

Diary of Louisiana Moore Ricker – 1891

Transcribed by Felicia Wetzig, 2018

Portsmouth, Ohio

Thursday, January 1st, 1891

Bright and mild in the forenoon and we took the opportunity to remove a little of the smoke and dust from the windows in the parlor. In the afternoon, I spent some time with Mother who is not well and gets very lonely. We are all as well as usual, excepting myself, and the hives that have been with me most of the time for more than a year are still with me. We begin the year all at home and thankful for the many blessings we enjoy

Friday, January 2nd, 1891

Weather still quite pleasant for the season. Little Nellie Patterson, died yesterday morning having been ill some weeks with Scarlet Fever. The Fever has prevailed to a limited extent for months in our city.

Wrote some notices for the papers and sent an extract to the Press, concerning the sale of tobacco. Sook some cold and felt badly this evening, was glad I was not expected to go out anywhere.

Saturday, January 3rd, 1891

Weather changed and is much colder. Was busy in the usual way all the forenoon, then went to see Mother a little while after dinner. Later in the afternoon Margaret and I went to make a few calls together. Went first to see Lena Kline, making our Reception call and finding a parlor full of ladies there on the same errand. We also called on Mrs. Gharky and Jennie and Mrs. Iams. I went to see Mary Peebles who is not well. Mrs. Dennis was out but I found Mary Ellen at home and had a pleasant call there.

Sunday, January 4th, 1891

Weather quite cold, ground frozen hard. The five children and I went to Sabbath school as usual. It is a privilege for which I am thankful and I enjoy it exceedingly. I have Lizzie in my class. Margaret has May, Will sits in front of me in Dr. Dennis' class and Carl in front of him in Barton Greene's class so we are near together. Dr. Tappan preached two good sermons today which we enjoyed very much.

Clara Ricker's 17 today.

Week of Prayer, Portsmouth

Monday, January 5th, 1891

Very cold and damp under foot. Mother Ricker is seventy five years old today. She enjoys good health and is one of the brightest, spryest persons of her age that I ever saw. Spent some time with Mother in the forenoon and went to the Relief Corps meeting in the afternoon. Had a good attendance and I began another year's work as Secretary, have served two years as Pres. Cm. and Sec'y in the Corps.

The children returned to school this morning. This is the week of prayer.

Tuesday, January 6th, 1891

Quite cold. Wrote some letters this morning, one being a note to Mrs. Patterson, Mother is not improving very fast and much of my time is spent with her. Jas. had one of his worst sick headaches this afternoon and was compelled to give up and go to bed but as the Water Works Board met in the evening he had to attend, but did not stay long. I was not well enough to go to church, but the older children went.

Wednesday, January 7th, 1891

Weather fairly good for the season. Am not accomplishing much in the way of sewing as the housework and visits over home take so much time. Am trying to finish off a blue flannel shirt for Carl which has been on hands for sometime. There is much excitement just now over the Indian troubles in the North west. An uprising has been imminent for some time and recently there was a surrender of Indians who fought afterwards and a good many were killed.¹

¹ During this time, the Lakota Sioux were upset over a series of violations in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 involving land divisions, railroads running through reservations, and the discovery of gold around the Black Hills. Tensions escalated into what was later known as The Ghost Dance War, an armed conflict between the U.S. government and the Lakota. The most well-known of these battles was Wounded Knee Massacre.

Thursday, January 8th, 1891

Weather fair. Was over home in the forenoon but at home most of the afternoon. Janie went out so I could not leave the house.

This is the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans.² I always think of it when writing the date. Margaret's friend Miss Ella Edwards took tea with us after which most of us went to church. Mr. Will took her up to the 2nd Pres. church first however.

Friday, January 9th, 1891

Dry until nearly noon when snow began falling which afterwards turned to rain and soon the streets were in bad condition. I was with Mother most of the day, she feels some what better but not well enough to stay alone. Aunt Mary B. Moore was there in the afternoon. When I left I went up street to do an errand and while out got a few more names in the Golden Wedding Album which I want to send Mother Ricker.

Saturday, January 10th, 1891

Cloudy and wet under foot. Was over home both before and after dinner. Read letters from Helen and Enos written from their present house at Grand Rivers Kentucky. Just before tea I went to see Gussie Halderman whose call I missed some days ago. and I have not seen her for two years or more as she was in Europe a year and a half and I was away when she was last here. Lizzie Peebles and William were here a few minutes this morning.

Sunday, January 11th, 1891

Umbrellas are in requisition again today though it did not rain hard during the day. It just poured down before we arose this morning. All of us attended s.s. as usual except J.W. who does not go anytime. We were all at church except May. It was communion Sabbath and five persons were received. Chas Molster on profession and Capt. Gillilam, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Gates and J.I. Lorett by letter. Lizzie was sick at night so the little girls and I remained at home.

² The Battle of New Orleans, Sunday, January 8, 1815, marked the end of the War of 1812 when the United States Army under Brevet Major General Andrew Jackson defeated The British Army under Major General Sir Edward Pakenham approximately five miles south of New Orleans.

