

Archives; Wigan & Leigh
The Edward Hall Diary Collection

Diary of Thomas Miller

Ref. EHC/84



Edward Hall, c.1932

Editor's Note

All diary transcripts have been produced with the intention of faithfully reproducing the text of the original manuscript exactly as it appears. All spellings and punctuation marks have been transcribed as they appear; where clarification was thought necessary by the transcriber, an explanation, current spellings or punctuation have been added in square brackets.

TUESDAY 1

Nell and Emma went to aunt's to tea/ and came home very wet on account/ of the sudden thaw. They called at/

Goldsbros's¹ but did not stop- Made out/ a list of all my works which with the/ 3- three - volume Novels published by/

Colburn² make 40 Vols of various/ kinds that I have written & published/

WEDNESDAY 2

Nell and Emma went to tea at Dr/ Goldsbros to a children's party. Wrote/ a few more hints out for my new/ Novel

" A right of Way" Hope soon/ to find a publisher for it. have no/ faith in Lea of Warwick Lane-/

THURSDAY 3

Sat reading & thinking over the subject/ of "Shakespere's Fairy Tales"/ in a book for youth. Could make/ it very entertaining

with the "Indian/ Boy" who does not appear in Shakespere.

FRIDAY 4

Read a further portion of Wilson's "Noctes"³/ find the papers become wearisome to/r in the thoughts to/ read so many together. There is a great

(sameness) in the thoughts in/ places, though passages of most/ exquisite humour. Fost has again / set in with great severity.

(Prip) came/ to tea nas supper.

SATURDAY 5

Read "Atheaneum"⁵ Went to Poulter's/ and ordered Beef. Looked over the Paper/ Glanced over Briton's Annual- it is/ (sad) rubbish.

Emily Warren/ came to tea- Frost is still very severe.

SUNDAY 6

Sat reading Louisa Lea came home with/ the children from church and had tea

MONDAY 7

Read a portion of "The land we Live/ In" it wants human interest - a little/

more of every-day life- to relieve it- / A fine bright clear day - though very cold/ sun felt quite comforting under my/

wall that faces the South. Greens and / parsley nearly all done for-

TUESDAY 8

Went into the city- saw young Routledge/ Bryce and Brown- Heard that Lea had/ compounded with his creditors. Am/ very glad I had not

began my novel/ the "Right of Way" with him- had tea/ with Brown. Brought home "Crowquills/
Fairy Tales" very so- and- so-

WEDNESDAY 9

Made out a list of my articles that/ have appeared in "Chambers Journal"6&/ other Periodicals. with
a view of re- / printing them. Nell and Emma

went/ to Goldsbros The two Irish tales in / Crowquill's "Fairy Footsteps" are not/ much (unique) they
have humour.

THURSDAY 10

Sent the list of my proposed reprints to/ Brown- who thinks (Clarke) may use them./ have but little
faith in that quarter of/ anything.

Read a further portion of "The/ Land We Live In"

FRIDAY 11

Again went into the city- did not see/ Brown- he was out- saw Mr Routledge-/ he complains of trade-
& will not publish/ any thing at present-

called on Mr/Van Voorst- Read a further portion of "The Land We Live In"

SATURDAY 12

Weather still very severe. Saw Mr & Mrs/ Kertland when I went out to order the/ potatoes- Read
"Athenaum" and further/ portion

of "The Land We Live In"

SUNDAY 13

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Sat Reading . No one called

MONDAY 14

Nell & Emma went to Aunt's today-/ Sent her some onions- Read "Occurences"/ for year 1787.
"lovers Quarrels" in to days/ Miscellany.

Busy with (sacking) and sawing. No letter yet from Brown-/ Weather still very severe. Cockerell's/
coal £2 a ton to day- as Advertised.

TUESDAY 15

Children went to Goldsbros Read a portion of "William Meister"/ by Goethe. Carlyle's Translation.

WEDNSDAY 16

Continued reading "Carlyle's/ Translation"- What number of/ times - stealing a child and/ placing it
among Strolling Players/ or Mountebanks-

has been made use of.

THURSDAY 17

Continued reading "Carlyle's" Trans-/ lation of Goethe "Wilhelm " Appren-/ ticeship". Many are the
beautiful/ (passages) it contains which not ten in/

a thousand can ever appreciate-

FRIDAY 18 Bill 2 Months

Went into the city- got a bill of/ Brown's for 2 months balance of Rifle/ Songs. Saw Van Voorst-
Called at Dolly's/ & dined there. Saw (Mrs)Dewhurst/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

there. (Moggy) and Bill's wife.

SATURDAY 19

Finished reading 2nd Vol of Carlyle's/ Translation. Read "Atheaneum"/ Seems to be a change in weather/ to day-.

