

Transcription: Isabelle Fulton Miller Campbell diary, 12 August – 31 December 1911

Campbell family fonds, 88-017 Box 1 Item #3

NOTES:

- Isabelle Fulton Miller Campbell (1848-1937) was the daughter of Isabella Brownlie Miller and James Miller, Otonabee Township, and was married to William Campbell.
- The following diary entries are located in a bound volume that also includes financial accounts 1892-1894 and undated lists of names, groceries, etc.; sections have been cut from the diary pages, presumably as they contained text relating to the original use of the book as an accounting record.
- Capitals, periods, and commas have been added in some instances for clarification purposes. Square brackets [] indicate indecipherable text. Original spelling has been maintained, except for the word “moring” which has been corrected in numerous incidents to “morning.”

1911: August

August Saturday 12, 1911

Robert Nelson finished harvest today. A very warm day.

Sunday 13

Another hot day. Auntie Lizzie Brownlie and I go to Methodist church and hear a splendid sermon delivered by an old time preacher here, Mr. Barker. Text - “What manner of man is he that even the wind and waves obey him.”

Monday 14th

Fearfully hot. We drive up to Bellas in evening. Aunt Elsie & Isabell Mein come down, it being Civic holiday in Peterboro.

Tuesday 15 August

Another hot day. Auntie & I go to Mary Langs for tea - also father William - had a delightful time.

Wednesday 16 August 1911

Still another warm day. Still is as a delightful day. Bob, Charlie & Claud come down to fish – get 2 lunge and a whole lot of Bass.

Thursday 17th

Nothing different. Not quite so warm.

Friday 18, 1917

A cool beautiful day, but about eleven o'clock a great cloud came up right over our heads. Then all at once on came the wind, rain and heaps of hail. You could gather it by the shovel full. Rained a little afterwards off and on. In the evening Auntie and I went out for to go up to dressmakers. We got home in Auto besides a lovely run up to station corner. Auntie prayed all the way for fear we would be killed or kill some one.

August Saturday 19, 1911

A very very windy day. [Cool] and pleasant otherwise.

Sunday 20, 1911

A beautiful day. Rather warm. Old Mr. Potter preached in our church.

Monday 21st

I wash, pare apples with Auntie, then go up to Mrs. Willie Millers for tea. Had a delightful visit.

Tuesday 22

I pick lots of apples, pare, and iron clothes. Fix Aunties skirt. Go to Bessie Reads for tea. Had a delightful time. Music by John Read on Pianola. Bob Landerville calls to see us. Also Mary Miller.

Wednesday 23rd

A beautiful day. Sun hot, but still a cool air. P[] in from Hastings. Tea at home today for a change. Miss Minnie Birdsall and H[] Caulders girl called.

Thursday August 24 1911

A beautiful cool day. Cloudy all day. I paint canoe. Auntie and I had tea at Elizabeth Drummonds. Bob goes fishing – get 3 in a present. They catch 18 – that's luck.

Friday 25th

A warm day. We go up to Mrs. Nelsons for tea, the 3 of us.

Saturday 26

Father William goes to Peterboro. I drive him to station, thence up to Bellas with peaches. Back, get dinner. Down to office to let Bella McIntyre to hers, thence to station. Tom Wallace and Laurence come up for apples, so I then made a cake and peeled apples for sauce. Had a very busy day of it.

Sunday 27

Oh dear two years ago today Tommie died. My dear Tommie. God took him in his innocence. All Wallaces stay for dinner. Looked nice to see the table full again. Marion stays (a few drops of rain, only a few) down with us for a few days. Mr. McCassill from Ireland preaches. A very fine young man had a lovely Sermon. Wish we had one like him always.

Monday 28 August

A dull day. We received some letters, one from New York, Scotland and Toronto. James Roberts, my old teacher was burried today, aged 71 years.

Tuesday 29th August

A beautiful cool day. Dad, Marion and I drive up to Fairy Glen. Auntie goes up to Mary Langs.

Wednesday 30th

A beautiful night. Cool day.

1911 Thursday 31 August

Another bright cool day. Auntie, Father and I go up to Bellas for a little while. Mr. Kerr has his meeting as Liberal member.

