

The 1904 Journal of  
Charles Wesley Fitch

Transcribed  
July 1, 2002  
by  
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Grandson of Charles Wesley Fitch

## Introduction

Charles Wesley Fitch maintained daily journals or diaries, if you will. We do not know how many remain to this day. This transcription was undertaken to make available to descendants of Grandpa Fitch, these excellent records of life nearly a century ago. We hope that this transcription is only the first of many. Currently we are trying to determine how many of the journals remain and their current whereabouts.

From a genealogical standpoint I have added footnotes that are printed at the end of this transcription. These footnotes attempt to identify members of the family. Many other names are referred to in the Journal and are no doubt recognized by many as individuals prominent in the early history of this area of Mason County. We retained the spellings and punctuations as recorded in the diary, except for adding periods or hypens to separate entries for clarity purposes.

The 1904 Diary (grandpa refers to them as diaries) is written in a generic (no specified year) diary . Included with 1904 notes are complete entries for 1905 and 1906. The first part of 1904 was missing.

I hope that you glean as much enjoyment reading these transcriptions as I have in preparing them.

Donald Chinnery  
1 July 2002

## March 1904

April<sup>1</sup>

28.

We over and helped cut wood for John Ball  
1/2 day. Willie<sup>2</sup> and I hauled some wood out  
of the barn and some poles in  
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29.

Helped Willie cut wood for Richard<sup>3</sup> .  
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30.

Willie helped me husk corn.  
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<sup>1</sup> Some confusion here. Besides first part of year missing, first entries start with these indicating April. I not sure whether these entries are tail end of March or what?

<sup>2</sup> Willie = William Fitch, brother.

<sup>3</sup> Richard = Richard Fitch, brother.

## April 1904

April<sup>4</sup>

1. Willie and I cut wood with the buzz saw.  
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2. Helped Willie cut wood for Richard.  
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3.  
Willie and I finished husking corn.  
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9. Sat.<sup>5</sup>  
Piled up some wood. Cleaned out pig pen.  
Went to Mrs Benidicks funeral. Mr. Stotard cut  
my hair.  
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10. Sun.  
We went to Sunday School at the school  
house  
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11. Mon.  
Helped Willie cut some wood for Richard. We  
cut wood with the buzz saw.  
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12. Tues.  
Helped Willie cut 7 cords of wood for Richard.  
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13. Wed.  
Willie helped me put in 7 barrel of Spray.  
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14. Thurs.  
John<sup>6</sup> and I hauled manure.  
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15. Fri.  
Ground some feed and cut some corn stalks.  
It snowed all day.  
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16. Sat.  
Willie and I went to town. Sold some potaoes  
for .95 a bushel. Brought my cutter home with  
the sleighs.  
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17. Sun.  
I went to Sunday School. Ethel went to  
meeting at night. Pa was here for dinner.  
-----

18. Mon.  
Willie and I put on 9 barrel of spray. John took  
Benidicks pipe home and trimmed rasberries.  
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19. Tues.  
John and I hauled manure.  
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20. Wed.  
We cut a hemlock log into wood - it made 1  
1/2 cords. Went over to Parker for some  
corn.  
-----

21. Thurs.  
Willie and I put in 9 barrel of spray. John  
trimmed rasberries.  
-----

22. Fri.  
Willie helped me put on 8 barrel of spray.  
John trimmed rasberries.  
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23. Sat.  
Started to pull pech trees but broke the  
evenner on a big oak stump. John hauled  
manure away from the house. I made a  
evenner and went to meeting at School House.  
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24. Sun.  
Ethel and I went to quarterly meeting at the  
school house.  
-----

25. Mon.  
We put in nine barrel of spray - 7 on Willie's  
trees.  
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26. Tues.  
We put 7 barrel of spray on.  
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27. Wed.  
Willie and I went up to Lost Lake fishing, but  
did not get a bite.  
Willie shot a duck but did not get it. John  
picked up stone.  
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28. Thurs.  
We took my little white pig down to John  
Morton's. Started to plow for oats. Ethel and  
Joh n went to the Summit Town Hall to the Ten  
Nights in the Bar Room.  
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29. Fri.  
Went down town and gave bonds to be  
notary public.  
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30. Sat.  
Set some trees. Hauled bush out of  
Rasberries.