SUNDAY 20

Tom came to supper. Sat reading/

MONDAY 21

Read "Stevens lectures on Heads"7/ there are some capital thoughts in/ the tiny vol & some very bold/ speaking "out" for the time-

TUESDAY 22

Went into the city- saw (Folks)-/ at Dolly's Had my walk for/ nothing- would not discount Brown's/ Bill. Was (amused) with some/ of the calico-buyers

who frequent the smoking room upstairs/ Read a portion of the life of Charlotte Bronte.

WEDNESDAY 23

Answered Brown's letter. Children/ went to Goldsbros. Finished reading/ Mrs Gaskill's life of "Charlotte/ Bronte" many of the letters are/ rather tedious

and would have been better left out. But the book/ was interesting enough to keep me/ up till late in the morning.

THURSDAY 24

Corrected a proof of " Ralph Redbourne/ the Deserter. Cox called yesterday/ Read a portion of Hugh Miller's8/ "Old Red Sandstone"

FRIDAY 25

Went into the city- saw Brown-/ (Dr Mackay) 7 Little - & the/ brother-in-law of Percy (Sin john)-/ also Percy- (Martin) & Henry/ Vickers. rained in the evening-/

Read a further portion of "Old/ Red Sandstone"

SATURDAY 26

Continued "Old Red Sandstone" a in his / glorious work. my namesake/ beats them all in his poetical/ description. Brown called in the / evening

went into White's with him.

SUNDAY 27

Finished reading "Atheneum" Tom came/ to supper.

MONDAY 28

Went into city- Saw lockwood-/ about a new work- to call on/ Thursday- Saw Brown and Van/ Voorst- called at Peele's Coffee/ House9.

(Jaselyn) dug up some of the/ parsnips.

TUESDAY 29

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Re- wrote preface to "Rifle Songs"/ Read "Lincoln Paper" - Children/ went to aunt's to tea & paid/ her for galoshes

WEDNESDAY 30

Posted new Preface to "Rifle Songs"-/read a further portion of "Old Red/

Sandstone. Children went to Goldsbros.

£10

THURSDAY 31 £7

Drew £7 of mr Van Voorst- balance/ of Brown's £10 Bill- had £3 before of him/ Dined with brown at Peele's. Saw Percy/Sinjent/

& his brother & Brown his brother-/ in- law. Stebbing. Mr Carlyle - and others-/ Staid rather late- until the last omnibus/ about eleven. Aunt came while I was/

out and had tea with the children.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 1

Read "Cornhill Magazine"10 ordered/ groceries of (*a**ell)- Sat Reading-/ Paid Butcher- £1-10-6/ (*a**ell) ---10-/ Allard - -1 - 6 -/

Silver - - - - 10-6/ Girls for Boots - - 12 -/ Day- Candles. Washing - 7 -/ £4- 16 -

SATURDAY 2

Read "Atheaneum". Mr & Mrs/ Kertland came in the garden-/ gave them some parsnips. onions/ & greens. Read the paper-

SUNDAY 3

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Sat reading. No one called/

MONDAY 4

Made out a list of articles I want/ to reprint in a Volume- from/ Chambers Journal & C. Read a portion/ of Blackwood's Magazine for 1859/

TUESDAY 5

Children went to Goldsbros read/ a further portion of "Blackwood"/ did a little more at Strawberry/ bed in planting out the runners/

WEDNESDAY 6

Continued reading "Blackwood" for/ want of better employment-/ Did a little more at Strawberry-/ bed & sowed some parsley/

THURSDAY 7

Went into the city.saw Tegg-/ &young (Bohn)- called at Peele's/ Saw Percy & his brothers there -&/ Morgan- Griffin was out/

FRIDAY 8

Had Tubb cutting gooseberry/ bushes. Mr D Chambers, brother of/ the Chambers of Edinburgh called/ to see if I could assist in writing/ a new work.

Timbs to be my associate./Gave him poem "Birth of Burns"/

SATURDAY 9

Went into the city- wet (miserable)/ day. saw (Father) & H Vickers-/ smoked a pipe with old Earle at/ Charles Brown's. Too wet for/

Tubb to work to day- Read the/ "Atheaneum"-

SUNDAY 10

Sat reading - (Ahead) called/

MONDAY 11

Children went to Aunt's old/ Tubb finished cutting gooseberries-/ snow today. & frost at night-/

TUESDAY 12

Brown sent fresh proofs of " Rifle/ Songs" looked them over -&/ also wrote to him. Put in/ some cuttings and suckers-/

Children went to Golsbros/

WEDNESDAY 13

Pottered about garden. Read a / portion of " Livingstone"s Travels"/ full of (de**) interest-/

THURSDAY 14

Continued reading " Livingstone's / Travels and pottered about the/ garden

FRIDAY 15

Continued reading "Livingstones / Travels" made a few notes/ can do nothing until I hear/ from Chambers

SATURDAY 16

£25.9 _

Renewed Silver's Bill for 3 months_/ Read " Atheneum" _ & further/ portion of "Livingstone's Travels"/

SUNDAY 17

No one called. Went out for an hour with/ Kertland & saw Silver Shipton & Millis.

