



## Life In The Past

**Nelson Hicks' Journals**  
**August 1903**

*Transcribed by Sarah Moran Collier*

**Sat. 1** - Emmet helps me finish drawing in my hay I had altogether 21 loads. After dinner I help Emmet set up barley and then to finish up Emmet Byron and I went to the Lake and had a watch

**Sun. 2** - Dan Ida Mirt and I baby all went out to Jake's. It was a lovely day.

**Mon. 3** - I drew up some wood in the four noon. After dinner I didn't do anything much. There was a Funeral at the Baptis church Mr. William Hyatt's. Mirt and Valera went I stayed home and held Lloyd.

**Tue. 4** - Rain all the four noon. I helped frank all day with cement floor in the Hog pen.

**Wed. 5** - Still looks rainy very discouraging weather for harvesting. I helped Frank till noon.

**Thur. 6** - I finished drawing the rest of my trimming wood got a nice pile of it.

**Fri. 7** - Byron worked at the wood most of the day the weather looks settled again I helped Emmet in the after noon draw in wheat.

**Sat. 8** - I helped Emmet finish drawing his Barley got threw at noon. I was feeling pretty well under the weather.

**Sun. 9** - I layed to bed most of the day with a mighty head ache. In the after noon Mirt and Valera went down to church left Lloyd with Byron and he was good. We got the news to night that Wait Hudgins came home with his arm broken in two places.

**Mon. 10** - I am feeling some better to day took Valera down to Woodrows Corner to Jane Farrington so to take the stage for home in the after noon. After dinner Frank started the Binder cut down about Five acre.

**Tue. 11** - Well everything is pretty wet again this morning rain like fun last night. To day I helped Mirt wash. Lloyd has been a little worrisome.

**Wed. 12** - I went back and finished setting up the oats that Frank cut.

**Thur. 13** - I went down and helped Dan draw in oats. Mirt and Lloyd were down with me. Wind blew a gale all day. Frank started to cut the rest of oat in the Back field.

**Fri. 14** - I helped Dan draw in oats till noon. After dinner Frank and I finished the oats in the back field. We are having fine weather now.

**Sat. 15** - Byron and I drew in two loads of oats from back. Still the weather continues fine.

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Edition of The Mirror  
is August 25th**

## Sarah's Research Notes

### Historical Information & Anecdotes About Nelson Hicks' Journal Entries.

*This month, Nelson and family and neighbours are busy harvesting with much mention of the binder. The machinery they were using probably looked much like this one. Nelson, if you recall, has his two horses, Jespey and Old May, which could be put to work. The binder cuts, ties and drops bundles of grain which were then set up in shocks to dry. Binders, like mechanical threshers, had revolutionized farming. Previously, hand tying of sheaves limited production. In 1841 it took sixty five hours to produce one acre of wheat, but by a century later it took two and a half hours. And today?*



*On August 10, Nelson takes Valera to the stage at Woodrows Corners, which had been a thriving village at the intersection of County Roads 10 and 11. County Road 11 was probably much travelled since the Young House on this road was a coaching inn.*



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