<sup>4</sup> This entry indicated May, but changed to April as the  
information jibes with calender for 1904.

<sup>5</sup> Days 4 thru 8 missing.

<sup>6</sup> John Morton (Johnnie) - Paid at rate \$16.00/ Month.  
A month being 6 days per week & 10 hours per day.

## May 1904

May

1. Sun.

Ethel and I went to Sunday School and Preaching at the school house. The preacher came home with us. We went over to Father Rose's and Crotzers.

2. Mon.

Willie helped me put on 5 barrel of spray - we finished. John and I went down to John Mortons after the sow.

3. Tues.

John helped Richard spray 1/2 day. I dragged sowed 2 acres of oats - 1 1/2 acres of clover.

4. Wed.

Sowed 1 acre of Oats - 1 1/2 clover seed. John dragged and rolled oats. I had a bad cold.

5. Thurs.

Pulled some stump for Willie and some for me - broke two single trees. Picked up stone. Bigford<sup>7</sup> plowed for me.

6. Fri.

Took Polly cow down to H. Pierces to the bull. John picked up stone. Bigford plowed for me.

7. Sat.

I set trees. John picked up stone. Bigford plowed 6 hours for me.

8. Sun.

I walked down to sunday school. Rained. Windmill blew down.

9. Mon.

Rained  
Ground some feed. Hauled wood from barn, butchered two pigs.  
Bigford plowed 1/2 day.

10. Tues.

Ethel and Gladys and I went to town - Sold some pork.  
Bigford plowed.

11. Wed.

A mink killed 3 hens for us, then we killed him at 3 o'clock.  
Helped Richard put our little wind mill up. Set

20 trees. Packed some pork. John picked up stone. Bigford plowed.

12. Thurs.

Set some trees, plowed.

13. Fri.

Plowed. John set rasberries.

14. Sat.

Plowed. John set rasnerries.

15. Sun.

Walked to Sunday school. Ethel went to meeting at night.

16. Mon.

I plowed. John set rasberries. Bigford plowed.

17. Tues.

I finished the plowing. Bigford plowed. John finished the berries.

18. Wed.

I Cultivated rasberries. John picked up roots. Took John home. Rained.

19. Thurs.

Made a three horse hitch. John cut corn stalks, picked up stone and roots.

20. Fri.

John picked roots. Rolled 8 acres. Took cutaway back to Rose.

21. Sat.

Run the cutaway on Saturday for corn. John tore down tank house.

22. Sun.

Went to Sunday [School]. We went down to Gillettein the afternoon.

23. Mon.

I was sick in the morning. We picked stone till noon on new land. John run the cutaway. I changed the pipe at the barn yard.

24. Tues.

John run the cutaway till noon, then dragged. I trimed trees till noon then went to town to prohibition convention.

<sup>7</sup> Thomas Bigford.

## May 1904

25. Wed.

Worked at pipe, shelled seed corn. Started to mark for corn. John dragged. Went to prayer meeting.

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26. Thurs.

Willie and I marked corn. John and Nye planted.

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27. Fri.

Willie and I finished mark for corn, and planted corn.

-----

28. Sat.

Planted some sweet corn, beans and winter squash. Plowed near the house.

-----

29. Sun.

We drove to Sunday School. Father and Mother Rose<sup>8</sup> came over for Dinner.

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30. Mon

Marked for potatoes. John planted. I cultivated garden strawberries.

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31. Tues.

John planted potatoes. I cultivated raspberries.

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<sup>8</sup> The Andrew Rose's parents of Ethel

## June 1904

June

1. Wed.

John planted potatoes. I cultivated raspberries.

2. Thurs.

John planted potatoes, I cultivated raspberries. Got Mary's machine.

3. Fri.

John finished plant potatoes. I plowed in Peach Orchard. Hauled corn stalks out of shop.

4. Sat.

Trimed trees. John picked up brush, Ernest<sup>9</sup> hoed Raspberries. I went down to Unkle Michaels after supper after a plow point.

5. Sun.

We went to Sunday School. Went over to George's for dinner.

6. Mon.

Fixed up the old weeder. Plowed in orchard. Elie and Richard and their women came over in the evening.