1911: September

Sept. 1st 1911

Friday. A dry hot day.

Saturday 2nd. A fine rain, some thunder and lightning. Father goes to Peterboro. I have a very, very busy day.

Sunday 3rd

A beautiful day. Aunt Aggie stays down until night. I hear Dr. Workman preach Heb. IX and 24th. A beautiful sermon on Compensation or Providence.

Monday 4th

Another perfect day. Labor Day. 8 years ago today (labor day) Dr. Jamie took Dr. Workman up to the forks. We had a lot of callers today, Mrs. Kingsley and two lady friends from Lindsay, Dr. Workman, Bessie Read twice, Mrs. Maycock [] Jr., Mrs. Nelson and Mary Lang. Also James Nelson. Aunt and I went calling up to Langs & Carters. Had a letter from Little Woody today.

Tuesday 5th 1911, Sept. I intend going to Toronto today but I did not go. A beautiful day. We tidy up quite a lot. Pick some apples. Auntie and I go down to Stewarts to call. Got tomatoes in a present. Rain comes on such a pour. Fine & [calm].

Sept. Wednesday 6th 1911.

This is Lena Dorises wedding day. Looks dark in the morning but clears off. Had a lovely day for wedding.

Thursday 7th

Rained some today, very little though. I go to Toronto and back again same night. John Kendrick comes for Auntie.

Friday 8th

A perfect day. 42 years ago today Mother died and 25 years ago brother Willie died, both in same house too.

Saturday 9th

Cool in morning but gets warmer, yes, very warm near noon. Great political meeting last night with the Conservatives. 25 years ago brother Willie was burried.

Sunday 10 Sept.

42 years ago Mother was burried. A beautiful day.

Monday Sept. 11 1911

Auntie Lizzie and John leave tonight for Vermont. This was a perfect day but a little lightning and rain at night. How lonely now she is gone.

Tuesday 12

Today our folks intend sailing for home from Liverpool. Very windy. I hope it is not so on ocean. Beautiful and bright too.

Wednesday 13th

Another beautiful day. Old Mrs. Chapman died today. Peterboro show starts.

Thursday 14th Sept.

Got word old Mr. Kirby was dead. He once lived in Keene. Cool.

Friday 15

Dark morning. Raining some. High wind, but clears off at noon, grows warm, then calm at night. Buried old Mr. Kirby in Keene today.

Saturday 16

A perfect day. I go to Peterboro to see Lena Angus but missed her. Great crowds at fair.

Sunday 17 Sept. 1911

A beautiful warm day. We have Mr. Young preach and oh such a preacher. Where are all our good Presbyterian preachers gone.

Monday 18th

Another perfect day. I wash, iron and help with chips. Bob comes down at night.

Tuesday 19th 1911

A beautiful warm morning. Cloudy & starts to rain at noon. Bella & I go to Peterboro. Get back to Bradalbin [Breadalbane] at ½ past one. Turning cold at night. Mr. Kerrs meeting for Reciprocity.

Wednesday 20

A perfect day.

Thursday 21, 1911

A rather dark day. Starts to rain after dinner. A beautiful rain. This is election day. The Conservative nonreciprocity member is in here, and in Peterboro also. Great excitement. Our ship has landed at New York.

Friday 22 Sept.

Another perfect day. Warm and bright. Bob Landerville and I build wardrobe. Am pleased with it.

Saturday 23 Sept. 1911

A very warm beautiful day. Had phone from Uncle Harry and Aunt Maggie. They got home from over the seas, Friday the 22 Sept. Lillie & Aggie come tonight to Toronto. Got in blocks today.

Sunday 24th

A beautiful summer day. Great service at Sugar Island.

Monday 25

Girls come home from over the seas. Another perfect day. Bessie Read is packing up to go to Toronto.

Tuesday 26th

We have a washing and ironing for girls. Very windy, and a little dull.

Wednesday 27

Raining in forenoon but sun comes out after dinner. Agness & I drive up to Bellas.

Thursday 28th

Agness goes back to Toronto to help Aunt Maggie.

Friday 29

Poured and rained.

Sept. Saturday 30, 1911

A perfect day. We drive up to station. Cool and bright.

