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*Archives of American Art*

## **Xanthus Smith diary**

Extracted on Apr-24-2024 05:23:59

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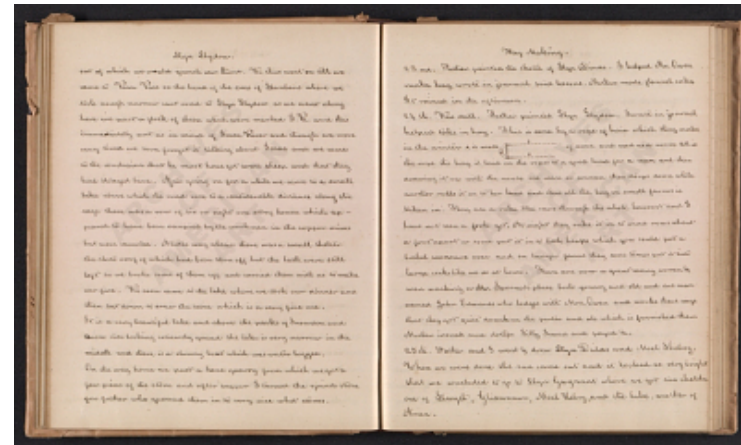
Llyn Llydow.

out of which we would quench our thirst. We thus went on till we came to Vinn Pass on the head of the pass of Llamberes where we took rough narrow camp road to Llyn Llydow as we went along here we past a flock of sheep which were marked I.R. and this immediately put us in mind of Isaac Rover and though we were very tired we soon forgot it talking about Isaac and we came to the conclusion that he must have got some sheep and that they had strayed here. After going on for a while we came to a small lake above which the road rose to a considerable distance along the cage there was a row of six or eight one story houses which appeared to have been occupied by the workmen in the copper mines but were deserted. A little way ahead there was a small shelter the sone roof of which had been torn off but the lath were still left so we broke some of them off and carried them with us to make our fire. We soon came to the lake where we took our dinner and then sat down to draw the scene which is a very fine one. It is a very beautiful lake and above the peaks of Snowdon and Anon mom looking extremely grand the lake is very narrow in the middle and there is a clumsy boat which was water logged. On the way home we past a home quarry from which we got a few pieces of the stone and after supper I turned the grind stone for father who ground them in to very nice whet stones.

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Hay Making.

23rd. Father painted the sketch of Llyn Dinas. I helped Mr. Owen make hay wrote in journal said lessons. Mother made flannel cakes It rained in the afternoon.  
24th. Was dull. Father painted Llyn Llydow. I wrote in journal helped take in hay. This is done by a rope of hair which they make in the winter A is made [[image--sketch of frame]] of wood and used as a noose & B is the rope the hay is laid on the ropes is a good loa for a man and then drawing it up with the noose one man or woman then mown down while another rolls it on to her head and thus all the hay on small farms is taken in. They use a rake like ours through the whole harvest and I have not seen a fork yet. At night they rake it in to round rows about a foot apart or some put it in to little heaps which you could put a bushel measure over and on larger farms they sometimes put it into large racks like we do at home. There are now a great many women & men working on Mr. Spooner's place both young and old and one man named John Edwards who lodges with Mrs. Owen and works there says that they got quite drunk on the pewter and ale which is furnished them Mother ironed some clothes. Lilly Sewed and prayed etc.  
25th. Father and I went & drew Llyn Dinas and Moel Sheboy. When we were done the sun came out and it looked so very bright that we concluded to go to Llyn Gynant where we get two sketches, one of Glwyth, Glydervawr, Moel Hebog, and the lake, and another of Anan.



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