7. Tues.

Plowed around trees with one horse. Cleaned out peach house. Worked at oil stove. It rained all day.

8. Wed.

Went to town - took down 9 bushel of wheat for our folks and some lumber for a waggon box.

9. Thurs.

Dragged the potatoes, Willie helped me put 4 barrel of spray on Apples. Went fishing.

10. Fri.

Warm

Plowed in apple orchard.

Went down to John Mortons to get Johnie to work for me. Went to Whitneys.

11. Sat.

Finished plow in apple orchard . Plowed in peach orchard.

12. Sun.

We went to Sunday School, went to richard's for dinner. Ethel went to church at night.

13. Mon.

Cultivated Raspberries and garden.

14. Tues.

Went over to father Roses for corn to plant. Planted Corn. Cultivated raspberries and corn.

15. Wed.

Cultivated Corn.

Filled in corn.

16. Thurs.

Took Thee horses to Kislter's Shop and got them shod. Dragged my potatoes over twice. We went to our Eden<sup>10</sup> Farm after Supper.

17. Fri.

Cultivated corn. Took 2 1/2 crates of strawberries to town for the first.

18. Sat.

Plowed in the orchard. Made a berry shanty.

19. Sun.

We went to Sunday school.

20. Mon.

Plowed in the Orchard. Went to town with berries..

21. Tues.

Mowed 4 1/2 acres of Hay. Put rake to other. Ground mowing machine sycle.

22. Wed.

Mowed 4 1/2 acres of hay, raked 4 1/2 acres of hay.

23. Thurs.

Hauled in two loads of hay. Ethel and I went to town. Willie raked 4 1/2 acres of hay for me.

24. Fri.

\_\_\_?<sup>11</sup> and I hauled in Hay. Rained.

25. Sat.

I went to Scottville and got a riding cultivator. Hauled in too load of hay. Put up some hay.

26. Sun.

Ethel and I went to Sunday school at the School House.

<sup>10</sup> This is one of the early references to a Farm in Eden [Township].

<sup>11</sup> I could not decipher this reference

<sup>9</sup> Ernest Fitch, brother

## June 1904

-----  
27. Mon.

Hauled in two load of hay. Tryed our two horse cultivator. Went to town after 5 o'clock with berries. Will<sup>12</sup> raked hay and cultivated.

-----  
28. Tues.

Willie and I went up to our Eden Farm and cut the hay and made road to it. Will worked on the road.

-----  
29. Wed.

Started to Spray apples but it rained. Moved some straw. Picked berries.

-----  
30. Thurs.

Picked Berries and cherries. Will cultivated corn and potatoes.  
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<sup>12</sup> Will = Will Quinn not to be confused with his brother Willie.

## July 1904

July

1. Fri.

Mr. Gillette and I went to Eden and stacked our hay. Will cultivated corn, potatoes, beans and raspberries.

2. Sat.

Will plowed in peach orchard. I hoed squash. Went down to Joe Squires to get some one to thin peaches. Went to town after 6 o'clock.

3. Sun.

We went to Sunday school.

4. Mon.

Rained in forenoon.

Ethel, Estella and Gladys<sup>13</sup> and I went to Hopkins Lake.

5. Tues.

Will and I mowed hay on my place.

6. Wed.

Will and I finished mow the hay and spread it. Picked some cherries. I went to town after 6 o'clock.

7. Thurs.

Will raked the hay. I picked cherries and packed berries. We hauled in 3 load of hay.

8. Fri.

Hauled in one load of hay. Will plowed some in peach orchard.

9. Sat.

Weeded in garden. Will plowed in orchard 1/2 day. Wet all the forenoon.

10. Sun.

We went to sunday school and preaching at the school house.

11. Mon.

Will finished plow in orchard and plowed the Strawberries. I picked and packed cherries. I went to school meeting.

12. Tues.

Picked and packed cherries, went to town. Will cultivated potatoes and corn, C. Kibbey worked for me.

13. Wed.

Norman Reynolds and I went to Eden after a load of hay. Will cultivated corn. Went to prayer meeting at Edward Meisinhammers.

14. Thurs.

Fixed my spraying cart and broke it. I thinned peaches. Will cultivated raspberries.

15. Fri.

Fixed my spraying cart and sprayed my potatoes.

