

Life in the Past

From the daily journals of
**Nelson Hicks, great grandfather of
 Vicki Emlaw, at Hix Holme,
 South Bay - May, 1900**

Tue.1 I dragged the sod in the first field on the flats. Pa rolled some of the clay nowls then finished the day cultivated.

Wed.2 Never was more surprised than I was this morning to find a noble Coalt standing by Bells side. We have not decided on a name yet but will in a few days if it lives. Pa has been cultivating to day. It has been a lovely day. began to need a little rain.

Fri.4 I sowed 8 bushels of Barley and bushels of mixed grain Oats, Barley, Wheat in the first field on the Flats. Pa cultivating and had the misfortune to brake a tooth. Today has been raw cold day. Mr. Berry here tonight for Tea. Stirling came here tonight say's Dan has sold Daisy.

Sat.5 Another windy raw and cold day. We finished up sowing on the flats about 22 bushels. I cultivated back this afternoon. Pa went out to quartly board. Philip Hudgins told Pa their was frost to freeze ice last night.

Sun.6 Quartly meeting at the Carman not a very large crowd out as this mourning took rather rainy and did rain a little shower. Ida and Dan over.

Mon. 7 Pa cultivated back. I cleaned up some oats for seed. And after dinner sowed 8 bus. Was a very good afternoon for sowing. Mirt under the weather some.

Tue. 8 Rained some in the night. I drew 8 loads of Manure down on the potatoes ground. After dinner went back sowed 5 bus of Oats. Pa cultivated them in. We have had very cold weather for May. Sunday and Monday night froze ice thick as a pain of glass today it has been a little milder hope it continues.

Wed. 9 Another little rain last night. Pa and I drew out Manure on the potatoes ground. After dinner I dragged the first field over on the flats. Ma visiting up to Maud McCrimmon. Mr. Spafford and S. Rorke here for dinner.

Thur.10 I sowed two bus of Oats back and that finished us all up for this spring if the cold weather don't freeze it after it comes up. Mirt went up to Florence's today. Been very cold all day and froze ice again last night.

Fri.11 Froze again last night. Ice. Pa rolled the first field on the flats. I fixed the fence up in the swamp. After dinner Pa and Ma went up to Jakes and going over to Picton tomorrow.

Sat. 12 Well it has been warmer today but we had frost last night. I drew manure down on the potatoes ground. Mirt went down with me a couple of loads. We found a lovely calf down to the swamp the mother was the mulley cow. We fetched the calf up in the waggon thinking the cow would follow but she did not. We named the calf Ladysmithe and have three others that we call Bulb,

Pretoria and White. Pa and Ma got home about six oclock. Archie come down home on his wheel.

Sun. 13 Mirt and I went out to Sunday School and then on down to Mr. Spaffords. Got back home about Four Oclock. Emmet and Mary Ellen, Nelse Annie Maud were here. After Tea Pa, Ma, Mirt and I went out to meeting Mr. Brown gave a short Serman.

Mon.14 Been very warm today seems more like living. Mirt set some duck eggs today.

Tue.15 Mirt and I went up to Nelse Ostrandrs. Jake was there we were helping Nelse set out his young trees. In the after noon about 3.30 oclock a very heavy rain came up from the west accompanied with hail and a might gale of wind. Some of the hail was as big as hickory nuts. I am sure I never seen rain fall so fast in my life. It only lasted about fifteen minutes and the fields were covered with water. When we got home I was surprised to hear that the hail did not reach home here.

Wed. 16 Robert Dulmage funeral Serman was preached at the Head of the Bay. Pa and Ma went. they said there were a large crowd. all the church could seat possible. Mrs. Leroy Spafford, S Rorke and Ina were here for Tea.

Thur. 17 Threatens rain. Pa and I with the help of Watch took Four two year old cattle out on Jane Farrington to pasture. She agrees to pasture them for 60 cts per head a month. In the Afternoon we took Four yearlings around on Pierson to pasture. He pastured them for 40 cts. a month per head.

Fri. 18 Pa cultivated the corn ground. I fixed up some fence. And then come up and Mirt and I washed the buggy. Been quite cloudy most all day. Pa and I killed a pig tonight. Had good luck scalding it.

Sat. 19 Mirt and I went around to Dan's stayed till after dinner and then went over to Picton Mirt got a new sailor hat. I got her a pair of carpet slippers. Emmet, Mary E, Archie were over. Mirt and I went out to Uncle Naz and stayed all night.

Sun. 20 Mirt and I were to Uncle Nazareth. We went to church with Emma and Mrs. Minaker, Mr. Montier is their minister he gave a good sermon.

Mon. 21 Still we are having some cold weather. Today I have been doing a little of everything most. One thing in particular I made the cucumber bed and Watermellon bed put a few Watermellon's in. Ma and Pa and Mirt put in some onions and garden seed and some flowers.

Tue. 22 Pa cultivated the corn ground over again. I went up to Peter Calvins to a bea raisen his barn.Pa and Ma went up to Annie Mauds leaving Mirt and I alone.

Wed. 23 I ganged ploughed the Potatoes patches again in the swamp. The free Methodis held a meeting in the Stone School house at night. Ma Pa Mirt and I went up. The school house was more than filled.

Thur.24 Mr. Spafford, Nelse Ostrander helped us plough back in the Second field. Annie Maud was down with Nelse. We had a little game of crokey. After dinner Nelse and I played again. Mirt and Annie M. We were beaten. We are

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