the more
reasonable. He has a strong will—
—he stands upon his idea—there

{not where a man bars the way—but where}¹
is a wall across the path{}^2 he is resolved
not to travel— Is he not superior to man
therein—?² Once more he glides down
the narrow street—deliberates at a
corner—chooses wisely for him & disappears
through an open work fence—Eastward—
he has gon to fresh gardens & pastures
new— Other neighbors stand in the
door ways but half sympathizing—
— Only observing—"ugly thing to catch"
You have a job—on your hands—
I lose sight of him—but hear that
field
he’s far ahead {in} a large enclosure—
& there we try to let him alone awhile
giving him a wide berth—

At this stage an Irishman was engaged
to assist— "I can catch him" says he
with Buonapartean confidence— He thinks
him a family Irish pig— His wife is
with him bare headed—& his little
flibberty jibbet of a boy 7 yrs old— Here
johnny do you run right off there
(at the broadest possible angle with his own course—)
& Oh but he can’t {do} any thing—
— Oh but I only want him to tell
me where he is—to keep sight of him—.
Michael soon discovers that he is
not an Irish pig—& his wife & Johnny’s

¹line read against 1906 edition
²Question mark written above and below dash
occupation are soon gone. 10 minutes after
ward I am patiently tracking him step by
a near sighted man helping me
step through a cornfield—^{−}−& then into
garden after garden far eastward—& finally
into the highway—at the graveyard—
—but hear & see nothing— One suggests
a dog to track him— Father is meanwhile
selling him to the blacksmith—who also
is trying to get sight of him— After
15 minutes since he disappeared eastward
I hear that he has been to the river 2ce
far in the north—through the 1st neigh-
bors premises— I wend that way— He
crosses the street far ahead Michael
behind—he dodges up an avenue— {−} I stand
in the gap there Michael—at the
other end—& now he tries to corner him—
But it is a vain hope to corner him in
a yard— I see a carriage manufactory
door open—let him go in there Flannery—
For once the pig & I are of one mind—he
bolts in & the door is closed— Now for
a rope. It is a large barn crowded
with carriages— A rope is at length ob-
tained—the windows are barred with carriages
lest he bolt through. He is resting
quietly on his belly in the further corner
thinking unutterable things.

1"B" written over "I"
Now the course recommences within narrower limits—bump bump bump he goes—against wheels & shafts—we get no hold yet— He is all ear & eye— small boys are sent under the carriages to drive him out he froths at the mouth—& deters them. At length he is stuck for an instant between the spoke of a wheel & I am securely attached to his hind leg. He froths at the mouth—& is silent. The rope is attached to a hind leg— the door is opened & the driving commences— Roll an egg as well— You may drag him but you cannot drive him. But he is in the road— & now another thunder shower greets us— I leave Michael with the rope in one hand & a switch in the other—& go home—he seems to be gaining a little westward— But after long delay—I look out & find that he makes but doubtful progress— A boy with a stick is made to face him ^ & it is only when the pig springs at him savagely that progress is made homeward— He will be killed before he is driven home— I get a wheel barrow & go to the rescue— Michael is alarmed the pig is rabid—snaps at him—we drag him across the barrow—hold him down—& so at last get him home—
If a wild shoat like this gets loose
–1st track him if you can, or otherwise
discover where he is– Do not scare
him more than you can help– – Think of
some yard or building or other enclosure
that will hold him–& by showing your
forces–(yet as if uninterested¹ parties)
15 or 20 rods off–let him of his own
accord enter it– Then slightly shut the
gate– Now corner & tie him & put him
into a cart or barrow–

All progress in driving at last was made
by facing & endeavoring to switch him from home
he rushed upon you & made a few feet in
the desired direction– When I approached with
the barrow he advanced to meet it with determi-
nation–
So I get home at dark–wet through
& supperless–covered with mud & wheel-
grease–without any rare flowers–

To the eyes of men there is something
tragic in death– We hear of the death of any
member of the human family with something
more than regret–not without a slight
shudder & feeling of commiseration–
the churchyard is a grave place
Sat. Aug 9th 56

Notwithstanding the very copious rain
with Lightning on the night of Aug. 5th–

¹"uninterested" altered from "uninteresting"
& the deluge which fell yesterday
raising the river still higher— It
rained again & again with very vivid
// lightning—more copiously than ever last-
night—and without long intervals
all this day— Few if any can remember
such a succession of thunder storms merged
into one long thunderstorm lasting almost
continuously (the storm does) 2 nights
& 2 days— We are surprised to see that
it can lighten just as vividly—thunder just
as loud—rain just as copiously as last as at
first.

Pm
Up Assabet—
The river is raised about 2 feet!—
my boat is nearly even full, though under
the willows. The water stands nearly
a foot over the highest part of the
large flat rock by Island— There
is more currant— The pads are
hardly
drowned not one to be seen afloat—
— the utmost length of their tethers
does not permit them to come within
a foot or 10 inches of the surface. They
lay smoothly on the top before with considerable
spare coil beneath—now they strain
in vain toward the surface— All
the B. Beckii is drowned too—
& will be delayed if not exterminated for this year—The water is cool to the bather after so much rain. The notes of the wood Pewee & warbling vireo are more prominent of late—& of the Goldfinch twittering over—Does the last always utter his twitter when ascending? These are already feeding on the thistle seeds.

Again I am surprised to see the Apocynum—close to the rock at the Island—several plants—ap not more than 10 days out—say July 25 including the ones I saw before. The flowers of this are white—with divisions of the corolla erect or nearly so—corolla not 1/8th of an inch wide—calyx segments lanceolate pointed as long as the tube of the corolla. I now notice that all the branches are about equally upright—& hence the upper ones are much more upright than the upper ones of the A. Androsaemifolium—The plant is inclined to be taller & narrower than that, perhaps because it grows by water—The leaves are more oblong or lanceolate & pointed—the downiness & petioles about the same with that of the common—in this case none heart-shaped. The one found the 5th ult was between this & the
At Astor library NY. Nov. 8th 56–in Richardson’s Flora Boreali &c–the leaves of Apocynum

common—a rose-streaked one—in fact

cannabinum in the plate are an inch or more beyond the flowers, and not hearted! Of the A. hy-

colored like the common—this a white one

pericifolium the lower leaves are decidedly hearted, & the flowers are about terminal.

with still longer calyx segments & no hearted heart shaped leaves–This is rather smooth—Say then for that of the

? 5th & this—They are vars of the A. Cann-

{binum}.

I scare up a couple of wood ducks—

separately

undoubtedly birds bred & dispersed about here–The rise of the river attracts them.

What I have called A. Corymbosus,

(but which is perhaps—A. Cordifolius as

Russell thinks—)1 out a day above hemlocks
to 12

It has 8 or 9 white rays. smaller than those of the macro-

phyllus.—& a dull red stem commonly.

It differs from Grays Corymbosus in the

achenia being ap. not slender—not opening

in July—& there being no need of distinguishing

it from the A. Macrophyllus.—from

his Cordifolius—in the rays not being numerous

(sometimes pretty numerous

—nor the paniced heads very numerous ^—and

the rays not pale blue. Perhaps I

must call it A. Cordifolius—yet the lower

individual Gray makes them so commonly!

& principal petioles{—}are naked ^—not at all

Found one ^ at Miles swamp whose lower petioles were winged winged—^ though the upper are. somewhat—

Its petioles (the lower) are only sometimes winged here.

The flowers of A. macrophyllus are white

with a very slight bluish tinge—in a coarse flat topped corymb. Flowers 9 to 10/8 inches diam.

A. cordifolius flowers 6/8 inch diam.

1"but...thinks—" cancelled in pencil
Sunday Aug 10th 56

The weather is fair & clear at last– //
The dog-days over at present–which have
lasted since July 30th

Pm–to F. H. Hill & Walden

Fragrant Everlasting may be some days– //
some days

In the radula swamp ^ a very smooth upright
Solidago–with small somewhat appressed entire
thickish leaves above (Perhaps what I have called
Puberula though as before no {mealiness} or down!)
some in Moores Swamp–v aug 12 '56

The lowest like S. stricta–Panicle
Becomes recurved stricta-like ~
Desmodium maricandicum–smooth
Small Leaves //
D. at the Lespedeza place F. H. Hill side–
{or} a week
may have been out 5 or 6 days– //
begin to show
a few pods. It is very smooth–spreading–
tufted–or caespitose–2+ feet long– Flowers
turn green in drying–as ap. few others do.

R. Copallina not yet for 2 or 3 days– //
The Pycnanthemum Incanum the handsomest //
of the Ps–grows also at the west end the
Knoll with the R. Copallina– All the
upper leaves are equally hoary there in the
light– The corymbs are an inch across
& the flowers large & very prettily purple
spotted– They are swarming with great
wasps of different kinds & bees–
Hear the wood-thrush still. I go across //
lots like a hunting dog. With what
tireless energy & abandonment they

1“5 or 6 days” cancelled in ink and in pencil
dash through the brush & up the
white
sides of hills– I meet 2 ^ fox hounds
led by an old red one– How full of
it they are–how their tails work! They
are not tied to paths–they burst forth
from the thickest shrub-oak lot–
& immediately dive into another as the
fox did. There are more varieties of
? {blackberries}–between the low & the
high than I take notice of–v. that
kind in the Well Meadow field–

The fine (early sedge?) grass in
the frosty hollows about Walden
(where no bushes have sprung up–) looks
like an unkept head–

// Vernonia how long?

The river has been rising all day–

// It is between 2 1/2 & 3 feet higher than
10 days ago. Even the white umbels
of the sium are drowned except here
& there where they stand over the water.

It is within 9 1/2 inches of the top of Hoar's
wall at 6 Pm.1 The meadows have
quite a spring-like look–yet the
grass conceals the extent of the flood–
It appears chiefly where it is mown.
Yet a quarter part as much
rain would have raised the river more
in the spring– So much of it was

1"P" possibly written over "p"
soaked up by the thirsty earth

Aug 11

This morning the river is 1 1/2 inches higher or within 8 inches of the top of Hoars Wall–

The other evening returning down the river–I think I detected the convexity of the earth within a short distance. I saw the western landscape & horizon reflected in the water 50 rods behind me–all lit up with the reflected sky–though it was a narr picture– A stroke of my oar & the dark intervening water was interposed like a dark opaque wall. Moving my head a few inches up or down produced the same effect–i.e. by raising my head 3 inches I could partially over-see the plain of the water at that point–which was otherwise concealed by the slightest convexity.

Pm–

Walk to Conantum with Mr Bradford–

Cassia

He gives me a sprig of Senna Marilandica //

Wild Senna–found by Minott Pratt just P. thought it in prime Aug 10th below Leightons by the roadside. How long? ^

v. 16th prox

A Puniceus a day or more. A new //
sunflower–at Wheeler’s Bank–this side corner Spring–which I will call The
tall Rough3 sunflower–opened say Aug 1st (?)^4

(I saw it out the 7th ult) It does not correspond exactly to any described

Stem 3 or six feet high branched at top –purple with a bloom, roughish, especially

---

1"S" altered from "s" in cancelled "Senna"
2"M" altered from "m"
3"R" written over "r"
4" (?)" possibly added
the peduncles—Leaves opposite, except, a few small ones amid the branches, thick ovate or ovate lanceolate taper pointed, 3 nerved, obscurely & remotely toothed, rough above smooth & whitish below, abruptly contracted into short margined petioles. Scales of the involucre lanceolate taper-pointed, subequal, exceeding the disk, ciliate—rays 8 or 9 1 1/2 or more inches long—chaff black.

Edge of meadow—
Measured a mulgedium 8 feet 3 inches long—& hollow all the way— Some boy had fixed an archangelica stem at so as to conduct the water at the

// spring close by—Elder berries in a day or 2
// I see some Hypericum angulosum turned a delicate clear purple
// P. dumetosum at Bittern Cliff—one flower gone to seed—! say day or 2.

7 Pm. The river has risen about 2 inches today—& is now within 6 inches of the top of Hoar’s Wall.

Aug 12 56

11 Am. To Hill

? The Hypericum mytilum is well out at this hour. The river is now at a stand-still—Some 3 feet above its usual level. The pickerel weed is all covered & {m1} lilies—& much of the

1Possibly not "m" but "m" altered to "&"
button bush & mikania– It is as great an accident as can befall these flowers.

It is novel to behold this great full tide—in which you perceive some current by the eddies—in which no snarl of weeds is seen. So different from that Potamogeton River—where you caught a crab at every stroke of the oar—and farmers drove their hay-carts across—Instead of watery gleaming fields of Potamogetons in which the boatman was entangled & drifting valisneria on which the dragon flies alighted—I see a deep full river on which vessels may float—and I feel at a distance from terra firma when on its bosom—

Pm
To Moores Swamp—
Gerardia purpurea 2 or 3 days. The mulgedium in that swamp is very abundant—and a very stately plant—so erect & soldier like in large companies rising above all else with its very regular long sharp-elliptic head & bluish white flowers

Again I examine that very strict Solidago—which perhaps I must call wandstemmed—Perhaps it is only a swamp-var of S. stricta. Yet the leaves are the upper thicker & darker green—and commonly broader, often elliptic pointed, less recurved & not wavy Stem & head is now
commonly much more strict & branches more erect--& racemes less one-sided--but in larger & maturer ones--they are at length recurving & forming a pyramid like S. Stricta-- Rays are fewer & broader--5 or 6--stem reddish

with ap. more branchlets or leafets in axils--

Am surprised to see still a third species

// or var of Helianthus--(which may have

say only a week

opened near Aug 1st ^–) Only the first flowers out. At edge of the last clearing S of Spring. I cannot identify it. It has very short but not margined petioles-- Leaves narrower than yesterdays & rough beneath (as well as above. The outer scales of involucre a little but I think it is of little importance for the involucre of the H. divaricatus is very variable

? the longest--^ rays about 10. In some respects hardly 2 alike

it is most like H. strumosus--but not

It has decidedly thick leaves--unlike that
downy beneath. of Aug. 29--& flowers 2 1/2 or more inches in diameter

The bruised leaves of these Helianthuses are rather fragrant.

// It is thick smoky dog-day weather again. Bradford speaks of the
Dog's tooth-violet as a plant which disappears early.

The Aster Patens is very handsome by the side of Moore's swamp on the bank-- Large flowers--more or less purplish or violet-- each commonly (4 or 5) at the end of a long peduncle 3 to 6 inch long--at right angles with the stem giving it an open
look— Snake-head or chelone ap X  //
On the edge of the ditch op. the spring—
Epilobium coloratum & also what
I must call E. Palustre of Wildenow //
& Pursh & Eaton— It is smooth or smoothish
leaves somewhat toothed—or sub-denticulate—peduncle 1 inch long—flowers white.