MONDAY 18

Coal 14s ½ ton/ Girls went to aunts. Tubb cleared/ out celery trenches & bed near gate/ Read further portion of "Livingstone's/ Travels"- no novel is more interesting/ so much do we wish for his escape/ from continuous danger.

TUESDAY 19

Went into the city- D Chambers was/ not in. Saw Griffith& Sampson Low-/ left message at Lockwoods- Saw/ Brown. Wrote to Mackay. Saw Mr/ Middleton- Horace Stebbing, Atfield/ & others at Peele's where I dined-

WEDNESDAY 20

Wrote to Brown. Letter from Mackay/ Looked out articles for reprint- Read/ a portion of "Livingstone's Travels".

THURSDAY 21

Went into the city Left no. of/ "Chambers Journal" with Sampson/ Low . Got (Parlour Journals)- D/ Chambers was not in- Wet day-/ Met Brown in the street. Got home/ to dinner . Met (Binks)_

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

FRIDAY 22

Wrote to W U Wills- Looked over/ articles for reprint – Finished/ reading “ Livingstone’s Travels”-

SATURDAY 23

Read “ Atheaneum” set celery.&/ lettuce- cleared some of the weeds/ out of garden-

SUNDAY 24

No one called – did not go out/

--

MONDAY 25

Children went to Aunts- cleared/ the border & set more parsley-/ read Blackwood-/

TUESDAY 26

Read a further portion of Blackwood/ pottered about garden-/

WEDNESDAY 27

Letter from Mackay. Wrote to/ Brown- dug the bed ready for/ peas- read a further portion of/ Blackwood/

THURSDAY 28

Made trenches for peas & worked in/ the garden all day- Read a further/ portion of “Blackwoods magazine”/

FRIDAY MARCH 1

Set the peas. Read a further/ portion of “Blackwood”- Read/ Cornhill Magazine/

SATURDAY 2

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Read "Atheanuem"- and a portion/ of the "British Magazine for 1760-/"

SUNDAY 3

Tom came to tea . Sat Reading/

MONDAY 4

Got Journals from Sampson Low./ called on Brown. & at (Allards)-/ Met John Timbs whom I had not/ seen for years. Also Henry (Vizetelly)-/ called in at end of Wellington Street/ with Timbs.

TUESDAY 5

Nell and Emma went to Goldsbro's -/ dawdled the day away- Read/ Lincoln Paper- & potted about/ garden./

WEDNESDAY 6

Went into the City. Saw Mr D/ Chambers. Made an appointment/ for Friday- Got wet through while/ walking home as it poured with/ rain. Called on Griffin & Farren -/ saw Malcom at Van Voorsts/

THURSDAY 7

Busy all day- (posting and preparing/ articles for reprint- read a little-/ & made some corrections for articles/

FRIDAY 8

£2- 2-

Called on Chambers – Received £2 – 2/ for poem on "Birth of Burns"- Am/ to write a series of Articles on (Country)/ for a work similar to "More's Everyday/ Book" Left article for reprint with/ Lockwood. Received by Parcel Conveyance/ "Brands Popular Antiquities"11 from Chambers/ called on (Smith & Elder)

SATURDAY 9

Paid Silver 14/3. Read a portion of/ Brands Antiquities. Emily Warren came/ to tea. Read Atheneum. Letter/ from W U Wills. Paid for Groceries 7s/ / Potatoes. Wood & Apples 2/6 /

SUNDAY 10

Sat reading "Brandes Popular/ Antiquities /

MONDAY 11

Children went to Aunt's – Wrote Article/ up on "Saxon Poetry" Read a further/ portion of "Brandes Antiquities"/

TUESDAY 12

Commenced Article for Chambers-/ Wrote part of description of January-/ Sent "Saxon Poetry to Mr Wills for/ "All the year round" – wrote to Timbs/

WEDNESDAY 13

+Millis sent for (----ld). Had Tubb/ Gardening- took up Parsnips-/ Continued article for Chambers/ on "January"/

THURSDAY 14

Finished article on "January" for/ Chambers "Everyday Book" Read portion/ of "Notes & Queries/

FRIDAY 15

Commenced article on "Plough/ Monday" for Chambers" Read "Notes/ & Queries. Cleared the border in/ the Garden/

SATURDAY 16

Pottered about the garden while Nell/ & Emma cleaned. Did a little more/ at Plough Monday/

SUNDAY 17

Tom came to supper & went to/ church with children/

MONDAY 18

Finished Plough Monday. Children/ went to Aunts. Read Notes & Queries-/

TUESDAY 19

£5 Chambers/ Left Articles 1 January 2 Plough/ Monday – 3 New Years Day with Chambers/ called on Brown- saw copy of “Rifle/ Songs” Percy St John there saw Van/ Voorst- got reprints from Lockwood/ Dined at Peeles . Saw (Makon) Murray &/ Horace (St) John- Day wet-/