16. Sat.

Thinned peaches. Went to quarterly conference. Will plowed around trees.

17. Sun.

We went to quarterly meeting. Stayed to Ethel's folks<sup>14</sup> for dinner.

18. Mon.

Tallied berries. Went to town. Will plowed around trees and cultivated corn.

19. Tues.

Thinned peaches. Sprayed potatoes.

20. Wed.

Tallied berries. Sprayed potatoes. Went up to see Rev. Wrath about a bunch on my horse's head. Went to prayer meeting at Stotards.

21. Thurs.

Sprayed potatoes. Thinned peaches, setup wheat, cultivated Straw B. We went to Willie's after supper and ate ice cream.

22. Fri.

Tallied berries. Went to town and stayed there.

23. Sat.

Got home from town at 1 o'clock. Picked 4 baskets of beans.

24. Sun.

We went to Sunday school.

25. Mon.

Picked and packed berries.

<sup>13</sup> These are wife Ethel, sister in law estella and daughter Gladys.

<sup>14</sup> The Andrew Rose's

## July 1904

26. Tues.

Packed berries. Went to town.  
-----

27. Wed.

Went to Rev. Wraths after some medicine for my cow. She died at 2 o'clock. Went to town after 6 o'clock.  
-----

28. Thurs.

We buried the cow. Tallied berries, went to town.  
-----

29. Fri.

Talied berries & cherries. Will dragged in peach orchard.  
-----

30. Sat.

Rained in forenoon. Picked and talied berries in the afternoon. Ethel, Gladys and I went to town and stayed all night.  
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31. Sun.

Went to preaching and Sunday School at the 4th ward Church. Came home in the afternoon.  
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## August 1904

August

1. Mon.

Talied berries. Went to look at some cows after supper. Will dragged in orchard and got team shod.

2. Tues.

Ma<sup>15</sup> talied berries for me. I cut docks and went to town. Will dragged and hoed in corn.

3. Wed.

Packed berries and cherries. went to town.

4. Thurs.

Borrowed crates of Stotard - packed cherries. Went to look for girl to do house work.

5. Fri.

Took crates back to Stotard. Set up oats. Went to town with the team. Jullie<sup>16</sup> died on the way home. A. Williams brought me home.

6. Sat.

Talied berries. Packed peaches and apples - went to town.<sup>17</sup>

7. Sun. We went to sunday school and preaching at the school house.

8. Mon.

Picked peaches - went to town.

9. Tues.

Picked apples - 6 bushel. Went to town.

10. Wed.

Tore down barn yard fence - started to build new one. Went to town.

11. Thurs.

Will<sup>18</sup> and I helped pick berries. Will took Ethel and I to town.

12. Fri.

Ethel and I took train at 6 o'clock A.M. for Travis City, got there at ten. We started home at 10:00 P.M.

<sup>15</sup> Not sure whether he is referring to his mother or his wife Ethel. I have not previously noted such a reference.

<sup>16</sup> Jullie = horse.

<sup>17</sup> Should mention here that when a reference of going to town occurs after a day of packing fruit, usually means packed fruit was taken in for sale.

<sup>18</sup> Will Quinn at rate of \$22.00/ month.

13. Sat.

We got to our folk's at 3:30 A.M. - went to bed and slept 2 hours. We got home at noon. I went to town wit berries after six o'clock.

14. Sun.

We went to Sunday School at the school house. Roses came over for dinner.

15. Mon.

Picked peaches and talied berries. Went to town. Willie started for Tennessee.

16. Tues.

Worked at barn yard fence & picked apples.

17. Wed.

Got the barn ready for the machine. We thrashed 38 bu. wheat 124 bu oats.

18. Thurs

Picked peaches - went to town.

19. Fri.

Burnt some docks<sup>19</sup>. It rained in the afternoon. I sawed the ends of the waggon axles off.

20. Sat.

Picked peaches - went to town. Bought a buggy for \$12.

21. Sun.

We went down to the School House but there was no Sunday School or preaching, on account of them starting to put in a new floor. Stotards stopped here for dinner.

22. Mon.

Picked peaches. Will took them to town.

23. Tues.

Picked peaches and apples. I went to town. Will hoed rasberries.