The most interesting domes I behold
are not those of oriental temples & palaces—
but of the toad stools— On this Knoll in
the swamp—they are little pyramids of Cheops
which also stand on the plain
or Cholula—very delicately shaded-off— They
have burst their brown tunics as they expanded—
leaving only a clear brown apex—and on every side
their swelling roofs or domes are patched &
shingled with the fragments—delicately shaded
off thus into every tint of brown to the edge— As
if this creation of a night would thus imitate
the weather stains of centuries— Toads Temples.

So charming is gradation!
Gerardia Pedicularia how long?  //
What a wilderness of weeds is Moores
swamp now? Tall rough G. rods—
dog wood
Erechthites—Poke—A radula &c &c &c It
looks as if the potatoes which grew there
would be poisonous.

An arrow head in Peter’s path— How
many times I have found an arrowhead
by that path, as if that had been an Ind—
trail. Perchance it was—for some of

1“O” possibly written over “o”
2“leaving” written over “&”
The paths we travel are much older than we think—especially some which the colored race in our midst still use—for they are nearest to the Ind. trails. 

The Emerson children say that Aralia nudicaulis berries are good to eat. The leaves of seriocarpus conyzoides are fragrant when bruised.—Black cherrys ripe.

// Labor Lost— For one of this generation to talk with a man of the old school—You might have done a solid work the meanwhile with a contemporary I thought of this when I saw Neighbor B—, the worthy man! & thought of my interviews with him. If I could only get the Parish Clerk to read what I have to say to him!

Saw the primrose open at sundown—the Corolla suddenly burst partway open & unfolded rapidly—The sepals flew back with a smart spring—In a minute or 2 the corolla was opened flat & seemed to rejoice in the cool serene light & air.

/ Lespedeza capitata not long. The Sarothra (as well as small hypericums generally) has a lemon scent.

The late rains has tried the roofs severely—tenants have complained to their landlords & now I see

---

1Underlining for "Labor Lost" possibly in pencil
carpenters setting up their staging
& preparing to shingle—on various sides.

Aug 13th ’56

Pm to Conantum

Beck says of the small Circaeа—(C. Alpina,
"Many botanists consider this a mere variety of the preceding". I am not sure but it

is more deeply toothed than the larger ^— Its leaves of the large

are of the same color with those ^ at Bittern

decidedly

but more ^ { } toothed

Cliff. ^ q.v. Why does it not grow larger at Corner Spring?—1

The root of the Polygala verticillata also has the checkerberry odor—

In Bittern Cliff woods that (ap.) very oblong ellip head leafed Lespedeza violacea (?)—growing a few

very loose and open on ^ long petioles—1 foot high x 4 or 5 inch wide. Is this because it grows in woods—? It is not in bloom.

Is there not now a prevalence of // aromatic herbs in prime?—the polygala roots—blue-curls—wormwood Penny royal— S odora—Rough sun-flowers—horsemint—&c &—Does not the season require this tonic?

I stripped off a shred of Ind. hemp bark—& could not break it. It is as strong as anything of the kind I know—

Aug 14th 56

Pm to Flint’s Pond—via Saw Mill Brook—A. tradescanti ap a day or 2— —Hipopitys // //

1"?" written above and below dash

2"?" written above and below dash
just beyond the last large (2 stemmed) chestnut at Saw Mill Br. about done. Ap. a fungus like plant. It erects itself in seed. Gymnadenia nearer the brook—how long? Is that slender erect shrub near vib nudum

Oak Stump¹ at Sawmill—C. circinata??
// S. Odora abundantly out.
// The low wood paths are strewn with toad stools now—& I begin to perceive their musty scent—great tumbae—or as R. W. E. says tuguriae—crowding one another by the path side when there was not a fellow in sight. Great towers that have fallen—& made the plain shake— Ponderous wheels that have lost their fellows—broken their axles abandoned by the toady or swampy teamsters— Some whose eaves have been nibbled ap. by turtles— Ricketson says he saw a turtle eating a toadstool once. Some great dull yellow towers (towers of strength to judge from their mighty columns) like the S. African Honey birds'? nests.

The recent heavy rains have caused many leaves to fall—especially chestnut— They already spot the ground—rapidly yellowing— & very handsomely spotted— I never weary of their colors— I see those eye spots on the low hickory leaves also— All the Flints pond wood paths are strewn with these gay-spotted chestnut leaves—& the

¹"Oak Stump" altered from "at"
changing sarsaparilla leaves begin to yellow
the forest floor—
   Sedum telephium some time—  //
   In Watt’s Potatoe field at the Turnpike
I find 2 new kinds of Polygonum—very  //
near to P. Persicaria—& so to Pennsylvaniam
   P. (P. common at Brattleboro & different)2

& Laphathifolium

The first I will call the Purple spotted Polyg.  ?3
It is 2 or 3 feet high—stem quite smooth except the glandular roughish peduncles—geniculate but moderately dense
spike slender—pale rose tinted—stamens 6-anthers purple—styles 2 ie, ”distinct & at length divergent; erect flattened smooth & shining”
Spikes 1 inch or so long x 1/8th—Leaves petioled lower commonly a small spot in middle—lanceolate tapering—^ sheaths purple—& entire—(i.e not ciliate) stem purple dotted.

The other—I may call the Green spiked—  ?
The flowers are white—same stamens styles &c as scarcely whitened by the flower
last—spikes green ^ 2 inch x 2 to 3/8 very dense
Fruits remarkably swolen 3/4 inch diam—making an impression of strength & vigor
eter when only 2 feet high ^ flower larger than last
Stem like that smooth—except the glandular roughish peduncles—Leaves broader than last—with ovate lanceolate petioled with the lower commonly a small spot in mid.
(Had not the first also a small spot sometimes?)
Same height with last—
   The first—is rose tinted—slender spiked—narrow-leafed—purple sheathed & spotted dotted—
The 2d Dense green spiked—white flowered—broad leaved & great jointed.

---
1Paren inserted
2Paren added
3Need better copy to confirm if “?” is in pencil
4Caret written below dash
The 1st differs from Gray's P. \( ^1 \) Pennsylvania, in branches above not being "glandular hairy" & style not "2-parted" but divided to base--from his Lapathifolium--in the leaves being long & narrow--& the upper sheaths fringed{--} G's

The 2nd differs from (P. Pennsylvania in same respects & also in flowers being white) from P. Lapathifolium in sheaths not being fringed--Perhaps it is the last (or 2 form of it) Pale Persicaria\( ^3 \) (as is Lapathifolium) & the 2nd Knee jointed as is Pennsylvania by some--V Aug 31st see a var ap. of 2nd

? Say they opened with P. Careyi. pale raspberry with "rose tinged flowers & narrow leaves{"--therefore this better be called Pale Persicaria

// Flowering blackberry still.

// A short elliptic leaved Lespedeza violacea--loose & open in Veery nest path at Flints Pond--in Press.

? On road side heap at Emerson's a Portulaca with leaves 1 inch wide & 7 petals! instead of 5 Meet a little boy with 6 young blind mice in his hat--which Horatio Watts' has given--He did not find them till he came to fork over & turn the hay There were 6 of these little brown blind meadow mice--(I suppose A. hirsutus?) with short tails & blunt muzzles & great heads--looking like little bull dogs. The nest was open on the surface--amid the roots of the grass--of dried grass--like a birds 3 1/2 inch diameter--with a gallery or 2 leading from it--Watts said these were the kind that clung to the mother--! but why did they not? sometimes find 9 of them.

---

\(^1\)"P." possibly inserted
\(^2\)"or" possibly poorly formed "a"
\(^3\)"P" written over "p"
\(^4\)Unreadable text written in pencil (need better copy)
Friday Aug. 15
Pm to Minot Pratts—
Pratt is collecting his Parsnip seed—this the 2d or 3d cutting—It takes 3 cuttings the central umbellets ripening first—It takes a sharp knife not to shake out the seeds—& as it is enough to seed ten times the ground is lost. Almost every one is poisoned—says P. by this work—the skin comes off the back of the hand—making tanned hand look white spotted—This from handling the Parsnip in its 2nd year only. Great rank poisonous look—& really poisonous parsnips gone to seed. It is not quite time to cut the carrots seed.

A very fragrant ap. introduced mint // by the roadside at Oak about 15 rods S of H Shattucks out some time—It comes nearest to Spear mint or M. Viridis—but has petioled leaves—& long spikes with distant whorls—安定 (stamens included)—

Is it a var. of M viridis—White mint? V 2ps forward

Aug 16th 56
8 Am. to Cassia Field.
Chenopodium Hybridum—a tall rank weed. //
5 feet at least—dark green with a heavy (poisonous?) odor compared to that of stramonium. Great maple? shaped leaves—How deadly—this peculiar heavy odor!—
Dip. linarifolius ap. several days. //
Ambrosia pollen now begins to yellow my clothes //

1"!” written above and below dash
// Cynoglossum officinale--a long time mostly
   N
gone to seed--at Bulls path-- & roadside
below Leppelmans-- Its great radical leaves
made me think of smooth mullein. The
flower has a very peculiar rather sickening odor--
Sophia thought like a warm apple-pie just
from the oven--(I did not perceive this)--
A pretty flower however-- I thoughtlessly put a
handful of the seeds nutlets in to my pocket
with my handkerchief-- But it took me a
long time to pick them out my handkerchief
when I got home--& I pulled out many
threads in the process.
At roadside op. Leightons--just this side his
Wild bergamot

// barn--Monarda fistula ^ nearly done with
terminal whorls--& fragrance mixed of balm
ap the same kind in Loring's yard--
& summer savory ^. The petioles are not ciliated
like those on straw berry Hill road
   Am surprised to find the Cassia so obvious
& abundant-- Can see it yellowing the
field 25 rods off from top of hill. It
is perhaps the prevailing shrub over several
rocky
acres of moist ^ meadow pasture on the
brook-- Grows in bunches 3 to 5 feet high
(from the ground this year) in the neighbor-
hood--of Alders--hardhack--elecampane &c
turning white & pods already 3 inch long
The lower flowers are ^ going to seed ^--a few
upper not yet opened-- It resounds with the
hum of bumble bees. It is branched
   of the half-naked (of leaves)
above--some ^ racemes 20 inches long
x 5 or 6 wide—Leaves alternate—of 6 or 8 pairs of leafets & often an odd one at base—Locust like—looked as if they had shut up in the night—
I observe it myself
(Mrs Pratt says they do ^) E. Hoar says she has known it here since she was a child.

The Cynoglossum by roadside opposite—
& by side of tan yard the ap true M viridis say Aug 1st at least

or spear mint growing very rankly in a dense bed—some 4 feet high—spikes rather dense stem often reddish

1 to 1 1/2 inches long. ^ leaves nearly sessile—{as}
The leaves of yesterday's mentha were longer petioled & finer toothed—stem more hairy—as well as spikes different (more leafy)
Stamens in both included & fragrance the same—

Some Elicampane with the Cassia is 6 feet high & blades of lowers leaves 20 inches x 7 or 9

What a variety of garden herbs—mints &c are naturalized along an old settled road—like this to Boston (which the British travelled—& then there is the site of an old garden by the tanyard where the Spear mint grows so rankly— I am intoxicated with the fragrance— Though I find only one new plant (the cassia) yet old acquaintances grow so rankly—
& the spearmint intoxicates me so—that I am bewildered as it were by a variety of new things—an infinite novelty—
− All the roadside is the site of an old garden where fragrant herbs have
become naturalized—hounds tongue—bergamot—
spearmint—elecampane—&c— I see even
the tiger lily—with its bulbs—growing by the
roadside far from houses—(near Leighton’s
Grave-yard). I think I have found many
new plants & am surprised when I can reckon
but one. A little distance from my ordinary walk—
& a little variety in the growth or luxuriance
will produce this illusion. By the discovery of
one new plant all bounds seem to be infinitely
removed.

Amphicarpaea some time—pods 7/8 inch long.
Mimulus ringens 4 feet high—& chelone 6 feet
high!

Am frequently surprised to find how imperfectly
water plants are—known—even good shore
botanists are out of their element on the water—
I would suggest to young botanists—to get
not only a botany box—but a boat—&
know the water plants not so much
from the shore as from the water side.

White morning glory up the Assabet—
I find the Dogs bane—(A androsamifolium) bark
not nearly so strong as that of the A. Canna-

Amaranthus hypochondriacus
how long?
Minot says that the meadow grass
will be good for nothing after the late
over flow—when it goes down— The water
has steamed the grass— I see the
rhue all turned yellow by it.
am surprised to find how swift the current–
& let it be running off–& you can hardly swim
against it. It has fallen about 15 inches

My plants in press are in a sad con-
dition–mildew has invaded them during
the late damp weather–even those that
were nearly dry– I find more and other
plants than I counted on– Very bad weather of
late for pressing plants– Give me the dry heat of July–
Even growing leaves out of doors are spotted with fungi now–much
more than mine in press.

Aug 17

Pm Walked with Minot Pratt behind
his house–

Hypericum Canadense well out at 2 Pm
Ludwigia Alternifolia still with red or scarlet
calyx lobes to the seed–roadside this side H.
Shattucks. A. miser some time–turned
purple. A. longifolius not long. Hieracium

Russel had suggested Genista. He has
in his garden–the Mt fringe Adlumia

which grows in maine & he
thought in the W part of this state
Also Wood geranium *G. dissectum* Big from Fitzwilliam—though Gray seems to think that the Carolinianum has been mistaken for it—{*Rhus Copallina*} already going to seed by the wall ap on what was W. E. Cs ground—Saw again the Red huckleberry & the white hard hack—

I think this the lay of the Land

The red huckleberry is as easily distinguished in the green state as when ripe
It is then red with white cheek—often slightly fern shaped semi-transparent with a luster very finely & indistinctly white dotted— I do not perceive

any very marked peculiarity in the bush—unless the last years a peculiar ochreous color that the recent twigs are red & the red buds in the axils larger. It might be *resinosa var* called *Gaylussacia ^ erythrocarpa*  

Aug 18th '56

Pm to Beck Stow's

// Now perhaps get thoroughwort—  
The Lecheas in the great fields are now turning red—especially the fine one—As I go along the hill sides in sprout-lands—amid the S. stricta
hear the looking for the blackberries left after the rain—the sun1 warm as ever, but the air cool nevertheless—I hear the steady (not intermittent) shrilling of ap. the alder cricket clear—loud & autumnal—a season sound.  