WEDNESDAY 20

Paid Allard £1 – Groceries 11s_ / Aunt & Emma 6s (Jocelyn & Ben) 3s-/ Millis 6s/6 Gardener 3s- Potatoes/ & George- 4s Tobacco & finished a pipe with Millis. Letters from/ Dickens¹² & Robert Chambers-/

THURSDAY 21

Tubb finished the onion- bed – Sat/ reading- children called on Aunt-/ (Miss) Goldsbro & children called-/

FRIDAY 22

Lost the whole day – in repairing the/ Summer House – & sowing Spinach--/ George brought home ½ peck Ash – Leaved/ Kidneys¹³ to set. Sat reading-/

SATURDAY 23 ++ POTATOES set them last year Feb 8th. More than month later than last year/

Paid for meat 8s. Set the Potatoes/ Did not put them in so deep. Will earth/ them up earlier and see what difference/ there is in the time.

SUNDAY 24

Sat Reading (Priss) came to tea & Tom/ (all) went to church with children/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

MONDAY 25

Nell & Emma went to Aunt's/ Commenced writing February for/ Chambers/

TUESDAY 26

Continued writing February-/ stuck to it close all day-/ Set the Onions Nell and Emma/ went to Goldsbro's/

WEDNESDAY 27

Finished "February for Chambers-/ glanced over 2nd Vol of "Mores/Everyday Book"/

THURSDAY 28

Sent February to R Chambers./ and Note- Commenced March./stuck close all day to my/ writing-
hoed up weeds in Flower/ garden- from the gravel walk./

FRIDAY 29

Continued writing " March"/ did a little more hoeing-/ read "More's Everyday Book"/ (Ahed) called.
Saw Kertland-/

SATURDAY 30

Finished March. Posted it to/ R Chambers- Read further/ portion of "More's Everyday Book"-/

SUNDAY 31

Tom came to tea. Went out for an hour/ with Kertland – saw silver-/

MONDAY APRIL 1

Nell & Emma went to Aunt's/ letter from R Chambers. Wrote/ "Valentine Day" Posted it to/ R
Chambers. Read "Cornhill/ Magazine"/

TUESDAY 2

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Commenced "April" read part/ of "More's" Everyday Book

WEDNESDAY 3

Continued "April" read part of/ "More's Everyday – book. hoed up/Dandelions./

THURSDAY 4

Finished copying out "April" dug/ a bit of ground to plant Celery/ when ready. Tubb finished bed/ in the field/

FRIDAY 5

Drew £10 Chambers/ Paid (Vi—er) 10s- Dined at Peele's/ Saw C Brown. Deane, Percy, Nephew./ Stebbing- Stevens – (Clay ---d)- (-l----h)/ in the city-

SATURDAY 6

Paid (____) £7 – 3 – as follows./ Butcher £2 – 14 – (Taxes) £1 – 1 – 8. Silver 10s – 6// (Ma—ell)6s Milk – 8s -2 – Millis 6/6 – Vickers10/= / (Jocelyn) 7/- Aunt 5/6 – Washing & Children 5/- / Stationary 2/ Dinner & 3/- . Seeds. Tobacco 2/- / Pottered about garden. Did no writing to/ day-/

SUNDAY 7

Tom came to supper and went to church with/ the children. Did not go out. Sat Reading/

MONDAY 8

Dug a bit of ground to set seed for the/ Winter Greens. Nell & Emma Went to/ Aunt's. CENSUS 14 Taken to day -/ Made some notes for May-/ Children went to Aunts

TUESDAY 9

Continued making notes for May – for/ Chambers work Read a portion of/ " More's (F)able Book/

WEDNESDAY 10

Made notes for June- Set potatoes/ in the field- tub helped me-/

THURSDAY 11

Continued making notes for "June" Did a little in the garden. Sowed/ seed for Winter Greens/

FRIDAY 12

Letter from R Chambers the purport/ of which seems to be I am getting on/ too fast for him. Made a few notes / for " May Day"/

SATURDAY 13

Set peas in the field- on the piece/ of ground Tub dug. Read portion/ of "More's Fable Book./

SUNDAY 14

Tom came and went to Church with/ the children. Saw Kertland & Silver/

MONDAY 15

Children went to aunt's -Read/ a further portion of "More's Fable/ Book. Many of the articles are/ very bald – and bare - & want / colouring/

TUESDAY 16

Children went to Goldsbro's- Pottered/ about the garden. Made little bed/ to prick out the celery & Spinnach/

WEDNESDAY 17

Read a portion of "More's Year Book"/ Chambers letter has put a check on/ me. Must turn my attention to/ something beside their work/