1911: October

Oct. 1st Sunday 1911

It pours and rains when people were coming to S. School and church. As usual very few there.

Monday 2nd

A beautiful bright day. Very cool at night. Heavy frost.

Tuesday 3rd

A beautiful day. Clouding up after dinner, threatens rain for show. This is the first day of it. I cut old stalks of flowers off and clean up some. Rained hard at night.

Wednesday 4th Oct.

The last day of Keene show. Not much of a show for Keene. We had no callers for once in our lives. I do some windows in attic.

Thursday 5

A cold morning, very high wind through the night. Lots of apples down. Lillie & I drive up to Bellas to see new furniture.

Friday 6th Oct.

A beautiful morning but came on rain at noon. Poured, then snowed in evening. Oh such a night. Dad went to town and I drove him up and down. Got very cold.

Saturday Oct. 7 1911

Cleaned attic. Painted wardrobe and picked apples.

Sabbath day Oct. 8

A perfect day. Mr. Wood and Cluxton were here.

Monday 9th '11

Another perfect day. We finish picking apples. Thanks.

Tuesday 10th

A perfect summer day. Hot. Hot. Rains through the night.

Wednesday 11

This is Clauds birthday. A dark day. Rains hard in morning but clears off after dinner – spoiled Norwood show I guess. Some went from here. We clean Lillies room, then call up to Drummonds, Millers and Kindreds, Lillie & I.

Thursday 12

A clear cool day. Looked like rain but did not come on. Father & Lillie go to Peterboro today.

Friday 13th

A beautiful bright cool day. We are cleaning house. Mrs. W. Miller & Elizabeth Fife called. My poor brother Jack's birthday. He would have been 48 had he lived.

Saturday 15 1911

A beautiful day after dinner. In the morning it threatened rain. Very few out to church. Uncle Peet [sic] stayed down after church. Father & I drove up to Nelsons after tea.

Monday 16

A perfect day. We clean parlour & sitting room. I get the present of a beautiful Phonograph today. We have had some grand music already. Mr. & Mrs. Maycock, Mrs. Mellon & daughter, also Mrs. R. Miller called tonight. Got letter from Jamie & Aunt Maggie.

Tuesday 17

Another beautiful day. We have more callers to hear music.

Wednesday 18

Clear & cool although sky looks threatening. We have James & Mary Lang. Mr. & Mrs. Nelson call. Also Elizabeth Drummond. Mrs. Oar & daughter, W. Drummond & A. Shearer call too.

Thursday 19

We are hard at cleaning. Rains a perfect pour. Both cisterns running over.

Friday 20 Oct. 1911

We finish up housecleaning everything. Wall [Wallace] Wood has been here all week. He goes home tonight.

Saturday 21

Father William & I go to Toronto to see the folks. A dark cool morning. Rains some in city, a dash or two. Wall Wood comes back Saturday morning, stays until night. Fool.

Sunday 22

A beautiful morning. We go to hear a beautiful sermon, text: Heb 11 and 16, he seeks a better country. He spoke of the homeland, the homeland, then finished with Happy land. Oh to hear a sermon once and a while.

Monday 23. Brother Jim's birthday

A beautiful morning again, but a dash of rain in afternoon. We buy lots of records, or rather, disks, for Gramophone.

Tuesday 24

A cool beautiful bright day. We come home from Toronto. Get letter from the Homestead and Jamie.

October 25 1911 Wednesday

A beautiful cool bright day in morning. Uncle Peet and Aunt Aggie are here for tea. Mrs. Kingsley called. So did Elizabeth Drummond and Mr. Patterson.

Thursday 26th

A beautiful cool day. We pick over apples and peel some. I kill a hen. Mrs. Merrill & daughter called to say goodbye.

Friday 27 of Oct.

Snow in the morning when I looked out the window. A beautiful day after noon, all snow gone. Uncle Harry comes from Toronto. We go up to Neishes and Wedlocks.

Saturday 28

A bright cool day. Lillie goes to Peterboro at night. W.C. goes in morning. I drive up twice.

Sunday 29

Another cold day. Uncle H. and I go up to Bellas in afternoon. Had tea with Eliza, Agness & Miss Hurly at Bellas.