Hear it, but see it not. It reminds me of past {autums} & the lapse of time—suggests a pleasing thoughtful melancholy—like the sound of the flail—Such preparation—such an outfit has our life & so little brought to pass!

Hear a faint warbling bird amid birches & pines—clear yell throat & breast—greenish ? yellow head—conspic. white bar on wings—white beneath—forked tail—bluish legs— Can it be Pine warbler—?2 The note thus faint—is not like it.

See Black & white creeper—  

See by the high path side N of Moores Holly Swamp—ap what I have called D. Dillenii earlier than D. Paniculatum

It is ap. about in its prime —though partly gone to seed— I am in doubt whether it can be really the leaves so small (1 to 1 3/4 inch) & pods 2 to 3 semi orbicular{.}

D. Dillenii — It may be Rigidum (though this is not adequately described) or a var of Ciliare The flowers are of a bluish or verdigrase green—in drying— The stems are rough pubescent—about 2 feet long spreading from a center—petioles 1/4 to 5/8 of an inch long—leafets ovate or ovate lanceolate, lowest roundish—very finely ciliate on edge— Panicle a foot or more long—

1"the sun" written over "I hear t"
2"?" written above and below dash
It is perhaps ciliare—except that the leaflets
some of the same at Wyman’s1 shore Aug 23 has leaves spotted or watered light & dark green
& 1 to 3 pods
are larger— They are rather hairy or
Of those Described in Gray, it can only be Rigidum or Ciliare
?
downy beneath as well as the short petioles.
—but the leaves are not very crowded nor very hairy like the latter & are larger— I will call it D. Rigidum—for it
V. 19th prox. is likely to be intermediate bet. no 16 & no 11, though imperfectly described.
This is the one also of Heywood Peak July 31 ’53—Peters path ’56 &
v 26th
Wyman’s shore ’56

a few rods more E
// Close by ^ a new var ap of Lespedeza violacea
–which ap. opens with the common– The flowers
are a peculiar light red-purple not violet
– Plant 15 or 20 inches high much & long
branched– Peduncles 4 to 6/8 of an inch long!!
rising above leaves–& longer
leafets 1/2 to 1 inch {lonch} or smoothish petioles
1/4 inch or more long. Call it the long–
I suppose it cannot be L. Stuvei
peduncled var of Lesped– Violacea. ^
// Yel. Beth Star yet. & Indigo
Saw yesterday & some days before—a
// monster aphis2 some 5/8 inch long on
a huckleberry leaf– I mistook it as before
for a sort of loose spun coccoon– It was
obovate indistinctly ribbed–of long loose white
streaming down, but being tep touched, it
recoiled & taken off the leaf rolled itself into a
ball. The Father of all the aphides.
//
Oenothera pumila still.
Aug 19th
Pm to F. H. Hill
//
Dog-day weather as for clouds–but
less smoky than before the rains of 10
days ago. I see hypericum Canadense3
// & mytilum abundantly open at 3 Pm– Apparently

1"W" written over "v"
2"aphis" altered from "aphides"
3"C" written over "&"
they did not bear the dry hot weather of July so well. They are ap. now in prime—but the sarothra is not open at this hour. The Perforatum is quite scarce now—and ap the Corymbosum—the ellipticum quite done. The small hypericums have a peculiar smart somewhat lemon like fragrance—but bee-like. The dangle berries in Hub's Grove—have a peculiar not very pleasant flavor & a tough skin. I see white buds on swamp pink just formed // also green checkerberries about grown //

In the Radula swamp the sweet scent which last 10 days at least

of Clethra—some peculiarly bright orange toad stools with a wavy edge—Now for spotted aralia leaves—brown pupils with yellow iris amid the green.

The whorled Polygala is a plant almost universally dispersed but inconspicuous.

I spend my afternoon among the Desmodiums & lespedezas sociably. The further end of F. H. Hill side is a great place for them. There is the D. Marilandicum The smooth small leaved far more abundant than I had supposed about the hickory & Juniper in great beds some stems 3 or 4 feet long 3 to 8 feet over—it's fine panicles of peculiar greenish flowers seen against the hill side—quite a mass of that peculiar color—green-purple the hill side

Then there is the D. Dillenii (?) though much larger than yesterday's plant
& possibly different—leaving that for another name)—one near the Juniper & Marilandicum—one or 2 more on the rt of the path a few rods further—but much more & larger on the hill side 2 or 3 rods W of the rocks at the Cliff end.—Then the D. Paniculatum higher up by path hardly yet showing seed—and also on face of with its very handsome long & narrow finger-like smooth & more or less glossy leaves light streaked along veins rocks—^ & the D. acuminatum much earlier all gone to seed on the face of the rocks—with its great pods

The Lespedeza hirta very abundant on all that hill side—and ap. the capitata & the violacea both elliptic & narrow leafed

The flowers of the D marilandicum Dillenii & Paniculatum all turn that peculiar blue or verdigrease green in drying—from a purple. They have always light 2 little ^ green spots on the recurved vexillum. almost almost all the flowers are turned

There are a few fresh purple ones in the morning whenever I see them. ^ The D. marilandicum has grown very rankly the stem growing flat at end {&} 1/2 inch wide & recurved & densely flowered—like a primrose stem sometimes deformed.

I am in doubt about the D. Dillenii (?) which I find there (mentioned at top of p) whether Prob it is it is that ^ & whether it is the same with

Prob. different

that found yesterday ^—(I find some evidently which is ap. D. Rigidum the same with that of yesterday—on left by Potter’s—star fungus path 6 rods beyond
site of wall). I detect no essential difference

Most\(^1\)

yet but in size—Some plants are 3 or 4
feet long—especially in the open copse at Cliff—
– The leaves & hence petioles are much longer—
some of the leaves even 4 & 4 1/2\(^2\) inches long
& perhaps 1 1/2 wide—the flowers are proportionally
large—but the pods of\(^3\) which I can already
count 5! together threaten to be rhomboidal
&a they\(^4\) are considerably later than the other
–& the stem (in the copse at least) somewhat

the petioles not hairy & the leaves yet smoothed

less roughish \(^\wedge\). If the pods are semi orbicular

they are not. v. 26\(^{th}\) prox

\(^\wedge\) and I detect no dif. bet this & yesterdays but

size—then I must call both for present

D. rigidum—(Though they may possibly be

long petioled

Elliott’s \(^\wedge\) var of {Gi} oblongifolium (of Ciliare)

They are v 26\(^{th}\)

ac. to Eaton)—if they are rhombic \(^\wedge\)—then the

large one D Dillenii {& put it of} or date {with} D. paniculatum

Of violet Lespedezas I think of

the common elliptic leaved—more or less dense leaved

—then a very small leaved— The linear leaved

& the light red long peduncled-path above Moore’s

Holly swamp.

D I see a var of L. capitata with peduncles

longer than leaves?

All the Lespedezas are ap. more open

& delicate in the woods and of a darker green

esp. the violet ones. When not too much
crowded their leaves are very pretty & perfect

Ivy berries dry & ap ripe on the rocks{.} Toxicodendron //

\(^1\)T interlined "Many" in ink above cancelled "Some" and then altered "any" to "ost" in pencil (need better copy to check accuracy of description)

\(^2\)"in" possibly inserted

\(^3\)"of" possibly written over "on"

\(^4\)"they" altered from "though"
Low blue-berries—though some are a very little wilted are very sweet & good as well as abundant—Huckleberries getting to be suspected—What countless varieties of low-black berries—Here in this open pine grove I pluck some large fresh & very sweet ones when they are mostly gone without—So they are continued a little

Lobelia spicata still

The wind rises & the Pasture thistle down is blown about.

On the F. H. Hill side just this side & below D Paniculatum a var of Lespedeza Capitata (the oblong elliptic Leaved one) with Peduncles much longer than leaves & longer than those of L. Hirta.—Yet it is not var angustifolia for the leaves are no narrower than usual Lespedezas & Desmodiums are now generally in prime—The latter are an especially interesting family—with commonly such delicate spreading panicles—the plants themselves in their distribution so scattered & inobvious—& the open & spreading panicle of commonly verdigrease green flowers (in drying) make them to be unobserved when you are near them.

The panicle of flowers often as large or larger than all the rest of the plant—with their peculiar chain like seed pods rhomboidal—or semiobicular—or with concave backs—They love dry hill sides
They are not so abundant after all but I feel an agreeable surprise as often as I come across a new locality for Desmodiums. Rarely find one kind without one or 2 more species near—Their great spreading panicles—yet delicate—open & airy—occupying the August air—Like raking masts with countless grays slanted far over the neighboring plants—

Some of these desmodiums the Paniculatum—Mari-Rigidum & landicum—nudiflorum ^ & Dillenii are so fine & in obvious that a careless observer would look through their thin flowery panicles without observing any flower at all. The flowery beds of D {Dillenii} marilandicum reveal themselves to me like a blue-green mist or gauze veil spread on the grass. I find them abundant in some places where I am sure there were none last year. They are outsiders—few & far between—further removed from man's walks than most plants—considering that there is such a variety of them. A dry thin family of many species, no where abundant yet widely dispersed—looking out from dry hillsides & exercising their dry wit on the race of man.

The Lespedezas & D Canadense—more stiff & wand like—nearer to man & his paths.

Rigidum

The D ^ Dillenii &c &c more spreading & open—thin & fleeting & dispersed like the aborigines.

They occupy the same dry soil too—
When huckleberries are getting stale on 
& in sproutlands
dry hill sides amid the huckleberry bushes & by 
paths you may observe them. The 
broad meshes of their panicles rarely catch 
the eye– There is something witch like about 
them– Though so rare & remote–yet evidently 
from those bur-like pods expecting to come 
in contact with some travelling man or beast 
without their knowledge–to be transported 
to new hill sides–lying in wait as it were 
to catch by the hem of the berry-picker's garments 
& so get a lift to new quarters. They occupy 
a great deal of room, but are the less 
obvious for it–they put their chains about 
you–& they cling like savage children to 
their mother's back or breast– – The escape 
your observation as it were under bare poles– 
–you only notice as far up as their green 
sails are set perchance or to the cross trees– 
and the tall tapering raking spars– 
whence are looped the life lines & 
halyards– Or it is like that slanting 
mast and rigging in navy yards where masts 
are inserted.

Aug 20– 56
// Rain all night & today–making it 
a little chilly–though I sit with open 
window– I should think it uncomfortably 
cool with it closed– Some must have 
// a little fire
Aug 21st
Rain still all day—& wind rises—& shakes off much fruit & beats down the corn—

The prevailing solidagos now—are 1st stricta (the upland & also meadow one which I seem to have called Puberula &)—2nd the 3 ribbed of ap several varieties which I have called arguta or gigantea (ap. truly the last) 3 altissima though commonly only a part of its panicles—4th Nemoralis—just beginning generally to bloom—Then there is the odor& 5th out some time, but not common—& 6th the bicolor just begun in some places—

The commonest asters now—are 1st the Radula—2nd Dumosus—3d Patens—4th say Prenanthe Puniceus—5th Cordifolius—These 2 a good while
6th Macrophylus—& 7th say Tradescanti 8 Miser
9 Longifolius— These 3 quite rare yet—
sometime
10 prob— acuminatus ^ (not seen) 11 undulatus
12 laevis— — These 2 scarcely to be seen yet

N. B. Water so high I have not seen Early Meadow A. lately.

Aug 22d
Fair weather at last— Pm up Assabet— Owing to the rain of the 8th & before 2 days & 2 nights the river rose to within 6 inches of the top of Hoar's Wall—

It had fallen about one half when the

---

1"γ" written over another character
2"8" possibly inserted
rain began again on the night of the 20th & again continued about 2 nights & 2 days—though so much did not fall as before—but the river being high it is now rising fast—The Assabet is ap. at its height & rushing very swiftly past the hemloks where it is narrow & choked with rocks, I can hardly row against it there— I see much hay floating & 2 or 3 cocks quite black—carried round & round in a great eddy by the side of the stream—which will ere long be released & continue their voyage down stream. The water is backing up the main stream so that there is no current whatever in that as far up as my boats place at least—when I rest on my oars the boat will not after any waiting drift down stream.

// It is within 3 inch of the top of Hoar’s wall at 7 Pm.

I notice 3 or 4 clumps of white maples at the swamp up the Assabet—which have turned as red—(dull red) as ever they do—fairly put on their autumnal hue. But we have had no dry weather & no frost—& this is ap. a premature ripening of the leaves— The water stands around & affects them as it does the weeds & grasses—steams them too
They as it were take these for the fall rains—the latter rain—accept their fates—and put on the suitable dress—This shows how little frost has to do with such changes except as a ripener of the leaves—The trees are so ready for this change—that only a copious rain & rise of the waters as in the fall produces the same effect—also some red maples on hill sides have a crisped look for the same reason—actually ripening & drying¹ without turning & without drought or frost.

I find that much of the faint warbling I hear now adays is from ap—the young Maryland yel-throats—as it were practising against another spring—half finished strains—They are also more inquisitive & bold than usual hopping quite near

The creak of the mole-cricket is heard along the shore

As for the 3 ribbed G. rods—I find several varieties all which methinks I must call—S. gigtea. also in path on Emerson’s burnt hill side

¹About 15 rods down RR on right—is a perfectly smooth one 3 feet high—leaves entirely smooth both sides—stem glaucous—just out of bloom one ap. the same seen to have larger flowers & rays than the other kinds

²so I cant examine flowers—Then quite common, as at apple tree by wall E of Hill,—A very tall slender Glaucoo held (except a little pubescence at top) one with leaves smooth both-sides except a little down or hair on mid rib beneath &² edge

¹“d” in “drying possibly written over “&”
²“&” possibly inserted
out ap. 5 or 6 days. The earlier quite
common rough kind with more downy
hardly glaucous stem—the 1st noticed this year—
at Walden 1st shore by RR—perhaps stouter is
in its leaves like the "Late G—rod"—but stem is
Some of this elsewhere now fresh ap. differs from
not smooth. the others only in size of rays—i.e. there maybe a
great diff. in size of rays without any
essential diff— in other respects.

Aug 23d

Pm to Walden—
I see a bed of Antennaria Margaraticea now
in its prime by the RR—& very handsome—

It has fallen outward on all sides ray wise &
rests on the ground forming perfectly regular
circle 4 feet in diameter & 15 inches high
with a dark ash colored center 20 inches
in diameter composed of the stems then a
wide circumference 1 foot or more broad of
dense pearly masses of flowers—covered with
bees & butterflies— This is as regular as
a wheel— So fair & pure & abundant.