THURSDAY 18

Nell and Emma went to Spurgeon's/ Tabernacle- Pottered about garden-/ Read a further portion of "Brande's/ Popular Antiquities"/

FRIDAY 19

Garden wants wet and warmth very/ bad – everything (perishing) for want of it/ Read a portion of “More’s Year Book-/ Letter from Timbs/

SATURDAY 20

(Lain) soled boots and mended childrens/ paid him 5/- again dipped into/ “Brande’s Popular Antiquities” a very/ interesting work. though I think/ childish sports quite out of place/ in it/

SUNDAY 21

Saw Silver and Kertland. Sat reading/

MONDAY 22

Children went to Aunt’s . – A cold day-/ Read a further portion of “Moe’s Year/ Book-/

TUESDAY 23

Nell & Emma went to Goldsbro’s/ Made a few notes- pricked out a / little bed of celery- Read a portion/ of “More’s Year Book-/

WEDNESDAY 24

Received a slip for reprint of “Men/ of the Time” made a few alterations/ in it. Mrs Goldsbro & children/ called – while children were out/ for a walk. Went to Millis for an/ hour/

THURSDAY 25

Wrote to Adelaide Street- about a/Loan- Letter from Editor of “Men of the/ Time”. Nell & Emma went to Goldsbro’s/ to tea- & to Spurgeon’s Tabernacle-/ Read a little more of “Brande’s Pop-/ ular Antiquities”

FRIDAY 26

Pinched out some Lettuce – Filled up/ the Form & sent it to Adelaide St.-/ Went to Millis’s. Saw Mr (Hodgson)-/ Finished reading Vol 2 of “Brande’s Popular Antiquities”-/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

SATURDAY 27

Rain at last. Everything in garden was/ drooping for want of it- Sat reading-/ Planted out a little more lettuce/

SUNDAY 28

Went to Millis's for an hour – saw / Prestland . had not seen him for months/

MONDAY 29

Nell & Emma went to Aunt's to/ tea- Made a few notes – Cox/ called/

TUESDAY 30

Thought(t) over putting together the/ Sketches in Chambers as a connected/ story to be entitled "Living in London" – Nell & Emma went to/ Goldsbro's

WEDNESDAY MAY 1

Rain has given quite a cheerful look to/ the garden, though things come up/ slowly as the weather still contin/ues very cold.

THURSDAY 2

Raised the roots & cleared the weeds/ from some of the strawberries- that/ are now beginning to flower. Letter/ from Adelaide St.- do not care to/ get on with Chamber's Book after the/ letter Robert C Wrote me-/

FRIDAY 3

Ministers got a majority last night/ after all- and unless some artful dodge/ is worked by Dizzy- the paper duty16/ will come off and make work/ for us poor Authors more plentiful-/ I hope- went to Millis for an hour/

SATURDAY 4

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Finished reading " (T---) In Ireland 1779-/ a very curious work. what a number/ of ruins it then contained- Gin/ from Millis- Did not go out/

SUNDAY 5

(Ahed) called. Went out with him- saw Silver/ & Shipton. Tom came/

MONDAY 6

Copied Notes up to what I had done/ Descriptive of the months for Chambers-/ Millis left his house today- went/ to see him out. Staid rather/ late-/

TUESDAY 7

£10 of Millis/ Went out for a walk with Mr / Kertland-& saw Mrs Taylor- had/ not seen her for 12 years-/

WEDNESDAY 8

Ruin today- Paid Aunt 10s- Gave/ children 10s – Butcher £2-12- Silver 10s/ Allard £1-11- (Ma—el)12s. Millis 6-6-/ Oddments – 10s- (----) for Coal and/ Potatoes – 10s-/

THURSDAY 9

Pottered about Garden Nell & Emma/ went to near Spurgeon – made a/ few notes- dipped into the pages/ of an old Magazine.

FRIDAY 10

Busy in Garden- pricking out/ celery & lettuce- mad e a / few notes-

SATURDAY 11

Made a few notes – did a little/ at weeding strawberries- Been/ bothered with a cold all the/ week-/

SUNDAY 12

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Went out for an hour. Saw Millis/ Silver & Kentland-/

MONDAY 13

Children went to Aunts-/ Busy in the garden- burning/ the rubbish- Read a little-/

TUESDAY 14

Nell & Emma went to Goldsbro's/ Read old Magazines. Tub cut the/ branches of summer house-/
Wrote to Van Voorst – Emily/ Stevenson & Mrs Brownell/

WEDNESDAY 15

In a (mess) to day through having/ the sweep – Watered Garden-/ Cut some (grass)- Read a little/

THURSDAY 16

Busy all day in Garden – Read/ a little in the evening/ Nell & Emma went to hear Spurgeon-/ Went
out to see Silver- called at/ Millis's/