Monday, January 12th, 1891

Windy and damp, not a good day for drying clothes. Was over home twice as usual. Have hardly felt able to keep up and before dinner I did lie down a few minutes. Did not go to church in the evening. Wrote to Mother Ricker. Elizabeth was not well and did not go to school this forenoon but as she had earned a half holiday Mrs. McKearn gave it to her on this absence so her attendance will not suffer any loss. Carl got his new coat and vest, \$16.50.

Tuesday, January 13th, 1891

Cloudy with light snow-fall and disagreeable weather generally. Was over home much of the time. Have felt badly all day but after the Missionary Society adjourned I went up to Mrs. Tappan's a few minutes. There were nine ladies present and I served cocoa and crackers which seemed to be enjoyed by the ladies. Went to church in the evening and heard Dr. Lorrence of Ripley. Rich came home from church with us.

Wednesday, January 14th, 1891

Weather fair and somewhat milder. After my morning work I went to sit with Mother until 11 o'clock. Finished altering Carl's flannel shirt after dinner, put away the clothes and mended those needing repairs. Went to hear Mrs. Trego at Bigelow M.E. ch. and heard some things worth remembering. Called upon Mary Damarin afterwards and had a pleasant visit with her. Went to see Mother again before supper.

Thursday, January 15th, 1891

Weather disagreeable but not raining. Was over home with Mother in the forenoon and after dinner I went to get the Autograph Album from Thirza Spry then went to the Temperance meeting. Went to bed early as I was not feeling well enough to go to church. Several other members of the family went but I am compelled to miss very frequently.

Friday, January 16th, 1891

Weather very fair. Not much to be remembered about this day. The usual little things occupied most of the day. Was over home twice as usual. Having arranged with Janie to let her go today, instead of yesterday. I was home all the afternoon.

Saturday, January 17th, 1891

Weather rather cold and damp. Had the usual work to do in the forenoon then in the afternoon Margaret and I went to Bigelow to hear Mrs. Trego talk to the young girls. We liked her talk very much. After the meeting I went to pay the bills at E.R. Peebles' and Anderson's, then called at Mrs. Wells' to see about Myra for a s.s. scholar. Called at Mrs. Loderick's to see Mrs. Trego but she was not in. Dr. Dennis called after tea to talk over S.S. matters. Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Lou Spry were here.

Sunday, January 18th, 1891

Pleasant. Attended the usual Sabbath services, beginning with S.S. and intended going to evening service but Mother sent me word to remain at home and, to please her, I did so.

Janet Silcox is twelve years old today and her grandfather gave her a gold watch.

Monday, January 19th, 1891

Beautiful day. After my morning work I went to see Mother then attended the 11 o'clock prayer meeting which is to be held during this week. Wrote to Lizzie Peebles in the forenoon, and in the afternoon, I wrote to Mother R. Was going to church in the evening but began coughing just when the others started. Bessie Hall came down and spent the evening with me. She has just returned from nearly a month's visit in Brooklyn. Mother was over today the first time for several weeks.

Tuesday, January 20th, 1891

Beautiful day and quite mild. Was busy until time for the noon prayer meeting which was fairly attended. After dinner mother and I went to the Home Missionary Meeting at Mary Ellen's. It was unusually well attended and after the program she served cocoa and coffee and cake. I came home from there and sewed awhile on white sewing. ~~Went to prayer meeting in the evening.~~ The services are interesting but there is not the interest shown by non-professors that we want to see.

Wednesday, January 21st, 1891

Mild and cloudy with rain before night. Lizzie and her children came in on the afternoon train. The little girls always stay with us lately. Went over and gave Mother her electricity in the forenoon then went to the 11 o'clock prayer meeting.

Spent the entire afternoon at home doing the weekly mending. As it rained I did not venture out to church in the evening.

Thursday, January 22nd, 1891

Rainy and unpleasant. Gossamers and umbrellas were in general use.³ After the morning work I was over home awhile then went to prayer meeting. In the after noon we went to Bigelow to hear Mrs. Trago talk to the W.C.T.U.⁴ Her talk was excellent and I hope will take deep root in the minds of all who heard her. In the evening we went to church and heard dr. Tappan preach a good sermon.

Friday, January 23rd, 1891

Cloudy but no rain and comparatively pleasant in the afternoon. After giving Mother her treatment, I went to the church where the funeral of Mrs. Van Warner was held in place of the usual prayer meeting. After dinner Pink Holmes came and helped me with the lace curtains which we put on the fences to dry.

L. and her children went to Mr. Peebles to finish their visit there. Della Tappan called to see Margaret who had not returned from school. Meetings closed this evening.

Saturday, January 24th, 1891

Bright, but muddy and unpleasant walking. While I was gone to do an errand Margaret did all my sweeping and I had only the dusting to do on my return. I fully appreciated her help.

We put up the lace curtains in the parlor after I had hemmed them across the top, with Mother's help. They were washed this week. Lizzie and her children went home this afternoon.