? Elder-berries now looking purple—are
weighing down the bushes along fences—by their
abundance— White golden rod—not long commonly
— Decodon getting stale at 2nd Andromeda
pond— Often the end has rooted itself &
the whole forms a loop 4 feet long & 20
or more inches high in the middle—with
numerous branches— Making it rather
troublesome to wade through— Where
the stems bend down & rest on the water
they swell to several times their
usual size & acquire that thick sof 
bark & put forth numerous roots— not 
the extreme point—but a space just short 
of it—while that starts up again.

On R. W. E’s hill side by RR—burnt 
over by the Engine in the spring the 
Erechthites has shot up abundantly very 
tall & straight some 6 or 7 feet high—

Those singular crowded & wrinkled dry 
galls—red & cream color—mingled on 
White oak shrubs—with the grubs in them

On the W. side of Emerson’s 
Cliff—I notice many G. Pedicularia 
out— A bee is hovering about on bush—the
flowers are not yet open—& if they were perhaps 
he could not enter—he proceeds at once 
head downwards to the base of the tube—extracts the 
sweet there & departs— Examining I find 
that every flower—has a small hole pierced 
through the tube commonly through calyx 
& all opposite the nectary— This does not 
hinder its opening.— The Rape of the Flower! 
The bee knew where the sweet lay & was unscrupu- 
lous in his mode of obtaining it. A certain violence 
tolerated by nature. 
Now for high black-berries though the 
low are gone—{at} the Lincoln bound 
hollow Walden—there is a dense bed

1"the" possibly written over "are"
2="extracts" possibly altered from "&"
of the rubus hispidus matting the ground
7 or 8 inches deep--& full of the small
// black fruit now in its prime-- It is es-
pecially abundant where the vines lie over
a stump-- Has a peculiar, hardly agreeable
acid.

// At Wyman's shore a new Lespedeza--appearing
intermediate bet. violaca & hirta but smoother
smooth above & lighter green
& not silvery downy above ^--& less downy beneath--peduncles
much longer than leaves--not crowded if compared
with hirta & capitata say a dozen flowers within
3/4 of an inch at the end-- Corolla more purple
or violet than the hirta but less than the violacea
considerably longer than the calyx. Out say a
fortnight. 2 1/2 feet high--rather past prime

// On this L. Stuvei a green locust 1 3/4 inch
// long. The scent of decaying fungi
in woods is quite offensive now in many
places--like carrion even. I see many red
ones eaten more or less in the paths--nibbled
out on the edges

// 7 Pm The river has risen 4 inches since
last night--& now is 1 inch above the
wall--& there is a little current
there-- Prob. then the Assabet has beg.
to fall--(if this has not risen higher than that.)

J Farmer says that he found that
the gummed twig of a chimney swallows nest
though it burned when held in a flame
went out immediately--when taken out
of it—& he thinks it owing to a peculiarity in the gumm—rendering the twig partly fire-proof—so that they cannot be ignited by the sparks in a chimney. I suggested that these swallows had originally built in hollow trees—but it would be interesting to ascertain whether they constructed their nests in the same way & of the same material then.

Aug 24th

3 Pm up river to Clam Shell—

dan

Polyg— tenue abun^t & in bloom on // side of money-digger's Hill esp. at S base near apple tree— The choke cherry by fence beyond spring—being dead ripe & a little wilted is at length tolerable eating—much better than I // ever tasted—but the stones are much in the way. I was surprised to hear Peter Flood mention it as an objection to a certain peat meadow that he would have to dry the peat on the adjacent upland. But he explained that {pead} dried thus was apt to crumble & so was not so good as that dried gradually & all alike on damper ground. So an apparent disadvantage is a real advantage, ac. to this

It rained a little last night—& the // river at 3 Pm is at the same height as last night— It is not remembered when it was
so high at this season. I have not seen
a white lily—nor a yellow one in the river—
for a fortnight— The river meadows
prob will not be mown this year—
I can hardly get under the stone bridge
without striking my boat—cardinal flowers
&c &c are drowned before they were fairly in bloom.

//
River at same height as yesterday—

Aug 25th
Pm to Hill by boat

//
Silvery cinquefoil now begins to show itself
commonly again— Perhaps it is owing to
the rain—spring-like which we have in august.
I paddle directly across the meadow—the
river is so high, & land E of the elm
on the the 3d or 4th row of potatoes—
The water makes more show on the meadows
than yesterday, though hardly so high, be-
cause the grass is more flatted down.
I easily make my way amid the thin
spires—almost every stem which rises above
the surface has a grass hopper or cater-
pillar upon it. Some have 7 or 8 grass
hoppers—clinging to their masts one ^
directly above another—& like shipwrecked
sailors now the 3d or 4th day exposed.
Whither shall they jump?1 it is a quarter
of a mile to shore—& countless sharks
lie in wait for them. They are so
thick that they are like a crop which

1"?" pos. inserted
the grass bears—some stems are bent down by their weight. This flood affects other inhabitants of these fields than men—not only the owners of the grass but its inhabitants much more—It drives them to their upper stories—to take refuge in the rigging. Many that have taken an imprudent leap are seen struggling in the water—How much life is drowned out! that inhabits about the roots of the meadow grass—How many a family perchance of short-tailed meadow mice has had to scamper or swim!1 The river-meadow cranberries are covered deep—I can count them as they lie in dense beds a foot under-water so distinct & white—or just beginning to have a red cheek. They will probably be spoiled—& this crop will fail. Potatoes too in the low land—on which water has stood so long—will rot—

The farmers commonly say that the spring floods—being of cold water, do not injure the grass, like later ones when the water is warm—but I suspect it is not so much owing to the warmth of the water—as to the age & condition of the grass & whatever else is exposed to them. They say that if you let the water rise some time & stand over the roots of trees in warm weather—it will kill them—

1"?" possibly written over "?"
This then may be the value of these occasional freshets in August—they steam & kill the shrubs & trees which had crept into the river meadows—and so keep them open perpetually. Which perchance the spring floods alone might not do—

It is commonly supposed that our river meadows were much drier than now originally—or when the town was settled. They were probably drier before the dam was built at Billerica, but if they were much or at all drier than now originally—I ask what prevented their being converted into maple swamps—? Maples—alders—birches &c are creeping into them quite fast on many sides at present. If they had been so dry as is supposed they would not have been open meadows. It seems to be true that high-water in midsummer—when perchance the trees & shrubs are in a more tender state—kills

It "steams" them as it does the grass & maybe the river thus asserts its rights—and possibly it would still to great extent—though the meadows should be considerably raised. Yet I ask why do maples alders &c at present border the stream? though they do not spring up to any extent in the open meadow? Is it because the immediate bank is commonly more firm as well as higher—(their seeds also are more liable to be caught there)
& where it is low they are protected by willows, & button bushes which can bear the flood—
Not even willows & button-bushes prevail
in the great meadows—(though many of the
former at least spring up there—) except
on the most elevated parts or hummocks—

The reason for this cannot be solely in the
fact that the water stands over them
there a part of the year—because they are
still more exposed to the water in many places
on the shore of the river where yet they thrive.
Is it then owing to the soft character of the
ground in the meadow—& the ice tearing up
the meadow so extensively? On the immediate
bank of the river that kind of sod & soil is not
commonly formed which the ice lifts up—
Why is the black willow so strictly confined to
the bank of the river? What is the use, in
Nature's¹ economy, of these occasional floods
in August? Is it not partly to preserve the
meadows open?

Mr Rice says that the brook just beyond his
brother Israels in Sudbury rises & runs out
before the river—and then you will see the river
running up the brook as fast as the brook
ran down before.
Apparently half the pads are now afloat
notwithstanding the depth of the water—but they are almost all white lily pads
—the others being eaten or decayed. They

¹Nature's: Indistinguishable marks under "ture's" (need better copy)
have apparently lengthened their stems somewhat—They generally lie with more or less coil prepared for a rise of the water—and perhaps the length of that coil shows pretty accurately to how great a rise they are ordinarily subject at this season.

I was suggesting yesterday, as I have often before—that the town should provide a stone monument to be placed in the river, so as to be surrounded by water at its lowest stage—& a dozen feet high so as to rise above it at its highest stage—On this feet & inches to be permanently marked—& it be made some one’s duty to record each high or low stage of the water. Now when we have a remarkable freshet we cannot tell surely whether it is higher than the one 30 or 60 years ago or not. It would be not merely interesting but often practically valuable to know this. Reuben Rice was telling me tonight that the great freshet of 2 or 3 years ago came, ac to his brother Israel, within 2 inches of one that occurred about 40 years ago. I asked how he knew. He said that the former one took place Early (→)February?!

1"?" possibly ""
& the surface froze so that boys skated on it—& the ice marked a particular apple tree—girdled it—so that it is seen to this day. But we wish to speak more confidently than this allows. It is important when building a causeway—or a bridge—or {even} a house even in some situations to know exactly how high the river has ever risen. It would need to be a very large stone or pile of stones which the ice could not move or break. Perhaps one corner of a bridge abutment would do.

Rice killed a woodchuck today—that was shearing off his beans—He was very fat.

I cross the meadows in the face of a thunderstorm rising very dark in the north. There were several boats out but their crews soon retreated homeward before the approaching storm. It came on rapidly with vivid lightning striking the northern earth—& heavy thunder following. Just before and in the shadow majestically of the cloud, I saw advancing with wide circles over the meadowy flood—a fish hawk—& a black eagle—(maybe a young Whitehead.)¹ The first with slender curved wings & silvery breast 4 or 500 feet high watching the water while he circled slowly S. westery—What a vision that could detect a fish at that distance. The latter

¹In a Journal entry dated April 6, 1856, T records his observation of "a large bird of the hawk kind" that could have been "a white headed eagle or a fish hawk"; it may be the same bird he describes here. See http://thoreau.library.ucsb.edu/writings_journals_pdfs/TMS2newTR.pdf, pp. 206-208.
with broad black wings & broad tail
thus hovered only about 100 feet
high–evidently a diff. species–and what else
but an eagle? They soon disappeared S. W.
The thunder shower passed off to the SE
cutting off a bend.

Tuesday Aug. 26 '56
// More wind & quite cold this morning but
very bright & sparkling autumn-like air–
reminding of frosts to be apprehended–also
We see no effects of frost yet in garden–but hear a rumor
tempting abroad–to adventure. The fall
// of a little somewhere 1st muskmelon gathered
cricket or is it alder locust sings the
praises of the day–
So about 9 Am–up river to F. H. Pond.

    The flooded meadow, where the grass-
hoppers cling to the grass so thickly–is
alive with swallows skimming just
over the surface around the grass tops–
& apparently snapping up insects there.
Are they catching the grass hoppers?–
as they cling to bare poles?– (I see the
swallows equally thick there at
5 Pm when I return also)

// River slowly falling– The most conspicuous
weed rising above the water–is the
wool grass with its great rich seedy
heads–which rise from a few inches
to a foot above at present–as I
push over the uncut meadows.

? I see many white lilies fairly & freshly
in bloom after all this flood–though
it looks like a ressurrection– The wind is NW
–ap– by W. & I sail before it & under Hub-
ard’s bridge. The red maples of Potter’s
swamp show a dull purple blush–& some-
times a low scarlet bough–the effect
evidently of the rain ripening them.

Rice told me about their crossing the causeway
from Wayland to Sudbury some 60 years ago in
a freshet–which he could just remember–
in a half hogs head tub–used for scalding
pigs–having nailed some boards on the bottom
to keep it from upsetting. It was too deep for
a team.

We begin to apprehend frosts before the melons
are ripe! A blue heron sails away from a

Again he flies & alights on the {hard} Conantum side where at length I detect
him standing far away stake-like–(his body concealed) eyeing me–depending on
pine at Holden Swamp shore & alights on
his stronger vision
the meadow above–

which there appears to have been open about a week

The Desmod. Dillenii of Aug 19\textsuperscript{th} under F– H. Hill–
now first distinguished
proves by its rhomboidal pods to be the D. Dillenii ^
& leaves that of 18\textsuperscript{th} as D. Rigidum intermediate bet–
Dillenii & ciliare (?) judging from the pods this
D. Dillenii is at least a week later than the
D. Rigidum (which found on Heywood peak July
31\textsuperscript{st} a week—\textit{appr} 1853–

The Desmodium flowers are pure purple–rose
purple in the morning–when quite fresh–excepting
D
the 2 green spots. The Rotundifolium also has
the 2 green (or in its case greenish spots) on its
very large flower–
These Desmodiums are so fine and inobvious that it is difficult to {detect} them. I go through a grove in vain—but when I get away find my coat covered with their pods—They found me though I did not them.

The round leafed D. has sometimes 7 pods & large // flowers—still fresh—
// On the side of Blackberry Steep—midway—that smooth purple stemmed grape—(but not sinquate lobed of Pursh) v. leaf—here—has fruit the very largest about 5/8 inch diameter—Is it the V. Aestivalis of Gray?
?

The L. stupei is very abundant on Blackberry steep—2 1/2 to 3 feet high It has a looser top & less dense spikes than the hirta—It gives a pink hue to the hill-side. The L. violacea is smaller & much more violet—the hirta more white. Galium pilosum still common—
// {&} Desmod acuminatum still by rock on Blackberry steep—This to be added to the D's of this place.

As I stand there a young male goldfinch darts away with a twitter from a spear-thistle top close to my side—& alighting near makes frequent returns as near to me & the thistle as it dare pass—Not yet knowing man well enough to fear him.

I rest & take my lunch on Lee's Cliff looking toward Baker Farm—What is a New England landscape—this sunny August day!—A weather-painted house & barn—with an orchard by its side—

---

1"This . . . place." possibly added
in midst of a sandy field surrounded
by green woods—with a small blue lake
on one side. A sympathy bet. the color
of the weather-painted house—& that of the
lake & sky— I speak not of a country road
between its fences—for this house lies off one,
nor do I commonly approach them from this
side. The weather-painted house—this is
the N{←} E. color—homely but fit as that
of a toadstool— What1 matter though
this one has not been inhabited for 30 years?
Methinks I hear the crow of a cock—
come up from its barn-yard.