FRIDAY 17 Three Months

Renewed Silver's Bill. Must/ get on & do something soon – hoed/ up some of the peas- Tub/ did a
little at the centre walk/ in the field- Read a little-/

SATURDAY 18

Read a little – weeded onion beds-/ Went to Millis' old house for an/ hour. New Landlord is a native/
of Lincolnshire-/

SUNDAY 19

Sat reading. No one called/

MONDAY 20

Children went to Aunt's – did/ a little writing/

TUESDAY 21

Did a little writing – potted/ about the Garden/

WEDNESDAY 22

Read a portion of “Brand’s Anti/ quites/

THURSDAY 23

Did a little writing. Wrote to/ Mr Ru(ss)ell-/

FRIDAY 24

Potted/ about the Garden wrote/ a little./

SATURDAY 25

Busy all day in the Garden/

SUNDAY 26

Tom came to supper Sat Reading/

MONDAY 27

Children went to Aunt’s and/ took their dinner with them/ and a fresh gathered salad- made/ a few notes/

TUESDAY 28

Children went to Goldsbro’s- Hoed/ up the peas/

WEDNESDAY 29

Hard day’s work hoeing up the/ weeds all day/

THURSDAY 30

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Broke the pump. No water-/ Children went to hear Spurgeon/ Read Spurgeon's sermon. Did a/ little writing-/

FRIDAY 31

Did a little writing- went out/ for an hour& went home with/ Mr Millis to his new Lodgings/ (had) 2
Read portion of "Cornhill Magazine"/

SATURDAY JUNE 1

Had men to repair the pump/ Finished reading the "Cornhill/ Magazine"-/

SUNDAY 2

Sat reading. No one called/

MONDAY 3

Children went to Aunt's – Tubb/ helped me to bind and paint/ the iron pump where it leaks/ &
weeded the walk/

TUESDAY 4

Sat reading. Saw Mr Cox- at/ Millis's old House- Helped Tubb/ to weed potatoes & hoed them up/
after he had gone/

WEDNESDAY 5

Gardening all day. Saw Kertland/ and Tom Millis's old barman/ & his friend. Introduced him to the /
new Landlord./

THURSDAY 6

Sat reading- hoed up peas/

FRIDAY 7

Sat reading- went out for an/ hour. Saw Mr Prestland & the/ yorkshireman who (farm) the/ (rymer
close)-/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

SATURDAY 8

Worked at garden all day. Hoed/ the field- bed of potatoes-/

SUNDAY 9

10 years to day since we lost our dear/Mother. as we always called her. Felt very low/

MONDAY 10

Children went to Aunts. Did/ a little at Chamber's Book/

TUESDAY 11

Continued Chamber's Book./Children went to Goldsbro's/

WEDNESDAY 12

Continued Chambers Book/ Spread out the Peas.Tub/ dug part of a bed for/ the greens./

THURSDAY 13

Continued Chambers book/ Tub mowed some grass for/ Mrs Hall.&.Finished clearing/ the walk/

FRIDAY 14

Continued Chambers Book-/ Tubb mowed a little grass/ for Mr Silver. So very hot/ I wrote in the Summer House-/as we call the bit of shade/ under the (Lyseum) or Tea Tree17/

SATURDAY 15

Did but little to day- on/account of Girl's cleaning-/

SUNDAY 16

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Tom came to supper. (Ahed) called/ went out with him/

MONDAY 17

Children went to Aunt's-/ Continued Chambers' Book-/Did not get on very well-/

TUESDAY 18

Continued Chamber's Book-/ Weather still very hot and/everything growing beautifully./ Planted out a few Kidney Beans-/

WEDNESDAY 19

Continued Chamber's Book-/ Did not get on very well on/ account of the heat-/

THURSDAY 20

Continued Chamber's Book. Spread/ out the remaining rows of Peas-/ Children went to hear Spurgeon/

FRIDAY 21 17 M

Continued Chamber's Book-/ went out for an hour & went/ Home with Mr Millis.£5/staid with him rather late/

SATURDAY 22

Pottered about Garden. Paid Silver/ £2-13-6- (M----II) 3/6 Rowson-/ 6s – Oddments & washing-/. Boots- (Jocelyen Reen &c 10s-/ Went to see the Great Fire at/ London Bridge with Miliis- Silver-/ Kertland & Shipton. What a Sight!!!/

SUNDAY 23

Sat Reading. No one called/

MONDAY 24

Continued Chamber's Book./ Children went to Aunt's. Planted out a row of celery/first deepening & manuring/ trench. A hard job/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

TUESDAY 25

Children went to Goldsbro's- con-/tinued Chambers Book. Weeded/ the walks between the onion/ beds-/

WEDNESDAY 26

Continued Chamber's Book./ Made deep trenches to drain/ the potatoe beds in the field-/

THURSDAY 27

Continued Chamber's Book/ Weeded and earthed up Celery/ in the little beds where it is/ pricked out. Set two rows of/ Cottagers Kale-19/