Sunday, January 25th, 1891

Pleasant and rather cold. All of us went to Sabbath school as usual but Will was feeling so badly with a cold that he remained home from morning service. In the evening he went but I did not as I am going to try staying in nights for a while.

Mother and Enos were here this afternoon.

³ Gossamer: a thin, waterproof outer garment, especially for women.

⁴ Woman's Christian Temperance Union: one of the first organizations of women devoted to social reform. Originally organized on December 23, 1873 in Hillsboro, Ohio the group influenced the temperance movement and supported the 18th Amendment.

Monday, January 26th, 1891

Beautiful day. Hurried through the morning work and went to see Mother. Enos was there also but left on the O.&N.W. train in the afternoon. Before leaving he gave me one hundred dollars as a present, he feels that his business is prospering and he wants to help while he is able. He is a brother to be thankful for. I shall use the money to pay some debts and feel very happy that I can do so. Went to call on Mrs. Prescott after mother had had a little walk and as Mrs. P. was not at home, I went over to see Jennie. Charlie, wife of Belden Nichols died last night leaving a son two weeks old.

Tuesday, January 27th, 1891

Bright and pleasant. Was very busy all forenoon putting the house in order for the Missionary Meeting which was held in the afternoon. Wanted to go down street but had no time so I only went to see Maggie O'Connor and then came home. Mary Peebles came early as the others went to Mrs. Belden Nichols' funeral before coming to the meeting. We had eighteen present, Mother among them, and enjoyed the experiences. Jennie and Barton went to Zanesville and Elizabeth and Virginia will stay nights with us.

Wednesday, January 28th, 1891

Rainy and disagreeable. Did my usual Wednesday work and attended to Mother's wants. She is much better. Wrote to Lizzie, Mother Ricker and Enos.

After dinner went to see Mrs. Tappan about some sewing which Mary wants to do for her instead of going to the sewing-bee tomorrow. Mother was here when I returned, and remained until almost tea time.

Rained in the evening and I did not go to church, neither did Will as he is not at all well.

Thursday, January 29th, 1891

Variable rain and sunshiny by turns with some wind.

After doing my morning work and seeing mother, I called to inquire about Jennie Corsen then spent most of the day at Mrs. Lou Spry's at a sewing-bee where twenty-five or more ladies were gathered to sew for Mrs. Tappan. We had a very pleasant time and accomplished a good deal of sewing. all but I remained to dinner. Will was not able to return to his work in the afternoon so went to bed. Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Titus were here on business for the Temperance Convention.

Ladies present at the "sewing bee" at Mrs. Lou Spry's to sew for Mrs. Dr. Tappan. Mrs. Lou Spry, Mrs. Lou Purdum, Mary L. Murray, Mrs. Tappan, Della, Julie and baby Edwin, Mrs. Sallie McClain, Mrs. Lowes, Mrs. Mary Prescott, Mrs. Tewksbury, Mrs. E. Miller, Mrs. Jms E. Miller, Mrs. Comries, and Miss Sarah B., Mrs. C.P. Davis, Mrs. Buskirk, Mrs. Knowles, Mrs. Rilly, Mrs. E.N. Moore, Mrs. Prorielliand, Mrs. Chris Young, Mrs. Betsey Kendall, Mrs. N.W. Evans, Mrs. W. K. Thompson, Mrs. Hattie Johnson, Miss D. Ramsey, L.M. Ricker, and Mrs. Will Moore. Mrs. Tracey called during the day and Mrs. Ges Waller assisted with dinner.

Friday, January 30th, 1891

Bright and pleasant. Was over home with Mother awhile in the forenoon then after dinner she and I called on Mrs. Jms E. Miller. Afterwards I went to the store and bought a few things which I came home and proceeded to make up. A roller travel, a chair cover for my rocking chair and the linings for Mother's bureau set which I have finally finished and given to her. J.W. and the three younger children went to the Floating Chapel and saw some fine pictures.

Saturday, January 31st, 1891

Rainy nearly all day so Carl was disappointed about going to Wheelersburg after the young cow and calf. I was home most of the day except when I went to rub Mother, and later in the day went to see Miss Lewis about Carl. He is doing so well and Miss R. says he is so well behaved in school that she enjoys him very much. Miss Bell called to see me, also Flo McConnell came to see me and Mabel Russell called to see Margaret. Will is not at all well, has not been for a week.

Sabbath, February 1st, 1891

Weather damp. All went to Sabbath school except Will who was not well enough. He did not leave the house all day. I attended the usual services. Was over home a few minutes and Mother told me that Jennie said this morning it is quite probable that they will move to Zanesville soon.