24. Wed.

Pulled 25 peach trees. Went down to see Mr. Odel. Went to prayer meeting at William's.

25. Thurs.

Picked peaches - went to town.

<sup>19</sup> Dock = Any of several coarse weeds of the buckwheat family.

## August 1904

26. Fri.

Pulled 73 peach trees out. Made ice cream.  
-----

27. Sat.

Picked peaches and apples. Went to town.  
-----

28. Sun

We went down to the school house to sunday school, but there was none.  
-----

29. Mon.

Sowed some rye and clover, on the top of the west hill and dragged it in. Went to town with Maud and my buggy.  
-----

30. Tues.

Willie and I went to Eden and lined through two sides of our place. We picked some blue berries.  
-----

31. Wed.

We picked some plums and peaches.  
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## September 1904

September

1. Thurs.

Went to town. Ma went with me. I went to a sale and bought a calf - gave my note for it.

2. Fri.

Willie and I went to Eden and worked at the fence.

3. Sat.

Willie and I went to Eden and worked at our fence.

4. Sun.

I went to Sunday School and preaching, we went to Father Rose's for dinner.

5. Mon.

Picked peaches - went to town and bought 7 barrels.

6. Tues.

Helped Ethel in the house. Went down to John Morton's on my wheel<sup>20</sup> to see Johnnie about work.

7. Wed.

We picked some peaches, but it rained. Put handle in the post hole digger, the sledge and my ax. Went to prayer meeting at Castors, we went over to Willie's at ten o'clock to eat ice cream.

8. Thurs.

Picked peaches - went to town bought a calf.

9. Fri.

Sowed two acres of wheat and clover. Barreled two barrel of Apples.<sup>21</sup>

10. Sat.

We picked peaches and went to town.

11. Sun.

I went on my wheel down to Sunday School.

12. Mon.

The old man<sup>22</sup> and I picked peaches in the forenoon. He quit at noon. I made waggon tongue.

13. Tues.

Fred Carr, Tom Conway and I picked peaches. I took 42 bushes to town.

14. Wed.

Fred Carr, Tom Conway and I picked peaches - I took them to town.

15. Thurs.

Picked peaches - went to town. Tom helped Patterson thrash.

16. Fri.

We picked peaches.

17. Sat.

Picked peaches - went to town.

18. Sun.

I went to Sunday School at the School House.

19. Mon.

We picked 49 bu. peaches.

20. Tues.

We picked 31 bu. of peaches, I took 80 bushel to town in one load.

21. Wed.

We picked 33 bu Peaches. Worked at barn yard fence.

22. Thurs.

Went to town, got 1400 lb coal.

23. Fri.

We cut 65 shocks of corn. Picked 22 bushel of peaches.

24. Sat.

Went to town. Tom cut 38 shock of corn.

25. Sun.

I went to Sunday School. Neal odel came home with me.

26. Mon.

We picked peaches.

27. Tues.

Packed some peaches and apirs in bushels. Went to town.

28. Wed.

Picked peaches and went to town.

<sup>20</sup> Bicycle.

<sup>21</sup> I wish we knew more about how this was achieved.

<sup>22</sup> I wonder who this references?

## September 1904

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29. Thurs.

Picked peaches went to town.

-----  
30. Fri.

Picked peaches went to town.  
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## October 1904

October

1. Sat.

Picked peaches - went to town. Payed Aunt Maggie<sup>23</sup> \$50.00.

2. Sun.

Went to Sunday School and Preaching.

3. Mon.

Picked and packed peaches - went to town. Bought two pigs for \$2.00.

4. Tues.

Picked and packed peaches - went to town.

5. Wed.

Picked and packed peaches - went to town.

6. Thurs.

Picked and packed peaches - went to town. Stayed all night at town folks.

7. Fri.

Came home. Got horses shod. Hauled 40 bushels in. Packed some.

8. Sat.

Packed peaches went to town.

9. Sun.

Rained all day. We stayed home. Elie<sup>24</sup> and Clara came in afternoon.

10. Mon. Picked and packed peaches.

11. Tues.

Wet. Went to town. Brought home 1000 baskets.

12. Wed.

Picked peaches packed apples.

13. Thurs.

Went to town. Brought home a load of coal. Broke waggon tongue.