I think I hear the pine warbler's note in the
woods behind me. Hear a plain Phebe note
from a chicadee—& bluets still. Epilobium
down flies abundantly on hill sides. I gather
a bundle of penny royal; it grows largest
& rankest high & close under these rocks amid
the loose stones— I tie my bundle with the
purple bark of the Poke weed—

Sailed across to Bee-tree Hill. This hill side—
laid bare 2 years ago & partly last winter—
is almost covered with the Aster macrophyl-
lus now in its prime. It grows large & rank
2 feet high On2 one I count 17 central
flowers withered—130 in bloom & 1/2
as many buds. As I looked down from the
hill top over the sprout-land—its rounded

---

1"What" possibly written over "Does"
2"On" altered from "One"
grayish tops amid the bushes—I mistook for gray—lichen-clad rocks—such was its profusion & harmony with the scenery—like hoary rocky hill tops—amid bushes—There were acres of it densely planted. Also erechthites as abundant & rank in many places there as if it had been burnt over!! So it does not necessarily imply fire. I thought I was looking down on gray—lichen-clad rocky summits on which a few bushes thinly grew—These rocks were asters—single ones a foot over—many prostrate—& making a gray impression—Many leaves of shrubs are crisp & withered & fallen there—though as yet no drought—nor frost—Nothing but rain can have done it. Aspen leaves are blackened. Stone crop still—& another monster aphis on a huckleberry leaf—Galium triflorum still. See a great many young oaks & shrub oaks stripped by caterpillars of different kinds now.

the 22\textsuperscript{nd} ult

Last Friday night Pm (when I was away) Father’s pig got out again—& took to the river side—The next day he was heard from but not found. One {——} That night he was seen on an Island in the meadow—in the midst of the flood—but thereafter for some time no account of him. J. Farmer advised to Ai Hale just over the
Carlisle line. He has got a dog which if you put him on the track of the pig not more than 4 hour's old—will pursue & catch him & hold him by the ear without hurting him till you come up. That's the best way. 10 men cannot stop him in the road but he will go by them. It was generally conceded that the right kind of dog was all that was wanted like Ai Hale's—one that would hold him by the ear—but not uselessly maim him. One or two said if I only had such a one's dog—I'd catch him for so much—

Neighbors sympathized as much as in them lay—it was the town talk—the meetings were held at Wolcott & Holden's every man told of his losses & disappointments in this line. One had lost heard of his pig last up in Westford—but never saw him again. Another had only caught his pig by his running against a post so hard as to stun himself for a few moments. One It was thought this one must have been born in the woods for he would run & leap like a woolf. Some advised not to build so very high, but lay the upper board flat over the pen— for then when he caught by his fore feet his body would swing under to no purpose. One said you would not catch him to buy a pig out of a drove. Our
pig ran as if he still had the devil in him.
It was generally conceded that a good
dog was the desideratum. But thereupon
Lawrence the harness maker came forward &
told his experience. He once helped hunt a pig
in the next town. He weighed 200—had been

{though not in '75}

out some time{.}—but they learned where he
resorted—but they got a capital dog of
the right kind. They had the dog tied lest
he should scare the pig too soon—They
crawled along very carefully near to the
hollow where the pig was till they could
hear him. They knew that if he should
hear them—& he was wide awake, he
would dash off with a grunt & that
would be the last of him—but what
more could they do—? They consulted in
a whisper & concluded to let the dog go.
They did so—& directly heard an awful
yelp—rushed up the pig was gone &
there lay the dog torn all to pieces! At
this there was a universal haw! haw! & the
reputation of dogs fell—& the chance of
catching the pig seemed less.
$200\textsuperscript{1} \textsuperscript{2}\textsuperscript{6} \textsuperscript{26}

At length the 29th\textsuperscript{2} he was heard from
he was caught & tied in N part

\textsuperscript{1} "2" written over "A" and "$" added. The amount is $2; see next page, line 10, where T has used a decimal
point after "2".
\textsuperscript{2} cancelled "9" possibly written over "8" or "6"
of the he was chased 2 hours with a spaniel
took to a swamp—as they say they are inclined—
dog—which never faced him nor touched him
—but as the man said, "tuckered him out,"
kept him on the go & showed where he was. When
at a distance the pig stopped & faced the dog—
until the pursuers came up. He was brought
home the 27th all his legs tied & put into his

new pen— It was a very deep one— but Father
did not wish to build a well—& the man who caught
him & got his $2.00 for it—thought it ought

Father said he didn't wish to keep
to hold any decent pig. him in a well

Aug 27
Pm to Clintonia swamp & Cardinal ditch

Unusually cold last night. //
Goodyera Pubescens—Rattle-snake Plantain //
is ap. a little past its prime— It is very abundant
on Clintonia swamp hill-side quite erect with
its white spike 8 to 10 inches high on the sloping
hillside the lower half or more turning
brown—but the beautifully reticulated leaves

shady
which pave the moist hill-side about its
base are the chief attraction. These oval
leaves perfectly smooth like velvet to the
touch about 1½ inches long—have a broad
longitudinal white
white mid-rib & 4 to 6 white parallel veins
very prettily & thickly connected by other
conspicuous white veins transversely—& irregularly
—all on a dark rich green ground.

Is it not the prettiest leaf that paves

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1“tr” written over “a”
the forest floor? As a cultivated exotic it
would attract great attention for its
leaf—Many of the leaves are eaten. Is it
by Partridges? It is a leaf of firm texture
partially
not apt to be ^ eaten by insects or decayed—
& does not soon wilt. So unsoiled and unde-
cayed— It might be imitated on carpets &
rugs—some old withered stems of last year
still stand.
On dry open hill sides & fields the spiranthes
gracilis is very common of late—rising tall
& slender—with its spiral of white flowers
like a screw thread at top. Some times 15
inches high—
There are close by the former—the peculiar
of irregular form & dark spotted
// large dark blue (indigo?)1 ^ clintonia berries
in umbels of 4 or 5—on very brittle stems
& on erectish stemlets
which break with a snap— or pedicels
// See no fringed gentian yet—
// Veronica serpyllifolia again by Brister’s spring—
// Krigia yesterday at Lee’s Cliff—ap again—
// though it may be uninterruptedly. Tobaco pipe
still— The rhexia greets me in bright
patches on meadow banks.
Ludwigia alternifolia still ✥ It is abundant
in Cardinal ditch 20 rods from road.
// Bidens frondosa how long?
// H. Canadense & Mytilum—now pretty generally open
at 4 Pm—thus late in the season—it being
more moist & cooler
flower
// Ap— the true S. puberula X (I find one ^ open

1Question mark possibly not cancelled
next day—but with about 20! rays—S at marlboro

road quite past—^) not yet here—very strict—with
the aspect of an erect nemoralis—but racemes not
rigidly erect

recurved—stem finely hoary ^ & long loose linear calyx
scales. I seem to have seen this on Marlboro road Sep 1st

also appears to be no 4 of sep 4th '53 & mentioned sep. 11 '53

'53 ^—(V also sep 2nd 4th & 11th '53)—also a single
mile

plant the next day just beyond {ring} post up RR. The first

mid.

which was by Cardinal ditch 15 rods from {division} fence

had a dull red or purple stem—one at Marlboro road

—distinguished by its linear loose calyx scales

a greenish one.

The cardinals in the ditch make a splendid show

now though they would have been much fresher & finer //
a week ago—they nearly fill the ditch for 35 rods

about 3 feet high

perfectly straight. ^ I count at random 10 in one
square foot—and they are 2 feet wide by 35 rods

& may be more

there are 4 or 5 000 at least—^\Caret written below dash

They look like slender plumes of soldiers advancing—in a dense
troop

crowd—and a few white (or rather pale pink)
ones are mingled with the scarlet. That

is the most splendid show of cardinal flowers I

ever saw. They are mostly gone to seed—i.e. the
greater part of the spike.

Mimulus there still common—

Near the clintonia berries I found the Polygonatum

pubescens berries on its handsome leafy stem recurved //

over the hill side. Generally 2 dark slaty blue

(but dark green beneath the bloom) berries on an axillary

peduncle longer 3/4 of an inch long hanging

straight down—8 or 9 such peduncles—dividing

\Caret written below dash
to 2 short pedicels at end—the berries successively smaller from below upwards—from 3/8 inch diam to hardly more than 1/8.

There are many wild looking berries about

now— The vib. lentago begins to show its handsome red cheeks—rather elliptic shaped & mucronated—1/2 one cheek clear red with a purplish bloom— The other pale green, now Among the handsomest of berries—1/2 inch long x 3/8 x 2/8 being somewhat flattish.

Then there are the vib. dentatum berries in flattish cymes—dull lead colored—berries depressed globular 3/16 inch diam. with a mucronation—hard seeds dryish & unpalatable

The large depressed globular hips of the moss rose begin to turn scarlet in low ground.

Aug 28th 56

1st watermelon

Pm to Tortoise eggs—Marlboro Road—

Potentilla norvegica again. I go over Linnaea

sproutlands. The panicled cornel berries are whitening but already mostly fallen. As usual the leaves of this shrub—though it is so wet are rolled like corn—showing the paler under-sides. At this season it would seem that rain—frost & drought all produce similar effects. Now the black cherries in

sproutlands are in their prime—& the black choke-berries just after huckle-berries & blue-berries. They are both very
abundant this year– The branches droop with cherries. Those on some trees are very superior to others. The bushes are weighed down with choke-berries which no creature appears to gather. This crop is as abundant as the huckleberries have been. They have a sweet & pleasant taste enough{−}but leave a mass of dry pulp in the mouth. But it is worth the while to see their profusion—if only to know what nature can do.

Huckle berries are about given up−low //
blueberries more or less shrivelled− Low black-berries done. High blackberries still to be had− Vib nudum berries are beginning− I already see // {a}−few shrivelled purple ones amid the light green−
− Poke berries also begun. A gold finch twitters away from every thistle now, & soon returns to it when I am past. I see the ground strewn with the thistle down they have scattered on every side.

At Tarbells andromeda swamp− A prob. Bidens connata−or small chrysanthemoides X //
of June 10th

I open the Paint-tortoise nest−^ & find //
a young turtle partly out of his shell. He is uniform roundish & the sternum clear ^ pink. The marks on the sides are pink. The upper shell is 15/16 inch+ by 13/16− He is already wonderfully strong & precocious. Though those eyes never saw the light before—he watches me very warily even at a distance. With what vigor he crawls out of the hole I have made
over opposing weeds—He struggles in my fingers with great strength. has none of the tenderness of infancy. His whole snout is convex & curved like a beak. Having attained the surface he pauses & warily watches me—
In the mean while another has put his head out of his shell—but I bury the latter up & leave them.
Mean while a striped squirrel sits on the wall across the road—under a pine eyeing me—with his cheek pouches stuffed with nuts & puffed out ludicrously—as if he had the mumps—while the wall is strewn with

/// the dry brown husks of hazel nuts he has stripped.
A bird perhaps a thrasher in the pine close above him is hopping restlessly & scolding at him.—June—July—& August—

tortoise eggs are hatching—a few inches beneath the surface in sandy fields—You¹

tell of active labors—of works of art—& wars
the past summer—Meanwhile the² tortoise

What³ events have transpired on the lit & airy surface 3 inches above them!

eggs underlie this turmoil—^Think what

Sumner⁴ knocked down—Kansas living an age of suspense
is a summer to them—How many worthy men

have died & had their funeral sermons

preached—since I saw the mother turtle

burry her eggs here. They contained an undeveloped liquid then, they are now turtles. June July & August—the live long summer—what

are they with their heats & fevers—but

¹Indistinguishable mark above "You"
²"the" altered from "these"
³"W" written over "w"
⁴"Sumner" prob. Charles Sumner, attacked on the Senate floor on May 22, 1856
sufficient to hatch a tortoise in. Be not in haste—mind your private affairs. A whole summer—June July & August—are not too good nor too much to hatch a turtle in. Perchance you have worried yourself—despaired of the world—meditated the end of life—& all things seemed rushing to destruction & serenely

— But nature has steadily advanced with a turtle’s pace— The young turtle spends its infancy within its shell—it gets experience & learns the ways of the world through that wall. While it rests warily on the edge of its hole rash schemes are undertaken & fail. Has not the tortoise also learned the true value of time. You go to India & back & the turtle eggs are still unhatched. French empires rise or fall—but the turtle is developed only so fast. What’s a summer? time for

{Not} so is the turtle developed—fitted to endure—for he outlives 20 French a turtle’s eggs to hatch. They have seen no berries had no cares— Yet has not the great world existed for them as much as for you?

Euphorbia hypericifolia how long? It has pretty little white & also rose-colored petals or as they are now called involucre. Stands 6 inches high—regularly curving with large leaves prettily arranged at an angle with both a horizontal & perpendicular line— That S. speciosa at Clam shell a long time. See the great oval masses of scarlet berries of the arum Now—in the meadows— Trillium fruit long time //
The river being thus high—for 10 days or more I have seen little parcels of shells left by the muskrats—So they eat them thus early. Peppermint how long? may be earlier than I have thought—for the mowers¹ clip it.

The bright china colored blue berries of the C. sericea begin to show themselves along the river—amid their red-brown leaves. The Kinnikinnic of the Indians.

Aug 29th '56

Heavy rain in the night—& this forenoon—Pm to J. Farmers—by river—

The Helianthus Decapetala ap. a var—with 8 petals about 3 feet high leaves petioled—but not wing petioled—& broader leaved with a tapering point than that of Aug 12 quite ovate ^—with ciliate petioles—thin but quite rough beneath & above—stem purple & smoothish. Hosmers bank opposite azalea swamp—Fragrant everlasting in prime & very abundant whitening Carter’s pasture. Rib-wort still—an ap white vervain with bluish flowers—as blue as bluets even—or more so—road side beyond Farmer’s barn.

Aug 30

Rain again in the night as well as most of yesterday—raising the river a 2ᵈ² time. They say there has not been such a year as this for more

¹“mowers” possibly “mowers”
²“2” possibly written over “3”
than half a century—for winter-cold—summer heat—& rain.

Pm to Vac. Oxyccocus Swamp.
Fair weather—clear & rather cool—Pratt shows me at his shop a bottle filled with alcohol & camphor—The alcohol is clear & the camphor beautifully crystallized at the bottom for nearly an inch in depth

a hoar

in the form of small feathers{—}like ^ frost. He has read that this is as good a ba-
rometer as any. It stands quite still, & has not been unstoppled for a year—Yet some days—the alcohol will be quite clear—& even no camphor will be seen—& again it will be quite full of fine feathery particles—or it will be partly clear, as today.