Monday, February 2nd, 1891

Weather cloudy but no rain. Was busy at home all the forenoon except when over with Mother. Attended W.R.C. meeting⁵ in the afternoon after which I went up to see Jennie a few minutes and she told me more about their prospect of leaving, a move which they regret very much. Mother had spent the afternoon there and was just leaving in the hack when I reached there.⁶ Will remained at home this afternoon being unable to work. Secretary of Treasury William Windom was buried today.⁷

Tuesday, February 3rd, 1891

Weather much colder and clear. The District Convention of the W.C.T.U. was held in our church this afternoon and evening. I attended both meetings but did not feel very well. District was organized with Aunt Mary Moore as President. Mrs. Henry of Ironton V.P., Miss Barrus of Piketon, Sec'y, and Mrs. Silcox, Treas. We expected to entertain two delegates but none came to us.

Will was home all day.

Wednesday, February 4th, 1891

Clear and Cold. Was over home twice in the forenoon and found Mr. and Mrs. Givens had spent the night there, having come to the Temperance Meeting.

After dinner I went with Mrs. Givens to do some errands and then having seen them ready to leave on the little boat, I went to tell mother that they got off all right.

Will still at home and I, finally, sick enough to give up and stay at home from prayer meeting.

Thursday, February 5th, 1891

Bright. Maggie Silcox was here on the way to W.C.T.U. meeting, also Aunt Mary and Beatrice and I, having dressed myself, went to the door and added to my cold which is now very bad. Have not been able to do anything today. Will is better but Margaret is about sick with cold.

⁵ Woman's Relief Corps, recognized in 1883 as the official women's auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

⁶ Hack: a carriage or automobile for hire.

⁷ William Windom (May 10, 1827 – January 29, 1891) was an American politician from Minnesota who served as U.S. Representative, U.S. Senator, and Secretary of the Treasury.

Friday, February 6th, 1891

Weather very fair for awhile. Have been in bed all day Lizzie came in ~~last night~~ this afternoon and will stop with Jennie this time. They came together to see me this afternoon. It seems to be settled that Barton and Jennie will go to Zanesville.

Mrs. Blackburn has been spending a few days with Mr. Peebles' family and called to see me this evening as she was going over home to take tea. M.W. and Carl went to Wheelersburg and brought home the black cow and calf.

Saturday, February 7th, 1891

Rainy in the forenoon, clear in the afternoon.

Spent all this day in bed as miserable as my bad cold and being covered with hives could make me. Have had them now pretty constantly for nearly two years. Lizzie and her boys went home after dinner. She had kindly brought us a nice basket of fresh eggs and eight new skirts for the little girls and myself.

Sunday, February 8th, 1891

Weather mild and fair. Neither Margaret nor I were able to go to Sabbath school or church. Will went as he is better. The little girls have colds and no one went out in the evening except J.W. and the two boys. Mother was over to see me twice as I was still in bed.

Monday, February 9th, 1891

Very heavy thunder and wind. Lightening greeted us about daylight. The thunder was peculiar. Heavy rain followed and the day was dark and wet. Have been some what better and was up most of the day. Margaret is better and was in school. Lizzie had a new gossamer and overshoes which she much needed as she is not well. Will went to his work.

Had a bad night and this morning sent to Dr. Van Tine for medicine for the hives, will try that once more.

Tuesday, February 10th, 1891

Damp but it did not rain. Maggie Silcox was here in the forenoon to attend to several errands. Paid her bill and brought an invitation to our Foreign Society to participate with the 2nd Presbyterian church in a Union prayer meeting next week. The Foreign Society met here in the afternoon and re-elected the old officers, with the exception of Vice President, Mrs. Tappan Being the new one. The Y.W.C.T.U. met here in the evening but I had gone to bed and did not see anything of them but heard their songs and pleasant chatter. Maggie, Mary and Mattie Peebles left for Mexico this afternoon.

Wednesday, February 11th, 1891

Weather a little better but I was not well enough to go over home even. Have had no hives since I began taking the Homeopathic medicine but my cold is still bad. Did what mending there was to be done when the ironing was brought in. Got the clothes all ready to put away and the children took them upstairs. Our representation at prayer meeting was small, only Carl and his fathers, no one else was feeling able to go.

Thursday, February 12th, 1891

Was at home all day not well enough to go and see Mother who was not able to come here. The rest of our family are somewhat better but all have severe colds. General W.T. Sherman is very low, was taken on the 8th of February with heavy cold. Secretary Windom⁸ died suddenly last week in N.Y. and Admiral Porter⁹ is very ill also. Enos left again this morn after a short stay. Anniversary of the highest water in 1883 and 1884.

Friday, February 13th, 1891

Bright and pleasant overhead but very windy and wet under foot. Was up most of the day and went over home to see how Mother was. She has been quite ill with a severe cold, a kind of Grippe¹⁰, I suppose. Mrs. McCall was here in the afternoon to talk over the Missionary meeting to be at the 2nd church next week. Wanted to go up to see Mrs. Tappan but couldn't. Admiral Porter died in Washington this morning.

Saturday, February 14th, 1891

Did not rain but was damp. Went over home early to sit with Mother while Margaret did her work and mine, and my visit was prolonged until evening. They visited upon my remaining to dine with Mary who must eat alone as both Father and Mother are in bed with their Grippe or whatever the cold may be called. The children were up at Jennie's most of the day and think they had a pleasant time with their valentines. General Sherman died at 1:50 P.M. today.¹¹

⁸ William Windom (May 10, 1827 – January 29, 1891) was an American politician from Minnesota who served as U.S. Representative, U.S. Senator, and Secretary of the Treasury.