14. Fri.

Hauled 35 shock of corn for Willie, Mr Pankins And 90 bushels of corn, 7 bu potatoes.

15. Sat.

Went to town, brought a load, 1920 lbs of

coal.

16. Sun.

John and I went to Sunday School.

17. Mon.

Dug potatoes. Helped Dave Morton thrash.

18. Tues.

Went to town - got a hard coal stove.

19. Wed.

We helped Elie pick peaches 1/2 day, dug potatoes, went to prayer meeting at Elie's.

20. Thurs

[Dug potatoes] Hauled in corn.

21. Fri.

Dug potatoes. picked apples.

22. Sat.

Dug potatoes, packed apples.

23. Sun.

John and I went to Sunday School.

24. Mon.

Dug potatoes, packed potatoes and apples.

25. Tues

Took some potatoes and apples down and shipped them to Mrs. Smith.

26. Wed.

Snowed

We dug 16 bu. potatoes.

I went to C.G. Smiths Sale And bought a cow \$16.- 1 year.<sup>25</sup>

27. Thurs.

Willie and John and I dug potatoes - 58 bu.

28. Fri.

We finished potatoes, and husked 57 shocks of corn for Willie.

29. Sat.

Husked corn for Willie. Took some potatoes to Mr. Chase. Borrowed \$600.00 - 4 for 3 years and 2 for 5 years.

<sup>23</sup> Margaret Doubleddee nee Ficht

<sup>24</sup> The Grover's. Clara was Clarisa Doubleddee, cousin to Charles.

<sup>25</sup> Inference would be he purchased on time for 1 year payment.

## October 1904

30. Sun.  
Stayed home all day.

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31. Mon.  
Went over and payed John Ball \$450.00 on  
his farm. Went to quarterly conference at  
Summit.

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## November 1904

November

1. Tues.

John and I went to Town. Brought home 1770 lb of hard coal.

2. Wed.

John and I picked apples. Went to prayer meeting at Willie's.

3. Thurs.

John and I pulled 85 bushel of carrots.

4. Fri.

Willie and I hauled in 3 load of corn stalks. John husked corn.

5. Sat.

John, willie and I went to Eden and set post, brought home a load of hay.

6. Sun.

John and I went to Sunday School.

7. Mon.

Barreled two barrel of apples. Set up coal heater.

8. Tues.

Willie and I hauled in 7 load of corn stalks. Went to election.

9. Wed.

Packed apples and husked corn.

10. Thurs.

Went to town with 11 barrels of apples. Brought home 880 [lbs] of hard coal. John husked corn.

11. Fri.

Willie helped us haul in 64 shocks of corn. Dug 75 bu. turnips.

12. Sat.

John and I husked 15 shocks of corn. Dug 60 bu. turnips.

13. Sun.

I went to Sunday School. We went to Roses for dinner.

14. Mon.

Carried the squash and punkins down cellar, husked corn.

15. Tues.

Went to Houks Mill and had 144 gal of cider made. Hauled in 30 bu corn.

16. Wed.

Elie helped me husk corn. Hauled in 64 bu. Prayer meeting was here.

17. Thurs.

Ethel, babies<sup>26</sup> and I went to town. Borrowed \$400 for 5 years at 6%.

18. Fri.

Took Richard's buggy home. Went down to John Morton's and payed him and got 1 bu. wall nuts. Husked corn.

19. Sat.

Husked 16 shocks of corn and hauled it in.

20. Sun.

We all went to Sunday School.

21. Mon.

Husked 16 shocks of corn. Hauled it in. Hauled 45 shocks in.

22. Tues.

Husked 54 bushels [ 36 shocks ] of corn.

23. Wed.

Richard helped me haul in stalks.

24. Thurs.

Packed 10 barrell of apples. estella and her father and mother was here, also L. W.'s.

25. Fri.

Went to town with 13 barrell of apples. Bought new suit of clothes for \$12.00

26. Sat.

Packed 5 barrel of Apples. Churned 8 lb of butter.

27. Sun.

I walked down to Sunday School and Preaching.

28. Mon.

Went hunting. got one rabbit.

<sup>26</sup> Babies would have been Gladys and Alice. Alice barely 3 weeks old.

## November 1904

29. Tues.

Blizzard in afternoon.