Monday 30

Lillie gets home from town with lots of birthday presents. A bright cool day. Wash and make pumpkin pies. This is thanksgiving day. Bless the Lord. Oh my soul and forget not all his benefits.

Oct. 31, 1911 Tuesday

This is Lillies birthday. A little dash of snow at night. A party at R. Millers.

1911: November

Wednesday November 1, 1911

A clear cold day. Very windy at night, then snowed hard through the night. They gave a banquet in our house for Mr. & Mrs. Maycock.

Thursday 2nd

A freezing cold day, lots of snow. Uncle Harry and I drive up to Bellas. Get butter, then I get a phone message from Dr. Lockhart at Hespeller that his mother Mrs. Lockhart died today.

Friday 3 Nov.

Today is preparatory service in our church. Mr. Johnston, Methodist preacher, is to preach.

Saturday 4 Nov.

A cool day. Hard frost at night. Phoeby Wedlock and I go up to Bellas. Stay all day, get along great. Old Guy Faux [Guy Faulks] was burned at night.

Nov. Sunday 5 1911

A fine day. Dark at times, then out comes the sun, our sacrament. All Bob's are down.

Monday 6

A dark windy day. Starts to rain very easy at first. Fearful horrid wind from the east. Rains hard at night.

Tuesday 7th

A drizzling rain at times. Mrs. Neish and I were all ready to go up to Hespeller to Mrs. Lockharts funeral but did not get – John Neish took bad turn.

Wednesday 8

Get our cistern fixed in cellar by W. Drummond & Mr. Shearer. Warm day.

Thursday 9th

A beautiful day. Pretty cold in morn but looks like rain. Marion and I drive to Peterboro. Sun comes out, so warm.

Friday 10th

Rain and cold. Get some water into cistern for which I'm glad.

Saturday 11th Nov. 1911

A warm beautiful day. At night – oh so very dark. Bob comes down at night. W. Wood comes down on train in afternoon. We meet him at station. Wreck on road at night. Train does not get up until very late so he comes back. Bella Drummond stays all night with us. So glad to see her.

Sunday 12

A fearful day – rain, wind, snow and all combined. Very, very few at S. School or church.

Monday 13

A clear bitter cold day, so windy. All our clothes went down, line and all. We get them all dried and ironed.

Tuesday Nov. 14 1911

Still cold and some snow on.

Wednesday 15

We were going to draw up some more chips but failed. Go up to Bellas in afternoon.

Thursday 16

Cold, snow still lying. Dad phoned for to hear if Maggie & her family were in Toronto yet but no.

Friday Nov. 17th 1911

Yes, they are in Toronto now, all well. Snowing hard from the east or south east. It looks as though the winter is here. Hope not though. Lillie is over at Mrs. Bobbie Millers this afternoon.

Saturday 18

A very windy, blustery day. Dashes of snow at times. I go up to Bellas. They are busy picking chickens. Bella comes home with me and stays all night. The children come later.

Sunday 19

A cold day. Bright though. Windy still.

Monday 20

A beautiful warmer day. Hens get out, poor things. Maggie, Jean and the children get home, all looking well and the dear little babies, the twins. Allen has grown so big.

Tuesday 21

Quite a bit colder this morning. We do not work much, only talk.

Wednesday 22.

A beautiful bright day. Jean goes up to Bellas to help with threshing.

Nov. 22 1911 (*cont'd*)

We do a great homestead washing. All [] babies asleep and quietness reigns.

Thursday 23 Nov.

A beautiful morning. I go up to Bobs. Commences to snow a little, then raining hard in evening. Babies all asleep.

Friday 24

A beautiful morning. Snowing some in morning. Toward evening wind gets up high, turns cold.

Saturday 25

Threatening snow all the time. Thawing some too. Very windy again at night. W.W. comes at night.

Sunday 26

Threatening snow still. Bob, Marion and Isabell comes down to church. Dad, Maggie and Allen all go up to Bellas. The twins are asleep fast now.

Monday 27

The day we wash. A beautiful bright day.

Tuesday 28

A beautiful day.

Wednesday Nov. 29 1911

Jean goes up to Bellas to help with threshing. So does Mr. & Mrs. Nelson. They come home. Jean stays. I go up Thursday, come home at night.