⁹ David Dixon Porter (June 8, 1813 – February 13, 1891) was a United States Navy admiral and a member of one of the most distinguished families in the history of the U.S. Navy. He started his service at the age of ten under his father Commodore David Porter, on the frigate USS John Adams, and served in the Mexican War and Civil War.

¹⁰ Grippe: an acute febrile contagious virus disease; especially influenza.

¹¹ William Tecumseh Sherman (February 8, 1820 – February 14, 1891) was an American soldier, businessman, educator, and author who served as a general in the Union Army during the American Civil War (1861–65). He died of pneumonia in New York City on February 14, 1891.

Sunday, February 15th, 1891

Wet, rained early and late. Did not go to S.S. or church. Went over home early in the morning to inquire about the sick but it rained so constantly in the afternoon that I did not get out again. Saw Jennie a few minutes before church.

Am much better of the hives but still have some cold in my head.

Monday, February 16th, 1891

Another rainy day but the sun shone at intervals and after calling to see Father and Mother a while I went to see Mary Ellen, Miss Emma Bell, Mrs. Peebles and Julia Johnson about the Missionary meeting. In the afternoon Mrs. Silcox and Minnie Tewksbury were here to see me on the same errand. Am much better today but still hoarse. No hives which is a decided relief. Jennie Corson is still very ill with erysipelas, has been for several weeks.

Tuesday, February 17th, 1891

No rain today but much dampness. Father consented this morning to allow us to call in Dr. Colton when he came to see Mrs. Corson. His attack has developed signs of pneumonia. I have spent most of the day with him and Mother, both of whom are in bed. Mrs. Peebles called with the carriage to take me out to the 2nd church but I couldn't leave. Uncle Jimmie Wood would have been 77 today had he lived. It was also Dr. Pratt's birthday. Who died March 29th, 86 aged 70. Steamer Thomas Sherlock sunk at Cincinnati.¹² Several lives lost.

Wednesday, February 18th, 1891

Weather damp and mild enough to bring out the blossoms on the sugar maples and pussy-willows. Father is somewhat better this morning but very weak. Mother does not change much from one day to another. Mr. Peebles, Uncle Enos, Mr. Badger called to see him and Dr. Tappan inquired at the door about both of the sick. Could not go to church this evening, in fact Margaret and Carl and their father represented the family and M. was unfit to be out.

¹² The side-wheeled steamer, Thomas Sherlock, of the Southern Transportation company swerved while passing the Chesapeake and Ohio bridge and struck the channel pier causing the steamer to sink.

Thursday, February 19th, 1891

Rainy which is unfavorable for those living on low ground. Lizzie was not well and I kept her home from school. She spent the afternoon with Father and Mother. Father has had a number of callers in to see him. Bessie Hall took tea with us and remained until 9 o'clock P.M. when Carl took her home, and afterwards went to look at the watermarks and found it at 44 ft. and rising. I am not doing much these days. Wrote to Uncle J.F. Smith.

Friday, February 20th, 1891

Bright, beautiful, sunshiny but quite windy and I cared not go out except over home to see Father and Mother. Both are improving slowly. The "Grippe" seems to be making another general tour of this country and many are ill with it. Saw Uncle Sam over home and heard him tell of the sinking of the Sherlock at Cincinnati by running against a bridge pier. Uncle Enos calls to see Father several times daily. River rising rapidly. Barton and Jennie called this evening.

Saturday, February 21st, 1891

Cloudy but no rain up to noon. River 50 ft. this A.M. and still rising. Found Father and Mother better but not up this morning. General W.T. Sherman is to be buried at St. Louis today. It is about settled that the vacancy in the cabinet caused by the death of Secretary Windom of the Treasury, will be filled by the appointment of Chas. Foster, Ex Gov. of Ohio. Was over home again in the afternoon. Uncle Enos and I are very regular callers. Began letter to Maggie Bell.

Sunday, February 22nd, 1891

Fair all day and river still rising with 53 feet by the marks. 10 am. I did not venture out either to Sabbath School or church as I coughed a great deal last night. The rest went as usual. I coughed incessantly from late in the afternoon until nearly midnight. Memorial services were held for General Sherman at the Opera House under the auspices of the G.A.R.¹³ but it was contrary to the wishes of many and we did not so much as look out to see the crowd pass. There was no excuse for holding the meeting today when tomorrow will be a legal holiday.

¹³ Grand Army of the Republic was a fraternal organization composed of veterans who served in the American Civil War for the United States forces. G.A.R. became among the first organized advocacy groups in America, helping to make Memorial Day a national holiday, lobbying the United States Congress to establish regular veterans' pensions, and supporting Republican political candidates.