Took out the pipe by the chicken coop.

Husked 18 bu corn.

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30. Wed.

Husked some corn. Took cog wheel off the  
little wind mill. Went to prayer meeting at the  
Grants.

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## December 1904

December

1. Thurs.

Took 7 barrel of apples to town. Brought home 1930 lb. hard coal.

2. Fri.

Put cogg wheel on Windmill. Took some chickens to town.

3. Sat.

Willie helped me haul in corn and cover the pipe at the house with manure.

4. Sun.

Stayed home all day because I had a cold.

5. Mon.

Went with Richard and got a load os stalks for him down on the Pentwater River.

6. Tues.

Went to town and got a load of coal for Willie. 2470 lb. Jackson Hill @ 5.25.

7. Wed.

Went to town and got load coal for Willie. 2550 Jackson Hill @ 5.00. Went to prayer meeting at Fevi McC.

8. Thurs.

Went to town and got 2600 lb Jackson Hill coal for Willie.

9. Fri.

Went to town got 2630 lb coal for willie. Gave our note for \$53.23 Six Months & \$27.63 for me.

10. Sat.

Boarded up storm shed. Willie and I went hunting in afternoon - got three rabbits. Shot at white owl.

11. Sun.

I went down to Sunday School and Preaching at the School House. I started the fire.

12. Mon.

Started to cut the ceiling of the root cellar.

13. Tues.

Worked in the house in the forenoon. We cut logs for wood in the afternoon.

14. Wed.

Hauled manure. Went to prayer meeting at

Wm Meyers.

15. Thurs.

Hauled 1 load of manure. Richard fixed our big windmill so we could shut it off.

16. Fri.

Willie and I cut logs for wood.

17. Sat.

we skidded 34 logs. Hauled two load of big wood down to the barn.

18. Sun.

Stayed home all day.

19. Mon.

We butchered 1 pig - weight 270 lb. Went hunting got 5 rabbits.

20. Tues.

Cut up the meat. Shelled a bag of corn for Ma.

21. Wed.

We went to town, took down some olf crates to our folks to burn. Sent \$90.79 to N.Y. National Insurance Co.

22. Thurs.

Cut some corn stalks. Hauled 904 Peach baskets and some other stuff back to the shanty. Got Richard's Bunks and chain.

23. Fri.

Helped Ethel wash. Put some shingles on tank house.

24. Sat.

Boarded up both ends of waggon shed by the shop. Made 16 lb sausage.

25. Sun.

Went to Sunday School at the School House. Roses was here for dinner.

26. Mon.

Willie helped me seal the ceiling of the root cellar.

27. Tues.

Earnest husked corn for me. I painted the walls and ceiling of the kitchen.

## December 1904

28. Wed.

Earnest husked corn, I helped him in the forenoon. Was sick abed in the afternoon.

pickers were tallied under their name on back pages of the diary.

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29. Thurs.

Worked in the house. Painted the walls and ceiling. Earnest husked corn.

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30. Fri.

Earnest husked corn. I went over to L.W. Roses and got a check cashed. Payed my taxes in the afternoon. Got two Got two Rosewood boards from Harick.

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31. Sat.

We went to town to our folks<sup>27</sup>.

end of 1904

### Appendix

At the end of each diary Charles kept records of earnings by various employees. We show here typical wages and payments for berry picking in 1904.

Flora Dean	... thinning peaches 1 dy	0.81
	rate figured @ 0.09/ hour	
Jul 20	picking berries ...	0.31
Jul 21	T.Peaches @10 =	0.90
Jul 27	P. Berries	0.48

Minnie Hayes

Jul 29	by p. b.	0.24
Jul 31	by p.b.	0.56

Nettie Fitch

Jul 31	by p.b.	0.68
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Hattie Fitch

Jul 25	By P. Berries	0.84
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### Summary

It appears that going rate for work was 10¢/hr. Not sure whether berry/chery picking was by the cup or hour. In 1906 we noted entries indicated # of containers @ 1 1/2¢ per container. Farm hands were noted in daily entries with their wages tallied in back of book. Fruit pickers were not named in the daily diary entries. Fruit

<sup>27</sup> John Henry Fitch and wife Harriett.

**December 1904**