FRIDAY 28

Set 2 more Rows of Cottagers Kale/ a yard apart- dug hole for each/ & filled it with manure- before/ I put the plants in-/

SATURDAY 29

Gathered peas for tomorrow. Read/ "Cornhill Magazine" Thackery's/ Novel capital this month. So/ truthfull & simple- Went out/ for an hour to Millis's old House-/

SUNDAY 30

Tom came to tea & supper./

MONDAY JULY 1

Continued Chamber's Book./ Children went to Aunt's / Went to Millis old House for/ an hour. Comet showed splendidly20/ to night./

TUESDAY 2

Continued Chamber's Book. Read/ a portion of an Old Magazine-/ Cut part of the border in the/ field./

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

WEDNESDAY 3

Continued Chamber's Book-/ Thought over a new opening for/ my Novel- Have grat hopes/ it will be as popularas my/ "Gideon Giles"21/

THURSDAY 4

Corrected the articles to take/ into the City to morrow .Little/ Nell's foot rather painful. Thinned/ out some of the onions./

FRIDAY 5

Called at Chambers- Left 3 Articles/ 29 of May- Months May and/ June. None of the firm within-/ Called at Brown's- he had left- saw/ David the Policeman- who lodges/ at Brown's. Bryce also shut up/

SATURDAY 6

Planted out a few Greens- Went/ to Millis's old House for an hour/ No letter from Chambers. Goldsbro/ called to see Ellen's foot. and/ lanced it./

SUNDAY 7

Another showery day. Dear Nelly's foot too/ painful for her to go to Church./

MONDAY 8

Sat reading and thinking over further additions to my new Novel. have / spent much time in preparing/ the plot./

TUESDAY 9

Letter from Robert Chambers/ acknowledging receipt of Articles./ and promising to remit on/account/

WEDNESDAY 10

Dear Nelly's foot much better-/Pottered about the Garden./have no encouragement to do any writing-/

THURSDAY 11

Children went to hear Spurgeon./ Was afraid Nelly could not walk/ so far- Planted out more greens./

FRIDAY 12

Busy in the garden. Weeding the/parsley - & other things. Made/ a few notes/

SATURDAY 13

Gathered peas for to morrow-/ Poulter sent beef & account-/ Went up to Millis's old house/ for an hour-

SUNDAY 14

Tom came. (Ahed) called and Miss/(Pollok) . while girls were at Church./ went out with (Ahed)

MONDAY 15

Nell & Emma went to Aunt's./ pottered about Garden-/

TUESDAY 16

Nell & Emma went to Goldsbro's/ Nelly's foot quite well now/ No remittance yet from R/ Chambers- /

WEDNESDAY 17

(Buried) all day in Garden-/ set more Greens. Am now/ digging our own potatoes./

THURSDAY 18

Children went with Louisa Lee/ to hear Spurgeon. Aunt came/ to tea./

FRIDAY 19

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

Sat reading- Cut the border in/ the field.

SATURDAY 20

Gathered peas for to morrow. Have /resolved to go out next week &/ see what is doing amongthe/
Publishers./

SUNDAY 21

Tom called and went with George/ to Annerly . a showery day./

MONDAY 22

Children went to Aunt's- Looked over/ my papers- preparatory to going/ out to morrow-/

TUESDAY 23 £5

Called on (Messrs) Chambers. Drew £5 / on account gave receipt for £20 saw/ David – Called at
“Illustrated London/ News”²³ saw Leighton – saw Little at/ “London review” office. Dined at the/
Edinburgh (Castle).²⁴ Bought hat 7/6-/ called on Allard/

WEDNESDAY 24

Gave girls money for boots - & for/ Aunt. (M---ell) for Groceries. In all/ £1-10 – Paid Silver 16s

THURSDAY 25

Letter from Leighton- to call at the/ “Illustrated London News” to morrow/ about writing the
“Almanack” brought/ boots 6s/

FRIDAY 26

Saw Mr Leighton – to write 6 pages/ of (lore) matter for “Almanack” for/ 25 guineas to get done in 3
weeks/ also to find subjects for Artist for/ 12 designs. First of them to be/ sent on Monday./

SATURDAY 27 Silver - £5

Sat thinking over subjects for (cuts)/ Gave Silver an I.O.U. for the £5 – he/ lent me- most of it weeks ago – Went/ out for an hour-&went home after with Silver. Staid rather late/ with him and his wife. (Poor Jack)./ and his girl. Annoys Silver./

SUNDAY 28

(Ahed) called – Did not go out. Afer12/ at night commenced writing out subjects/ for (cuts) – found nine subjects-/

MONDAY 29

Sent 9 subjects for Engraving for/ “Illustrated London Almonack” by/ Post to Mr Leighton – children/ went to Aunts – Selected remaining/ 3 subjects – for Almonack/