Monday, February 23rd, 1891

Still fair and pleasant and river still rising with 55 ft. by the marks at 4 P.M. Father did not go out today though both he and Mother are better. I walked up to Jennie's after dinner and saw the high water on Front Street. Coughed so I could scarcely talk after I got there. Stopped to see Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury on the way up.

Tuesday, February 24th, 1891

The threatened rain began falling about 7 o'clock A.M. and it looks as though it would rain all day. River ~~still rising~~ falling slowly this morning. This is the birthday of Mrs. Tewksbury and Jennie Ricker. Lizzie was not well and did not go to school. Wrote W.L. Peebles. Was at home late in the afternoon when I went to see Father and Mother who are still unable to be out. Missionary Society met here in the afternoon. Eleven present besides myself. River reached 55 ft. 3 in. before it began falling.

Wednesday, February 25th, 1891

Rained very hard before daylight and after a brief spell of sunshine, it began raining again. Father not feeling so well, Mother somewhat better. I coughed hard in the night but slept well after midnight. Carl hurt his foot with the pitch fork and cannot go to school. Could not go to church. Went down street in the afternoon to see Dell Ramsey and do another errand or two.

Thursday, February 26th, 1891

Cold and cloudy, snowed some late in the day. Carl and I have been company for each other all day and I have been busy mending the articles left from yesterday. The weekly wash brings me weekly occupation in that line. River goes down slowly. Father and Mother improve slowly but both are up and dressed now though unable to go out.

Friday, February 27th, 1891

A very fair day but I have remained home most of the day to be company for Carl who cannot go out yet though this evening he hopped over home for a few minutes before tea. He has been very patient and spent most of the afternoon cutting and sewing carpet rags. Dell Ramsey was here this morning for some things which I had promised a poor woman. Will was home all forenoon with his cold and sore throat.

Saturday, February 28th, 1891

Weather variable, sunshine and snowstorms alternating. I did not go over home until late in the day when the sun was shining. Sewed on the little girls' blue gingham¹⁴ aprons. Wrote a birthday letter to Robert Peebles as he will be four years old tomorrow. Jimmie paid several bills today which have been on our minds for some time. Carl was so much better today that he put on a rubber boot and went to work after breakfast, Hope he will not take cold and have trouble later on.

Sunday, March 1st, 1891

Bright and cold. Felt enough better to go to Sabbath School and church this morning. Have not been out before for several weeks. Was over home a few minutes in the afternoon after lessons. The little girls and I remained at home in the evening and retired early.

Monday, March 2nd, 1891

Weather very fair, at least we went out without umbrellas. Was over home with my work in the forenoon then attended W.R.C. meeting in the afternoon. On the way home called at Mr. Badger's to get his and Mrs. B's autographs but they were not in so I took the book to Dr. Burr's for a little additional record of their lives. Came home and fixed up the fires, read the daily paper before supper.

Tuesday, March 3rd, 1891

Weather variable, pleasant a few hours then a sudden change brings rain or snow. Have been sewing on the blue gingham aprons. Want to get unfinished work out of the closet where it has been lying so long. Letters from Lizzie say they are all sick with colds and William is just recovering from the measles. Margaret and Lizzie attended the "Junior Y" meeting after school.

Wednesday, March 4th, 1891

Rainy and wet all day so I did not venture over home but stayed in and finished the blue gingham aprons except the fastenings which will soon be done. Jimmie, Margaret, Will and Carl went to the prayer meeting and Mr. W. remained to Teacher's Meeting. Dr. Tappan is at Ripley assisting Dr. Terrene, and the meeting was small. I retired early.

¹⁴ Gingham: lightweight plain-woven cotton cloth, typically checked in white and a bold color.

Thursday, March 5th, 1891

Cold and dry, frozen and clear. Was not very well but while over home this morning Mrs. Behrens told us that Mr. Richard Lloyd had died and I felt that I must go to see Mrs. L. after dinner. Went first to Mrs. Titus' to take Bessie her bundle of papers. The Lloyds had all gone up to Charlie's as there was not sufficient room at the boarding house for the occasion. I did not see them. Called at Mrs. Tewksbury's, Mrs. Richard Spry's and Mrs. Cotton's before coming home. Attended Lotus Glee Club Concert in the evening.

Friday, March 6th, 1891

Dry and frozen and sleeting at daylight but muddy and rainy later in the day. Was at home sewing on the machine until after 3 o'clock when I went over home. Could not go to see Mrs. Lloyd so wrote her a note. Do not see that I am any worse for having gone to the concert last evening and I certainly enjoyed it, not for the music alone but also for Will's kindness in giving his father his ticket and Margaret giving me hers.

Saturday, March 7th, 1891

Rained all day. Could not go over home even. Began taking fresh cold so stayed in and sewed all afternoon. Finished some garments which have been in the closet for months. Mr. Richard Lloyd was buried from 6th M.E. ch. this afternoon. Miss Wall of Du Quoin who has been ill at Mr. Drapers for several weeks died last night and was taken to her old home this afternoon.