Bidens connata abundant at Moore's swamp //
how long? The aspect of some of what I have called the swamp Solidago stricta there—at present  ?
makes me doubt if it be not more than a var.
the leaves are so broad smooth (i.e. uncurled or wrinkled) & thick—& some cauline ones so large almost speciosa like—to say nothing of size of rays—

The A. puniceus is hardly yet in prime— //
its great umbel-shaped tops not yet fully out. Its leaves are pretty generally whitened with mildew—& unsightly—even the chelone where prostrate has put forth roots from its stem near the top—
// The sarothra is now apparently in prime
on the great fields—and comes near being
open now at 3 Pm. Bruised it has the
fragrance of sorrel {f} & lemon—rather pungent
? or stinging like a bee—H. corymbosum lingers
still with perforatum
I have come out this Pm a cranberrying
chiefly to gather some of the small cran-
berry—Vacc. oxycoccus—the which Emerson
says is the common cranberry of the N of
Europe. This was a small object yet not to
be postponed—on account of imminent frosts—
i.e. if I would know this year the flavor
of the European cranberry as compared
with our larger kind. I thought I should
I should like to have a dish of this sauce
of my own gathering
on the table at Thanks giving ^. I could
hardly make up my mind to come this
way it seemed so poor an object to spend
the afternoon on— I kept foreseeing a
lame conclusion—how I should cross the
Great Fields—look into Beck Stows &
then retrace my steps no richer than before—
In fact, I expected little of this walk—yet
it did pass through the side of my
mind that some how on this very account—
(my small expectation) it would turn out
well—as also the advantage of having
some purpose however small to be
accomplished.—of to1 lett2 your deliberate

1"to" cancelled in pencil
2"ting" added in pencil to "let"
wisdom & foresight in the house to some
& control extent direct ^ your steps. If you would really
take a position outside the street & daily life
of men—you must have deliberately planned
your course—you must have business which
is not your neighbors business—which
they cannot understand. For only absorbing
employment—prevails—succeeds—takes up
space—occupies territory—determines the
drives Kansas out of your head—& actually
future of individuals & states. ^ The attitude
& permanently occupies the only desirable & free Kansas against all
of resistance is one of weakness in as much
border ruffians—
as it only faces an enemy. It has its back
to all that is truly attractive. You shall
have your affairs, I will have mine.
You will spend this Pm in setting up
your neighbor's stove—& be paid for it—
I will spend it in gathering the few
berries of the Vac. oxyccocus which Nature
produces here, before it is too late, and
after another fashion
be paid for it also—^ I have always
reaped unexpected & incalculable ad-
Vantage from carrying out at last
however tardily any little enterprise which
my genius suggested to me long ago as a
thing to be done.—some step to be taken
however slight out of the usual course.
How many schools I have thought of which
I might go to but did not go to! expecting
or foolishly that some greater advantage (schooling)
would come to me—! It is these compara-
Our employment generally is tinkering—mending the old worn out teapot of society—economically cheap & private expeditions that substantiate our existence & batten our lives—
as where a vine touches the earth in its undulating course it puts forth roots & thickens its stock. Better for me says my genius, to go cranberrying this Pm for the Vac. oxycoccus in Gowing’s swamp, then to get but a pocket-full & learn its peculiar flavor—aye & the flavor of Gowing’s swamp and of life in New England—than to go consul to Liverpool & get ($25,000 for it—
^ & no such flavor. Many of our days should be spent, not in vain expectation & lying on our oars—but in carrying out deliberately & faithfully the hundred little purposes which every man’s genius must have suggested to him. Let not your life be wholly without an object, though ascertain it be only to ^ learn the flavor of a cranberry—
for that will not be only the quality of an insignificant berry that you will have learn tasted—but the flavor of your life to that extent—& it will be such a sauce as no wealth can buy.

Both a conscious & an unconscious life are good—neither is good exclusively. —for both have the same source— The wisely conscious life springs out of an unconscious suggestion— I have found my

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1 interlineation checked against 1906 edition
2 "of" written over "an"
account in travelling in having prepared before hand a list of questions which I would to get answered—not trusting my interest at the moment—and can then travel with the most profit. Indeed, it is by obeying the suggestions of a higher light within you—that you escape from yourself—& in the transit—as it were see with the unworn sides of your eye—travel totally new paths. What is that pretended life that does not take up a claim—that does not occupy ground—that cannot build a causeway to its objects? That sits on a bank looking over a bog—singing its desires?

However, it was not with such blasting expectations as these that I entered the swamp. I saw bags of cranberries just gathered & tied up—on the banks of Beck- // Stow's swamp—They must have been raked out of the water—now so high—before they should rot. I left my shoes & stockings on the bank far off—& waded bare legged through rigid andromeda & other bushes a long way to the soft open sphagneous part center of the swamp.

I found these cunning little cranberries lying high & dry on the firm uneven tops its weak vine considerably on one side of the sphagnum—^ sparsely scattered about drier the ^edges of the ^swamp—or sometimes
more thickly occupying some little valley
a foot or 2 over
between two mts of sphagnum. They were
of 2 varieties judging from the fruit.
The one, ap the ripest, colored most
like the common cranberry— but more scarlet—
i.e. yellowish green blotched or checked with
dark scarlet red— commonly pear shaped
also pear shaped or more bulged out in the middle
—the other, thickly & finely dark spotted
or peppered on yellowish green or straw colored
almost exactly just like the smilacina & convallaria berries now, except that they are a little larger & not so
spherical or pearly

ground — sometimes with a tinge of purple—
A singular difference often the whole of the long (1 1/2 inch or more) peduncle
They both lay very snug in the moss— their buried
vines very inobvious— projecting only 1 to 3 inches
so that it was not easy to tell what vine
they belonged to— & you were obliged1 to open
the moss carefully with your fingers to ascer-
tain it— while the common large cranberry
there— with its stiff erect vine was
commonly lifted above the sphagnum.
The grayish speckled variety was particularly
novel & pretty— though not easy to detect.
It lay here & there snugly sunk in the
sphagnum whose drier parts it exactly re-
just
seemed in color— like some kind of swamp- sparrows eggs in their nest. I was obliged
with my finger carefully to trace the slender
pedicel through the moss to its vine
— when I would pluck the whole together.
— like jewels worn on— or set in— these
sphagneous breasts of the swamp—

1"obliged" possibly altered from "to"

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Swamp pearls call them—one or 2 to a vine and on an average 3/8 of an inch in diameter. They are so remote from their vines on their long thread like peduncles—that they remind you the more forcibly of eggs—and in May—I might mistake them for such. These plants are almost parasitic resting wholly on the sphagnum—in water instead of air. The sphagnum is a living soil for it. It rests on & amid this on an acre of sponges—They are evidently a few earlier than the common—some are quite soft & red-purple. I waded quite round the swamp—for an hour—my bare feet in the cold water beneath—and it was a relief to place them on the warmer surface of the sphagnum. I filled one pocket with each variety but sometimes being confused crossed hands & put them into the wrong pocket—

I enjoyed this cranberrying very much—notwithstanding the wet & cold—and the swamp seemed to be yielding its crop to me alone—for there are none else to pluck it—or to value it. I told the proprietor once that they grew here, but he learning that they were not abundant enough to be gathered for the market has prob. never thought of them since—I am the only person in the township who

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1"are" followed by large blot
regards them or knows of them—and I do{—}not regard them in the light of their pecuniary value. I have no doubt I felt richer wading there with my two pockets full—treading on wonders at every step—than any farmer going to market with a hundred bushels which he has raked—or hired to be raked,—1 I got further & further away from the town every moment—and my good genius seemed have smiled on me—leading me hither—and then the sun suddenly came out clear & bright, but it did not warm my feet. I do not know would gladly share my gains—take one or 21 into partnership—and get this swamp with them—but I do not know an individual whom this berry cheers & nourishes as it does me—when I exhibit it to them—I perceive that they take but a momentary interest in it—and commonly dismiss it from their thoughts with the consideration that it cannot

you could not get {a pint at} one haul of a rake—and {slocum would not} be profitably cultivated. But I love it give you much for them

the better partly for that reason even.

I fill a basket with them & keep it several days by my side. If anybody else—should any farmer at least—should spend an hour thus wading about here ^ bare legged intent on the sphagnum—filling his pocket only—with no

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\(^1\)Dash touching comma or written over comma
rake in his hand—& no bag or bushel on
the bank—he would be pronounced insane
but if he'll spend his time skimming & {watering} his milk & selling his small potatoes for
large ones or generally in skinning flints he will probably be
& have a guardian put over him—^ I have
made guardian of some body else—^ I have
not garnered any rye or oats—but I
gathered the wild rice of the assabet—

As I waded there I came across an ant-
like heap—& breaking it open with my hand found
it to my surprise to be an ant hill in the
sphagnum full of ants with their young or ova—
It consisted of particles of sphagnum like saw-
dust—was a foot & a half in diameter
& my feet sunk to water all around it—!!
The ants were small & of a uniform pale
sorrel color—

I noticed also a few small peculiar looking
huckle berries {swing} hanging on bushes amid
the sphagnum—& tasting perceived that
they were hispid—a new kind to me—
Gaylussacia² Dumosa var hirtella—(perhaps
just after resinosa—) though Gray refers
it to a "sandy low soil"—& says nothing
of the hispid fruit. It grows from 1 to 2
feet high—the leaves minutely resinous dotted
the racemes long with leaf-like bracts now
turned conspicuously red. Here a small
black hairy or hispid berry—shining
but insipid—& inedible with a tough
prominent
has very conspicuous calyx lobes
hairy skin left in the mouth. ^

I seemed to have reached a new world—so

¹Interlineation checked against 1906 edition
²"Gaylussacia" altered from "Vac"
wild a place that the very huckleberries
I feel as if I were in Ruperts Land—and a slight cool
grew hairy—and were inedible—What's the
but agreeable shudder comes over me as if equally far away from human society{.}
need of visiting far off mts & bogs if
a half hour's walk will carry me into
such wildness & novelty? But why should
not as wild plants grow here as in berk-
shire—as in Labrador. Is nature so
easily tamed? Is she not as primitive &
vigorous here as anywhere? How does this
particular acre of secluded—unfrequented
useless (?) quaking bog differ from an acre
in Labrador. Has any white man ever settled
on it? Does any now frequent it?
Not even the Indian comes here now.
I see that there are some square rods
within 20 miles of Boston just as
wild & primitive & unfrequented—as a
square rod in Labrador—as unaltered
by man. Here grows the hairy huckle-
Squaw Sachem’s
berry as it did in Tahatawan’s day & a
thousand years before—and concerns me
perchance more than it did her. I have no
doubt that for a moment I experience
exactly the same sensations as if I were
alone in a bog in Rupert's land. & it
saves me the trouble of going there.
—for what in any case makes the difference
between being here & being there—but many
such little differences of flavor & roughness
put together?—Rupert's land is recognized
as much by one sense as another. I felt a shock
a thrill—an agreeable surprise in one instant
—for no doubt all the possible inferences were
at once drawn, with a rush, in my mind. I could
be in Rupert’s Land & taking supping at home
within the hour! This beat the railroad—
I recovered from my surprise without danger
to my sanity—& permanently annexed Rupert’s
Land— That wild hairy huckleberry—inedible
as it was—was equal to a domain secured
to me & reaching to the south sea. That
was an unexpected harvest— I hope you
have gathered as much, Neighbor, from your
corn & potato fields— I have got in
my huckleberries— I shall be ready for
Thanksgiving. It is in vain to dream of a
wildness distant from ourselves— There is none
such. It is the bog in our brain & bowels—
the primitive vigor of Nature in us that
inspires that dream. I shall never find in the
wilds of Labrador any greater wildness, than
in some recess in Concord, i.e. than I
import into it. A little more manhood
or virtue will make the surface of the
globe anywhere thrillingly novel & wild.
— That alone will provide & pay the fiddler.
— it will convert the district road into an
untrodden cranberry bog—for it restores all things
to their original primitive flourishing & promising
state—

1“R” written over “r”
2“N” written over “n”
A cold white horizon sky ^–fore-runner of the fall of the year– I go– to bed & dream of cranberry-pickers far in the cold north–with windows partly closed–with continent concentrated thoughts– I dream– I get my new experiences still– not at the opera–listening to the swedish nightingale–but at beck stow’s Swamp–listening to the native wood-thrush.

Wading at in the cold swamp braces me. I¹ was invigorated though I tasted not a berry. The frost will soon come & smite them on the surface of the sphag-num.

Consider how remote & novel that swamp–beneath it is a quaking bed of sphag-num–& in it grow–Andromeda polifolia Kalmia glauca–Menyanthes (or buck-bean)–Vå Gaylussacia Dumosa–Vaccinium Oxycoccus–plants which scarcely a citizen of Concord ever sees. It would be as novel to them to stand there as in a conservatory–or in Greenland.

Better is it to go a cranberrying than to go a-huckleberrying– For that is cold & bracing leading your thoughts beyond the earth–& you do not surfeit on crude or terrene berries. It feeds your spirit–now in the season of white

¹"I" possibly written over "&"
twilights—when frosts are apprehended—when edible berries are mostly gone.

Those small gray sparrow-egg cranberries lay so prettily in the recesses of the sphagnum— I could wade for hours in the cold water gazing at them—with a swarm of mosquitoes hovering about my bare legs,—but at each step the friendly sphagnum in which I sank protected my legs like a buckler—not a crevice by which my foes could enter.

I see that all is not garden & cultivated field and copse—that there are square rods in Middlesex County as purely primitive & wild as they were a thousand years ago—which have escaped the plow & the axe—& the scythe & the cranberry rake—little oases of wildness in the desert of our civilization—wild as a square rod on the moon supposing it to be uninhabited. By I believe almost in the personality of such planetary matter—feel1 something akin to reverence for it—can even worship it as terrene titanic matter extant in my day. We are so different we admire each other—we healthily & attract one another. I love it as a maiden. These spots are meteoric—aerolitic—and such matter has in all ages been worshipped—Aye, when we are lifted out of the slime & film of our habitual

1“feel” possibly written over “&”
life, we see the whole globe to be an aerolite—& reverence it as such—& make far off as it is pilgrimages to it. ^ How happens it that we reverence the stones which fall from another planet—& not the stones which belong to this—another

Are not the stones in Hodge's wall as good as the aerolite at Mecca—is not our broad globe not this—heaven & not earth? back-door stone as good as any corner stone in heaven?