TUESDAY 30

Sent subjects completing the 12/ Engravings to Mr Leighton-/ Nell and Emma went to Goldsbro’s/ Tubb mowed walk by the North wall-/

WEDNESDAY 31

Made notes for Almonack. It/ will be difficult to say anything /new. Having done descriptions of/ the 12 months at least a dozen/ times-25

THURSDAY 1 (August)

Continued “Almonack” Louis went with / Lea called -& went with Nell/ & Emma to hear Spurgeon – Tubb/ took up the pea halms26 and spread/ them out for seed-/

FRIDAY 2

Continued the Almonack. Made/ Notes for opening of the first 2/ Months/

SATURDAY 3

Continued the Almonack-/

SUNDAY 4

Did not go out-/

MONDAY 5

Children went to Aunt's/ continued Almonack./

TUESDAY 6

Children went to Goldsbro's/ Continued Almonack/

WEDNESDAY 7

Continued Almonack/

THURSDAY 8

Children went to Spurgeons/ Continued Almonack./

FRIDAY 9

Took up greater portion of the / Onions. Continued Almonack/

SATURDAY 10

Continued "Almonack-/"

SUNDAY 11

Did not go out/

MONDAY 12

Children went to Aunt's/ Continued Almonack/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

TUESDAY 13/

Continued Almonack/

WEDNESDAY 14

Read Bulwer's 27 Novel in "All/ Year Round – continued Almonack/

THURSDAY 15

Children went to hear Spurgeon/Took up more Onions/ Continued "Almonack-/

FRIDAY 16

Continued "Almonack"-/ Siver's Bill Renewed/

SATURDAY 17

Continued "Almonack/ Am getting on well now/

SUNDAY 18

Did not go out- (Miss) Goldsbro called/

MONDAY 19

Children went to Aunts/ Continued "Almonack"-/

TUESDAY 20

Continued "Almonack "-/

WEDNESDAY 21

Completed "Almonack-/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

THURSDAY 22

Went to "Illustrated News"/ Drew £25- gns for Almonack"/ Dined at "Simpsons" saw / (Murray) the reporter-/

FRIDAY 23

Paid Silver £10 – Butcher – 3- 14-/ Dinner & oddments 6s//

SATURDAY 24

Paid Millis £7 – Groceries&/ £1 George. Aunt Children £1-/

SUNDAY 25

Did not go out/

MONDAY 26

Children went to Aunt's-/ Had Collins & Tubb to(Repair's)/ Gate-/

TUESDAY 27

Children went to Goldsbro's-/ Gathered Remainder of Onions./ Called on Leighton./

WEDNESDAY 28

Read Bulwer's Novel-/ Went out for an hour-/

THURSDAY 29

Sat Reading- Did not go out-/ Children went to hear Spurgeon-/

FRIDAY 30

Made a few notes – Went out/ for an hour in the evening/ with Mr Kertland-/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

SATURDAY 31

Did not go out- Read the whole/ report of Coroner's Inquest. On/ the Brighton Accident²⁸ – a terrible/ Calamity./

SUNDAY 1 (September)

Mr & Mrs (Rawkes) called – Tom came to/ supper- saw Silver & Kertland for an hour/

MONDAY 2

Wrote to Mr Leighton & Mr Little-/ while children were at Aunt's-/ Made a few notes-/

TUESDAY 3

Children went to Goldsbro's/ Transplanted a lot of parsley/

WEDNESDAY 4

Did a little at my articles/ for Chambers. Part of July-/

THURSDAY 5

Corrected and made additions to/ proofs of "Illustrated Almonack"/ took me all day./

FRIDAY 6

Sent back proofs of "Almonack"/ continued Chambers Book./

SATURDAY 7 5 Silver-

Pottering about the Garden-/ Went out for an hour- Saw Mill(er)/ & silver. Silver goes out of town in/ the morning-/

SUNDAY 8

Saw Mr Kertland – Sat reading a little/rain to day- no one called-/

Transcript produced by Alex Miller, Archivist

MONDAY 9

Paid Silver for (Bread) 15s/ Taxes £1-5-6/ Paid Silver £1 – for interest on Bill/

(no entries until November)

MONDAY 4

£5 of (Messrs) Chambers/ on account of “Sketches”29/ Saw Timbs & Sargent-/ Paid Silver £1-11-3-/

£10 – Chambers THURSDAY 21

Silver Paid £1 Renewed 3 month/ dated 20th/ paid Allard £1 = 18-/ Butcher- 3-14.8-/ Odds---10--/

(Pages missing after 27 November, on “cash account” pages at the end of the diary pages):

John Timbs 32 Park Lane – Green St. W./ Robert Chambers 47 paternoster Row EC/ W U Wills “Office of All The Year Round/ 11 Wellington St. North Strand W C / Lockwood & co 7 stationer (Hall)-court E. C .