Sunday, March 8th, 1891

Rainy all day. Could not go to Sabbath school or church. The rest of the family went as usual. Have continued talking cold all day. Had lessons in the afternoon the topic being Gehazi's Sin.¹⁵

Monday, March 9th, 1891

Ministry. Began with rain in the morning which changed to sleet and afterwards to snow but none remained on the ground. Was home all day. Got medicine from Dr. V. T. and hope to be better soon. Wrote a note to Jennie as I could not go to see her. Lizzie reports a house full of ailing ones though no new cases of measles. Han spent the day ripping up my red wrapper.¹⁶ Had hives again last night. Elizabeth Greene came down to stay all night with the girls.

¹⁵ Gehazi was a servant of Elisha whose lineage was afflicted with leprosy because of his sins described in 2 Kings 5:15-27.

¹⁶ Wrapper: a loose robe or gown, a sort of Victorian version of a housedress.

Tuesday, March 10th, 1891

Bright and sunny all day. Was busy at home and taking medicine and fresh cold from morning until night. Lizzie Peebles surprised me by a flying call. She was only in town from one train until the next. Less than two hours. Left Elizabeth with Ma. I took my ripping and went over home in the afternoon then to the Dr. to get other medicine. My cold is very bad. Jennie was here early this morning to talk over a proposed reception before she goes.

Wednesday, March 11th, 1891

Another pretty day. Jennie was down again early this morning to consult further about the Company. This is their 16th anniversary. After dinner she took a sudden notion to go as far as Henley with Barton on his trip. I have not ventured out anywhere today. Mrs. Lewis was here this morning and in the afternoon. Dr. Tappan, Mrs. J. E. Miller, and Mary J. Davis were here.

Will brought home a new poker which he made for us.

Thursday, March 12th 1891

Rainy again with a little sleet and snow. Cold a little better. Maggie Silcox was here in the afternoon. Have been sewing on white aprons which Mary gave the little girls last summer. About 3 o'clock Carl came home badly hurt from a fall on his face on the schoolyard. Teeth cut his upper lip badly on the outside. I took him to the nearest doctor who said nothing could be done except bathing and lotions applied. Miss Lewis called to see how he was after school.

Friday, March 13th 1891

Rain and snow again today. We have never had a wetter March that I can remember. My cold is much better but the weather is too bad for me to get out. No one in except Mary and Dr. Kline who came to examine Carl's mouth. He is having a worse time than he had with his foot week before last. Han sewed on the white aprons. Margaret bought each of the little girls a pretty light gingham dress.

Ned Ricker was killed by an unknown man in his office at Grinnell, Iowa.¹⁷

¹⁷ According to an article in the Janesville Daily Gazette dated March 14, 1891, Gil Braden traveled from California to Grinnell, Iowa to murder Edward J. Ricker at the office of Newby & Parker's livery stable. When apprehended, Braden admitted to killing Ricker because "Ricker had ruined his sister five years ago and brought his mother almost to the grave."

Saturday, March 14th, 1891

Weather fair. Elizabeth Peebles came over before we were through breakfast and had a pleasant visit until after dinner when her father came after her and took her art home. Carl is still confined to the house and is diligently using the prescribed medicine for his mouth. We are thankful it was no more.

Sunday, March 15th, 1891

Weather fair and quite cold. Did not go out anywhere not even over home. The rest went with the exception of Carl. His face is still very much swollen and his mouth very sore still he is doing as well as could be expected. Dr. Kline came in this morning making the second call on his account.

Monday, March 16th, 1891

Cloudy this morning but it cleared off afterwards and was beautiful. Lizzie and her children came in this afternoon to spend a few days. I was over home a little while then went with Maggie Silcox to the store to do an errand after which we called upon Mrs. Draper who has had a hard experience in the illness and death of her visitor and distant relative Miss Wall of Du Quoin, Il.

Mary went to Alura Brabbeck's birthday party

Tuesday, March 17th, 1891

Beautiful day. Left Carl with his lessons this morning and took my sewing over home awhile. Lizzie and Jennie both being there. Jennie came to call and remained to dinner with the home folks. In the afternoon I went to make a few calls in the vicinity. Called Mrs. Barr's to inquire after the sick. Then at Mrs. Titus's then to see Dell Ramsey who is sick at Mr. Jones' and lastly at Mrs. Peebles.

Wednesday, March 18th, 1891

Beautiful sunny spring-like day. I was home all day except about half an hour in the morning when I walked down to the shoe store with Jennie. She goes so soon now that we want to visit with her all we can. Was busy with mending and a little writing. Wrote and sent the cards of invitation to Jennie's reception. Those that were to go out of town. Was very tired and went to bed before the rest came from church. Carl went back to school this A. M.

Thursday, March 19th, 1891

Cloudy with light rain. Lizzie made a short call here before going up to Mrs. Peebles'. Jennie came and remained to dinner then before we left the table Enos walked in just around from Grand Rivers. Soon after Helen came. It was a surprise as we were not looking for them. Was home all day and fixed up Margaret's every day wrapper which Ruth had washed. She was here washing curtains. We heard of the death of Ned Ricker who was shot and killed in his office on the 13th by a crazy man. Was buried last Monday.