It would imply the regeneration of mankind, if they were to become elevated enough to truly worship sticks & stones. It is the sentiment of fear & slavery to habit which make a heathenish idolatry— Such idolaters abound in all countries—& heathen cross the seas to reform heathen—dead to bury the dead—& all go down to the pit together. If I could I would worship the parings

If of my nails. ^ He who makes 2 blades of grass grow where two grew before is a bene-factor— He who discovers two gods where there was only known the one, & such a one! before, is a still greater benefactor. I would fain improve every opportunity to wonder & worship as a sun-flower welcomes the light. The more thrilling wonderful divine objects I behold in a day, the more expanded & immortal I become. If a stone appeals to me & elevates me—{tells} me how many miles I have come—how many remain reveals the future to me in some measure to travel—& the more the better^1 It^2 is a matter of private rejoicing— If it did

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^1Caret written below dash
^2"I" written over "i"
the same service to all it might well
be a matter of public rejoicing—

Sunday Aug 31st

Pm to Hubbard Bath Swamp by boat

There sits one by the shore who wishes
to go with me—but I cannot think of it.
I must be fancy free— There is no such
mote in the sky as a man who is not
perfectly transparent to you—who has any
opacity. I would rather attend to him earnestly
for half an hour, on shore or elsewhere,
& then dismiss him. He thinks I could merely
take him into my boat—& then not mind
him. He does not realize that I should
by the same act take him into my mind
where there is no room for him—and my bark
would surely founder in such a voyage as
I was contemplating. I know very well that
I should never reach that expansion of
the river I have in my mind with him aboard
with his broad terrestrial qualities. He would

{(not to another sea)¹

sink my bark & never know it. I could better
carry a heaped load of meadow mud &
sit on the thole pins. There would be more
room for me—& I should reach that ex-
pansion of the river just as soon.

I could better aford to take him into bed with
me—for then I might perhaps abandon
him in my dreams.— Ah! you are a

¹interlineation checked against 1906 edition
heavy fellow—but I am well disposed—If you could go without going—then you might go. There’s the Captain’s state room—empty to be sure—& you say you could go in the steerage— I know very well that only your baggage would be dropped in the steerage—while you would settle right down into that other snug recess— Why I am going not staying— I have come on purpose to sail—to paddle away from such as you—& you have way-laid me at the shore— You have chosen to make your assault at the moment of embarcation. Why If I thought you were steadily gazing after me a mile off—I could not endure it— It is because I trust that I shall ere long depart from your thoughts & so you from mine that I am encouraged

to set out¹. I make haste to put several meanders & some hills between us. This Company² is obliged to make a distinction between dead freight & passengers— I will take almost any amount of freight for you cheerfully—anything my dear Sir but yourself—

1⁰out" cancelled in pencil
²"C" written over "C"

3 What is getting into a man’s carriage

when it is full—compared with
putting your foot in his mouth & popping
considering
right into his mind without asking whether
it is occupied or not.\(^1\) Some are so in-
considerate as to ask to walk or sail with
I have known such

me regularly every day \(^\wedge\mathbf{\sim}\) & think that because
there will be 6 inches or a foot between
our bodies he shall not interfere!!

The good ship sails\(^\wedge\mathbf{\sim}\) \(\sim\) \(\sim\) \(\sim\) when she is ready\(^\wedge\mathbf{\sim}\)

These things are settled by fate\(^\wedge\) \(\wedge\) For Freight
ask my friend where.

or Passage apply to\(\wedge\mathbf{?}\)??

If I remember aright—it was only on
condition that you were asked that you
were to go with a man one mile or twain.
Suppose a man asks not you to go with him—but to go with you!!

Often, I would rather undertake to shoulder a
barrel of pork & carry it a mile—than take
into my company a man— It would not
be so heavy a weight upon my mind.
– I could put it down & only feel my back\(^2\)
ache, for it–

At my bath place Merricks P. a Great-
jointed Polygonum—such as described Aug.
14\(\text{th}\)—but with faintly rose-tinted flowers & narrow
leaves.! which makes it still more like a
pale Persicaria— The birches on Wheeler's
meadow have begun to yellow—ap. owing
to the water. The cornus sericea, with its
berries just turning—is generally a dull
purple now— the first conspicuous change
methinks along the river—half sunk in water.
Capt. Hubbard is out inspecting his river
meadow & his cranberries. Says he never saw the

\(^1\) pencil in the left margin for the rest of this paragraph marks it for transposition (LX: meaning of note not clear; need better copy)

\(^2\) "back" possibly underlined in pencil
water so high at this season before–

I am surprised that the river is not more
than 2 inches higher than yesterday—or than
the day before—notwithstanding the last copious
rain; but Hubbard says he has heard that
they have just {−} lowered their dam a foot at Billerica

We {see} that the water has fallen a little
in his meadow– It leaves a scum on the
glass & gives it a smell & taste—which
makes the cattle reject it. He gets into
my boat & we obtain some cranberries from
beneath the water. Some of them are softened
& spoiled. H. thinks it depends on the warmth
of the water how much they are killed injured.

This is what calls the farmer out now—to
inspect his cranberries—or his grass. He talks
with his neighbor about it at church.

I am frequently amused when I
come across the proprietor in my
walks—and he asks me if I am not
lost. I commonly approach his territory
by the river or some other back way
& rarely meet with him. The other
day Conant—observed to me—"Well, you
have to come out once in a while to
take a survey"— He thinks that I
do not visit his neighborhood more
than once in a year—but I go
there about once a week & formerly
much oftener—perhaps as often as he.
H. says he has found coal at the bottom of his meadow under the mud 3 feet deep.

The Vib. nudum berries are now in prime a handsome rose purple– I brought home a bunch of 53 berries all of this color–& the next morning 30 were turned dark purple. In this state they are soft & just edible–having somewhat of a cherry flavor–but a large stone.

A Painted tortoise shedding its scales– //

In the Hub. swamp path are many of those ap. slend S. altissimas but some are almost entirely smooth stemmed! with narrow leaves. There alone–this season–I see the S. speciosa not yet out, easily dis- tinguished from the Stricta. There too grows the swamp Stricta.

The Hub. aster which I stringed–one that I find is now out of bloom & all withered–killed partly though there are others still in bloom about it by the high water to be sure ^–again I cannot distinguish it–unless in its time of flowering from the tradescanti–perhaps its stem is a little smoother–& its leaves a little more obscurely toothed–linear lanceolate

Sept 1st Pm with R. W. E to Saw Mill & S. odora.

He has just had 4 of his fir trees next his house cut–they shaded his windows so– They were set out by Coolidge, E. thinks 28 years ago, The largest has 37 annual rings at the base–& measures at 1 foot from
the ground 46 1/2 inches in circumference—
has made on an average about 1/2 an inch
of wood in every direction.

There is no Bidens cernua, if that is
it—by the turn-pike— It was apparently
killed by the recent high water.

Solidago latifolia not out quite. We go ad-
miring the pure & delicate tints of fungi
on the surface of the damp swamp
there—following up along the N side of
the brook past the right of the old camp.
There are many very beautiful lemon yellow
ones of various forms—some shaped like
buttons—some becoming finely scalloped or
on the edge—some club shaped & hollow—
of the most delicate & rare but decided tints
contrasting well with the decaying leaves—
about them. There are others also pure
white—others a wholesome red—others
brown—& some even a light indigo
blue above & beneath & throughout.

When colors come to be taught in the
schools, as they should be, both the prism
& fun or the rainbow—& these fungi
should be used by way of illustration—& if
the pupil does not learn colors, he
may learn fungi, which perhaps is
better. You almost envy the wood frogs
& toads that hop amid such gems—
—some pure & bright enough for a breast-
— Out of every crevice between the
dead leaves—oozes some vehicle of color—
the unspent wealth of the year—which
nature is now casting forth, as it were only
to empty herself.

Cohush berries appear now to be in their prime //
& arum berries—& red-chokeberries—which last //
further up in this swamp with their peculiar
light\!
glossy ^ mahogany^2 red—& squarish form are
a few medeola berries ripe //
really very handsome. ^ The very dense clusters
of the smilacina berries—finely purple dotted on
on a pearly ground are very interesting—also the
smaller & similar clusters of the 2 leaved Con-
vallaria. Many of the last & a few of the //
first are already turned red.–clear semilucent
red. They have a pleasant sweetish taste.

Cistus flowers well out again—in the //
old Camp-path—now nearly all grown up—
I notice that the birches have sprung up in close
straight rows in the old ruts there.

I think it stands about thus with
asters & g. rods now—
The early meadow aster is either quite withered or much
the worse for the wear—partly on ac. of the freshet

Dip cornifolius       not seen of late
Dip. Umbellatus       Perhaps in prime or aproaching it
                      but not much seen—
A Patens—            ap now in prime—& the most
                      abundant of the larger asters

1"light" cancelled in pencil
2"mahogany" cancelled in pencil
A. macrophyllus  Prob. past prime
A. Acuminatus— not seen at all
A. Radula— Rather past prime
A. Dumosus very common—most so of the
small white—& in prime
Dip Linarifolius hardly noticed
A. Undulatus hardly seen one yet open
a late aster
Corymbosus
A. cordifolius{=} In prime or may be past.
Can this be the same open July 13th?
A. Laevis just beginning
A. Tradescantia Get¹ to be pretty common, but
not yet in prime
A. Puniceus Hardly yet in prime— V Sep 5
A. Longifolius— Hardly one seen yet
A. Multiflorus not one seen yet
Oct 8th) A miser (omitted) if I mistake not it beg. to be common about Sep 1st
S. stricta still very abundant—though prob. a little
past prime
S. Gigantea say in prime very
S. Nemoralis Not quite in prime—but ³ abundant
Altissima Perhaps in prime
Odora in prime, or may be a little past
Puberula just beginning—rare in any case
Bicolor— not quite in prime. but common
Lanceolata In prime or past V Sep 5
Latifolia not yet at all
Caesia just begun
Speciosa not at all yet

Sep 2nd Pm
to Paint Cup. meadow—
// Clear bright days of late with a peculiar
sheen on the leaves—light reflects from
the surface of each one—for they

¹”Get”: possibly ”Got” or ”Yet”
are grown & worn & washed smooth at last—
no infantile downiness on them— This say
ever since Aug 26th—& we have had no
ture dog-day weather since the copious rains
began or 3 or 4 weeks. A sheeny light re-
lected from the burnished leaves as so many polished
shields—& a steady creak from the locusts these
days. Frank Harding has caught a dog— –
//
day locust which lit on the bottom of my
boat in which he was sitting & Z’-d there.
When you hear him you have got to the end of
the alphabet & may imagine the &c

//
a mark somewhat like

It has ^ a small writing {a} w on the1 top of
its thorax. A few pigeons were seen a fort-
night ago. I have noticed none in all
walks—but G Minot—whose mind runs
on them so much—& whose age & in-
firmities confine him to his woodshed on the
hill side saw a f small flock a fort-
night ago. I rarely pass at any season
of the year but he asks if I have seen
any pigeons. One man’s mind running
on Pigeons will sit thus in the midst
of a village—whose many of whose inhabi-
tants never see nor dream of a pigeon
except in the pot—and where even
naturalists do not observe—& he looking
out with expectation & faith from
morning till night—will surely see them.

1"the” written over “its"
I think we may detect that some sort of preparation & faint expecta-
tion preceded every discovery we have made. We blunder into no discovery--but it will appear that we have prayed & disciplined ourselves for it. Some years ago I sought for Ind. Hemp. (A. cannabinum) hereabouts in vain--& concluded that it did not grow here-- A month or 2 ago I read again as many times before that its blossoms were very small scarcely a third as large as those of the common species--& for some unac-
countable reason this distinction kept re-
curring to me--& I regarded the size of the flowers I saw--though I did not believe that it grew here--& in a day or 2 my eyes fell on--aye--in 3 different places & dif. varieties of it. Also a short time ago I was satisfied that there was but one kind of sunflower (divaricatus) indigenous here-- Hearing that one had found another kind it occurred to me that I had seen a taller one than usual lately but not so distinctly did I remember this as to name it to him--or even fully remember it myself--(I rather remembered it afterward) But within that hour my genius conducted me to where I had seen the tall plants --& it was the other man's k new kind.
The next day I found a 3\textsuperscript{d} kind miles from there--& a few days after a 4\textsuperscript{th} in another direction.

I commonly observe that I make my most interesting botanical discoveries when I in a thrilled & expectant mood perhaps wading in some remote swamp where I have just found something {——} novel & feel more than usually remote from the town. Or some rare plant which for some reason has occupied a strangely prominent place in my thoughts--for some time--will present itself--My expec--

\begin{quotation}
I am prepared for strange things
\end{quotation}

My father asked John Le Grosse if he took an interest in politics & did his duty to his country at this crisis. He said he did--He went into the wood-shed & read the newspaper sundays. Such is the dawn of the literary taste—the first seed of literature that is planted in the new country. His grandson may be the author of a Bhagvat Geeta.

I see bright yellow blossoms on perfectly crimson hypericum angulosum—in the S. lanceo-lata path—By the Ind. Hemp. at // the stone Bridge am surprised to see the Salix lucida—a small tree with very // marked and handsome leaves—on the sand water's edge at the great eddy.
The branches of an inch in diameter are smooth & ash colored—maple like—the recent shoots stout & yellowish green—very brittle at base. The leaves are the largest of any willow I have seen—ovate oblong or ovate lanceolate—with a long {long} narrow tapering point—(cuspidate)
some
^ on vigorous shoots 2 1/2 by 7 inches wide in the blade—glandular serate—with pedi-rounded cellate glands at the ^ base—thick—smooth—& glossy above—smooth & green beneath. glandular toothed with broad crescent shaped ^ stipules at base of petioles 5/8 to one inch long. Ac to Emerson "Sir W. J. Hooker says it is one of the most generally diffused of all the North willows in British ^ America,"—

Capt. Hub. said on Sunday that he had plowed up an Indian gouge—but how little an impression that had make on him compared with the rotting of his cranberries—or the loss of meadow grass. It seemed to me that it made an inadequate impression compared with many trivial events. Suppose he had plowed up 5 dollars!

The botanist refers you for wild & we presume wild plants—further inland or westward to so many miles from Boston—as if nature or the Indians had any such preferences—Perchance the ocean seemed wilder to them than the
woods—as if there were primarily & essentially any more wildness in a western acre than an eastern one.