Thursday 30 Nov.

I help some at Bellas with dinner. A perfect day.

1911: December

Friday Dec. 1st

Snows some through the night and rains. They finish this morning with threshing. Jean comes home Saturday. Maggie Miller & I go up to make dress for Marion.

Saturday 2nd

A fine day. Snow on ground, no sleighing though.

Sunday 3 Nov.

A beautiful bright day. Maggie, Allen & father William go up to Aunt Aggies.

Monday 4

We have a whole lot of callers. A beautiful day. Wash a big washing. Maggie Miller comes to sew.

Tuesday 5

Another beautiful day. Maggie Miller is still here sewing.

Dec. Wednesday 6th 1911

A perfect day, looks like Indian Summer. Jean and Aggie go up to Bellas to go to Peterboro tomorrow.

Dec. Thursday 7th 1911

A perfect fall day, warm and bright. Elizabeth Drummond calls, so did Jane Lang, Miss Weir, & Mrs. Anderson, and Miss Speirs, Jean, Agness and Charlie go to Peterboro.

Friday 8th

Misty in the morning. Rain at night very heavy.

Saturday 9th

A beautiful warm day. Sun comes out bright. After dinner just almost like summer. Oh such roads though.

Sunday 10th

Another beautiful warm day. Maggie and family go up to Bellas. What a family now. Charlie comes down with me.

Monday 11th

Charlie and I go to Guelph. We get as far as Toronto, stay there all night. It rains all afternoon.

Tuesday Dec. 12 1911

Charlie and I start for Guelph in the morning at 9. A beautiful day. Lots of men ploughing on the way up. We have a real treat. Beautiful horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and fowl of all descriptions. We go out to Hespeller at night. Stop all night with Dr. Lockhart. Had a beautiful visit. Go into show again.

Wednesday 13

Another bright day after a dash of snow through the night. Great loads of people on the train into show.

Thursday 14

A beautiful day. Trifle cooler at night. Rains all night nearly. We finish shopping.

Friday 15 Dec.

32 years ago father (James Miller) died. A fine day, but oh, oh the mud & never were worse roads. We come home from Toronto. Vernon Lord came along too. Party at Oars tonight.

Saturday 16

A mild day. Vernon Lord is here until Monday morning. Some sleet or rain part of time, blowing and snow afternoon. 2 Pullets begin to lay today.

Sunday 17

32 years ago father was buried. Oh such a cold snowing day. A beautiful day, slippery roads.

Dec. Monday 18 / 11

A mild beautiful day. We do not wash. Jean goes up to Bellas to make Xmas presents.

Tuesday 19th

Cold day, bright and beautiful. Jean goes up to Bellas again. Tom Wigmore lands along from the west. Maggie is home 4 weeks now.

Wednesday 20th

A beautiful day. Trees all covered with frost. Bright sun. Quite a frost last night.

Thursday 21

A beautiful day in forenoon. We washed today. Rained in afternoon. Farmers Institute today. Mrs. Ray calls.

Friday 22

A dark day, very misty. Rains hard at night.

Saturday 23 Dec.

All went to Peterboro. Agness came home from Toronto. A beautiful day. W. Wood came too.

Sunday 24 / Dec. 1911

A beautiful day again.

Monday 25 Xmas day

Sun out most of day. No sleighing. No skating for young folks. We have Xmas tree. Great fun for the little folks. All my girls were here but none of my boys.

Tuesday 26

Dark most of day but sun out at times. Tom and Maggie Wigmore go up to Bellas. They kill pigs.

Wednesday 27

This is Aunt Maggie and Harrys anniversary of their wedding. Also Letty Bryces.

Thursday 28

A great deal colder. Starting to freeze.

Friday 29

We wash today and clean up in general. Freezing hard. Bob Brown is working hard at rink to get it ready for new years day.

Saturday 30

A windy cold day. Agness & Miss Riddell go to Peterboro. Stan Loyd and Jamie come back with them. Such a reunion for us.

Sunday 31 Dec. 1911

A bitter cold day, blowing hard from the east. Very few at church, just the same as last year. Very few at Church. Oh for a preacher that can preach.