The S. lucida makes about the 11th willow that I have distinguished— When I find a new & rare plant in Concord—I seem to think it has but just sprung up here— that it is, & not I am the new comer— while it has grown here for ages before I was born. It transports me in imagination to the Saskatchewan— It grows alike on the bank of the Concord & of the Mackenzie River—proving them a kindred soil— I see their broad & glossy leaves reflecting the Autumn light this moment all along those rivers— Through this leaf I communicate with the Indians who roam the boundless N. W. It tastes the same nutriment in sand of the Assabet—& its water—as in that of the Saskatchewan & Jasper Lake—suggesting that a short time ago the shores of this river were as wild as the shores of those.— We are dwelling amid these wild plants—still—we are eating the huckleberries—which lately only the Indian ate & dried. —we are raising & eating his wild & nutritive maize—& if we have imported wheat, it is but our wild rice which we annually gather with grateful awe
like Chippewas—Potatoes are our ground nuts.

// Spiranthes Cernua ap some days at least though no yet generally—a cool late flower growing with fringed gentian.

// I cannot yet even find the leaves of the latter—at the house leek brook. I had come to the Assabett—but could not wade the river it was so deep & swift—the very meadow—poke logan was 1/4 of a mile long & as deep as the river before—so I had come round over the bridge. In Paint Cup meadow

// the ferns are yellowing—imbrowned & crisped as if touched by frost (?)—yet it may be owing to the rains. It is evident that at this season excessive rain will ripen & kill the leaves as much as a drought does earlier. I think our strawberries recently set out have died partly in consequence—Perhaps they need some dryness as well as warmth at this season. So trees by water change earliest—sassafrasses at Plainly dog-days & rain have had the Cardinal shore e.g. while those on hill are not turned red at all most to do as yet with the changing & falling of the leaves. These ferns I see with here & there a single maple bough turned scarlet—This quite rare.

// Some of the small early blue berry bushes a clear are red (V. Penn.) & the lingering blue-clusters of blue berries contrast strangely

---

1"C" possibly written over "c"
with the red leaves of the V. vacillans—Smooth-
sumacs¹ show quite red on dry warm hill
sides

In a pile of stones by the hickory wall op
the Jesse Hosmer farm—about 5 or 6 rods
from on 3d mile from road—a rose not a sweet-
briar—perhaps a var of Lucida—with large
pear shaped hips—a little convex in the slope
—crowned with large persistent Calyx lobes
—these, the fruit & peduncles glandular
bristly—2 to 3 flowers together—Leaves glossy

large tooth smooth both sides—with very wide
(1/2 inch) stipules—& very large persistent prickles
only now to the stem.

While I am plucking the almost spicy blue-
berries amid the crimson leaves there—on the springy
slope—the cows gather toward the outlet of
their pastures—& low for the herdsman—
reminding me that the day is drawing to
a close

Centaurea will ap. be entirely done in a week

How deceptive these maps of western
rivers—Me thought they were scattered ac to the
fancy of the map maker—were dry channels
at best—but it turns out that the Missouri
at Nebraska City is 3 times as wide as the
Mississippi at Burlington—& Grass hopper
Creek perhaps will turn out to be as big
as the Thames or Hudson.

¹"sumacs" altered from "sumach"
There was an old gentleman here to
day who lived in Concord when he was young
& remembers how Dr Ripley talked to him
and other little boys from the pulpit as
they came into church with their hands
full of lilies—saying that those lilies
looked so fresh that they must have been
Therefore he must have committed the sin of bathing this morning!!
gathered that morning! Why this is as sacred a river as the Ganges is\(^1\)
I feel this difference between great poetry
& small—that in the one the sense out-
runs & overflows the words—in the other
the words the sense, like a dry channel

Sep. 3\(^{\text{d}}\)
Pm to Hub. swamp—for Vib nudum berries—
The river smooth—though full—with the
autumn sheen on it, as on the leaves. I see
Painted tortoises with their entire backs covered
// with perfectly ele fresh clean black scales—such
as no rubbing nor varnishing can produce—
contrasting advantageously with brown & muddy
drifting
ones. One little one floats past on a ^ pad which
he partly sinks.
I find one sassafras berry—dark blue in its
crimson cup—club-shaped— It is chiefly stone
& its taste is like that of tar (!) methinks—far
from palatable
So many plants—the indigenous & the
bewildering variety of exotics—you see
in conservatories & nurserymen’s catalogues—
or read of in English books—& the

\(^{\text{1} \text{interlineation checked against 1906 edition}}\)
Royal Society did not make one of them—
—& knows no more about them than you—!
—all truly indidenous & wild on this earth. I
know of no mark that betrays an introduced
plant. as none but the gardener can tell what
flower has strayed from its parterre.—but where
the seed will germinate—& the plant spring &
grow—there it is at home.

Weeds are uncultivated herbaceous plants—
which do not bear handsome flowers.
— Polygala sanguinea is now as abundant
at least as at any time—& perhaps more con-
spicuous in the meadows where I look for
fringed gentian.

Gathered 4 or 5 quarts of vib. nudum
berries—now in their prime—attracted more
by the beauty of the cymes than the flavor
of the fruit— The berries which are of various
sizes &

\^ forms—elliptical—oblong—or globular—
are in different stages of maturity on the
same cyme & so of different colors—green
or white—rose colored—and dark
or black
purple \^—i.e. 3 or 4 very distinct & marked
colors side by side— If gathered when rose
colored they soon turn dark blue purple
& are soft & edible—though before
bitter— They add a new & variegated wild-
ness to the swampy sproutlands— Remarkable for passing through so many stages of color

\^"! written above and below dash
\^"R" written over "r"
before they arrive at maturity.– A singular & pleasing contrast also to the different kinds of viburnum & cornel berries present when compared with each other. The white berries of the Panicled cornel soon & prematurely dropping from its pretty fingers are very bitter–so also are those of the C. sericea

// One carrion-flower berry is turning blue in its dense spherical cluster– Cast-steel
// soap galls are crowding the more legitimate acorn on the shrub-oak.

Sep. 4th
Pm to Miles Swamp Conantum
// What are those small yellow birds with 2 white bars on wings–about the oak
// at Hubbard's Grove?– Aralia racemosa berries just ripe–at tall helianthus by {bars} beyond
// Wm Wheelers–not edible. Ind. hemp out
// of bloom. Butterflies in road a day or
// 2. The crackling flight of grasshoppers also

The\ grass \ is all alive with them & they trouble me, by getting into my shoes which are loose–& obliging me to empty them occasionally. Measured an archangelica stem {—} (now of course dry) In\ Cor. spring swamp 8 ft 8 inches high & 7 1/4 inch circumference at ground. It is a somewhat zigzag stem with few joints & a broad umbelliferous top–so that it makes a great show.

---

1"The" written over other letters, possibly "even" or "on an"
2"In" written over "in"
One of those plants that have their fall early. There are many splendid & last 10 days more at least scarlet arum berries there now in prime ^— forming a dense ovate head on a short peduncle the sep individual berries of various sizes—between pear & mitre & club form flattened against each other on a singular (now purple & white) core, which is hollow. What rank & venomous luxuriance in this swamp sproutland!

Viola pedatas again. I see where squirrels have eaten green sweet viburnum berries on the wall together with hazel nuts. The former gathered red turn dark purple & shrivelled like raisins in the house & are edible— but chiefly seed. The fever bush is conspicuously flower budded. Even its spicy leaves have been cut by the tailor bee—circular pieces taken out— He was perhaps attracted by its smoothness & soundness.

Large puff balls some time. //
Friday Sep 5th
To Brattleboro Vt

Will not the prime of Golden-rods & Asters be just before the 1st severe frosts?
As I ride along in the cars I think that the ferns &c are browned & crisped more than usual at this season, on account of the very wet weather.

Found on reaching Fitchburg that there was an interval of 3 1/2 hours between this & the Brattleboro train—& so walked on on the track with shouldered valise. Had observed that the Nashua river in Shirley¹ was about 1 mile west of Groton Junction—if I should ever want to walk there. Observed by RR in Fitchburg—low slippery elm shrubs with great rough one sided leaves

// Solidago lanceolata—past prime a good deal
// Aster puniceus in prime. About 1 mile from W. Fitchburg Depot westward I saw the Panicled elder berries on the RR—
// but just beginning to redden—though it us said to ripen long before this. As I was walking through Westminster I remembered that G. B. Emerson says that he saw a handsome clump of

on an island
the Salix² lucida ^ in Meeting House Pond in this town—& looking round I saw

¹"S" written over "s"
²"alix" inserted
a shrub of it by the RR—& several times
afterward north a mile or 2—also in the brook
behind Mr Alcott’s house in Walpole N. H.

Took the cars again in Westminster—
The scenery began to be mountainous & in-
teresting in Royalston—& Athol—but was more
so in Erving. In Northfield first observed
fields of broom-corn very common—Sorghum
Saccharatum—taller than corn—Alcott says
they bend down the heads before they gather
Here abouts women & children are already
picking hops in the
them, to fit them for brooms. fields in the shade
of large white sheets–like sails.

Sep 6th

At Brattleboro. Mr Charles C (?) Frost
showed me a printed list of the flowers of
B. furnished by him to a newspaper in B. some
years since. He says he finds Aster simplex
(ac to Oakes the latter is not found in NE out of Vermont)
and A. Ptarmicoides there ^—the latter now covered
by the high water of the river—also A concinnus
of Wood, perhaps, (not in Gray—) v. specimen pressed.
—also solidago Patula & serotina as well
as Canadensis & Gigantea. Also finds he says
Oakes gives only H. divaricatus & decapetalus to Vt
Helianthus giganteus ^ (with quite small flowers
bank of river behind town house) and Decapetalus
—& strumosus—speaks of the fragrance
of the Dicksonia fern & the sensitiveness
of the sensitive fern. If you take a tender plant^2
by the stem the warmth of your hand will
cause the leaves to curl. Thought my
great dish-cover fungus a Coprolus (?)—
(so called from growing in dung?)

---

1"Took" possibly altered from "As"
2“plant” possibly written over “stem"
Read in Thompson’s Hist of Vermont—which contains very good Nat. History—including a catalogue of the Plants of Vermont made by Oakes—and in the last edition additional ones found by Frost.

Am Walked down the RR about returning partly by river bank

a mile† The Depot is on the site of
"Thunderbolt’s" house—He was a scotch highwayman—called himself Dr Wilson (?) when here. The prevailing Polygonum in B. was a new one to me. P. Pennsylvanicum—but not roughish on the veins

vanicum—^ ap in prime, with the aspect of P. Persicaria, sometimes spreading {&} stretching 4 feet along a hill side—But commonly in rather low ground road sides. This being disposed of— I infer that my 2 Polygonums of Aug. 14th are either both new, or one is the P. Lapathifolium, which is the only nearly allied one described which I have not identified. This makes it somewhat unlikely that my Great-jointed one is the P. Lapathifolium—though the upper sheathes are not fringed. For the first time distinguish the Aster Cordifolius—a prevailing one in B. & but just beginning to flower—Like a A. undulatus with narrow winged petioles & sharp toothed leaves—amid bushes & edges of roads—sometimes 4 feet high—panicled.

It differs from A. undulatus ^ thus at present— It is less downy & hairy stemmed—, sometimes smooth, the involucral scales spotting the buds with small very dark purplish tips (while those of A. undulatus

†Caret written over dash
are commonly green) the branches are commonly less spreading. The leaves are very sharply toothed, with commonly spreading teeth, except the very smallest & uppermost leaves—which become entire bracts or stipules—The lower & greater part of the leaves are not wing petioled, & the uppermost & sessile far more variously winged than those of the A. undulatus

I see the Flowering raspberry still in bloom //
This plant is quite common here—The fruit now & ripe
ripe is red—^ and quite agreeable—but not abundant. Desmodium Canadense still—

Maple leaved viburnum very abundant here—a prevailing shrub—berries ap now in prime or a little earlier than this—ovoid dull blue black. //

Pluck some rose leaves by Connecticut (v press) with now smooth—somewhat pear-shaped hips—not a sweetbriar. Also Cornus circinnata
berries very light blue or bluish white //

U gracilis not given by Oakes

Was not that urtica gracilis ^? 6 or 7 feet leaves narrow & not heartshaped high near the Depot. ^ Cirsium discolor ? Roadside below depot ap in prime—much like Lanceolatum but smaller leaves—whitish beneath & inner scales unarmed.

Frost said that Dr Kane left B the3 morning of the day I arrived—and had given him a list of Arctic plants brought home by him, which he showed me Pages From his Report in press.

The solidago Canadensis very common
ap in prime—also perfectly smooth ones
with glaucous stems like some of ours—

I am in doubt whether the last or any
that we have in C. is the S. Serotina

Frost says he distinguishes both but Oakes does not give the S. Serotina to 

or Gigantea—^ I should say he had but
one kind, which varied from leaves rough
above & on the veins beneath—& stems smooth
below & pubescent above—to leaves quite smooth
on both sides & stems very smooth & glaucous—
says also vary very much in size— Or
are these only varieties of the Canadensis??

I find small grapes 1/3 of an inch in
diameter—many ripe on the bank of the
Connecticut—pleasantly acid. clusters 3 to
4 or 5 inches long. Eupator The leaves
are sharply toothed & green on both sides. Is it
Ap it is, but, berries already ripe with leaves
the V. Cordifolia? I see also a vine ^ rusty
downy beneath & not conspicuously toothed with
equally small now green grapes. Ap like

ours. Is not this V. aestivalis ()?


Eupatorium ageratoides—white snake-
root— in rather low ground or on banks
along river side—ap in prime— Ap. Helianthus

// Decapetalus—or Cut-toothed H. the teeth
much larger than with us—

Solidago arguta—very common—ap in
prime— with sharp toothed more or less elliptic
slender
leaves & ^ terminal drooping racemes— Size
of S. stricta.

Frost thought a longifolius-like white aster above mid size
by Connecticut— A Tenuifolius?
[Pencilled botanical notes on this page not transcribed]
Appendix: Image of MS pages

The image that follows shows features in the MS that can’t be represented in the transcript.

Drawings attached to pages.

Transcript page: 134
Appendix page: 335
Title: June 24th 1856 / H. D. T / D. R
Brady Farm / Freetown Bristol Co / Mass

Transcript page: 135
Appendix page: 335
Title: D. R. / June 26th 1856
Martha Simons’ house / Sconticut Neck /
June 24th 1856

Dover Farm

M. N. G. S.

June 26th 1856

Martha Caroline House

Dover Farm

Ivy, June 24th, 1856.

My dear brother,

I am writing to let you know that we have been doing well during the winter. The weather has been quite favorable, with plenty of sunshine and warm days. We have been busy working on the farm, and everything is progressing well. The crops are looking good, and we hope they will do well this year.

I miss you all very much, and I hope you are all well. Please write and let me know how you are. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours truly,

[Signature]