Friday, March 20th, 1891

Very pleasant day. Jennie, Lizzie Peebles and two of her children and Helen were here to dinner. Jennie and I finished up the imitation candy for the reception. We had a very pleasant day together. Mary was here for a while also. Bessie Hall was here after tea and made us a nice visit.

Virginia Greene is seven years old today. She came to stay all night and go to Cin. with J.W. tomorrow

Saturday, March 21st, 1891

Rained but did not begin until after nine o'clock. Jennie and little Virginia Greene went to Cin. to meet Barton. V. was to have her eyes examined. Carl rode down to the farm and got pretty wet at least his clothes were wet. Elizabeth and Edward Greene spent the day with us. The children started out early and finished distributing the invitations before the rain. Enos and Helen called in the evening. Will went to Arthur Titus' party at Mrs. Dr. Titus's.

Sunday, March 22nd, 1891

Damp gloomy day, most of the time.

Did not go out anywhere but all the rest went as usual. Had lessons and read to the children after dinner. Retired very early. Rec'd a package of literature from "Layman" of Chicago on tithing a subject in which I am much interested.

Monday, March 23rd, 1891

Cloudy in the morning but lovely in the afternoon. Went to the doctor's and over home in the morning. Mother returned the call later in the day. The first time she has been here since Carl was hurt. Jennie, Lizzie, Mary, and Helen have all been here today. Also Mrs. McCall and Miss Emma Bell. Have done a little mending but even more housework.

Tuesday, March 24th, 1891

Beautiful day. We were all busy one way or another preparing for the Reception at Barton's. The evening was pleasant, a great many were present, a hundred or more, the house looked well and we were all there.

Father, Mother, Mary, Helen, our whole family, Rich, Lizzie, and their two older boys.

Everything passed off nicely.

There is universal regret that Barton and his family are going to leave especially among our church people.

Wednesday, March 25th, 1891

Not quite a pleasant day. Jennie was down this morning so after dinner I walked up to see her. Stopped on the way and saw Lizzie at Mr. Peebles. Went on up and found had gone down street.

Stopped to make Mrs. Lanes a little call, but she was not at home. Have been very stiff today, probably from taking a little more cold last evening. Dr. Tappan was sick and Prof Lewis led the prayer meeting. Four of our family were present but I was not one of them.

Helen left for home this A.M.

Thursday, March 26th, 1891

Cloudy in the morning and began raining later in the day. Jennie and Lizzie were here together this morning. Then Lizzie and her children went home on the afternoon train. We had some pleasant visits together tho. I have not been able to go out much. We four sisters and Helen have been enjoying our privilege but Helen left yesterday, Lizzie today, and Jennie goes next week.

Friday, March 27th, 1891

Rainy all day so I was not away from the house spent the forenoon putting the medicine shelf in order in the closet. In the afternoon I ripped up my blue flannel dress skirt preparatory to making over. The children finished their examinations today and are not out for their spring vacation.

Barton and Jennie are busy packing and loading the car with their household goods.

Saturday, March 28th, 1891

Rainy again. Was not feeling well enough to take as thorough a sweep as usual. Jimmie came home before noon and went to bed but got up and went to the office for an hour or so in the afternoon. Then came home and went to bed again. Sent for Dr. Kline at supper time but he did not come for some time afterwards. It seems to be another attack of La Grippe that Jimmie has. There are some very sick people in town.

Sunday, March 29th, 1891

Beautiful day for Easter Sunday. Jimmie was some what better this evening and as the day was so fair, I went to church in the evening but have not ventured to Sabbath School. Dr. Kline was in late in the afternoon has been so busy so he could not get here sooner.

The Greene children were here between Sabbath School and church for the last time, we shall miss them until we get accustomed to the change.

Monday, March 30th, 1891

Rained all day. Miss Maggie O'Connor came to sew for me for a while. Began by cutting out a new waist for my blue flannel dress.¹⁸ Jimmie was not able to be out of the house today, though she was enough better to sit up most of the day. The children's spring vacation begins today and the little girls want to spend all the time possible with Elizabeth who will leave tomorrow. She and Virginia came to spend the night here.

Tuesday, March 31st, 1891

Rainy in the morning but cleared off later in the day. We began work on my wrapper which was to be made over. Elizabeth, Edward, Virginia, and Mary Greene were here to dinner so we had quite a large family. The Missionary meeting was held here in the afternoon, thirteen ladies present. Jennie and her family except E. or V. and Barton and Charlie will spend this, their last night in Ports. Over at Father's. The two older boys leave tonight with the freight for Zanesville.

Wednesday, April 1, 1891

Bright, pretty day. The event of the day was the starting of Barton and his family for their new home in Zanesville. Elizabeth and Virginia stayed here last night and the rest of the family stayed at Father's. Of course, little was done today until after they left on the 11 o'clock train. We are sorry to see them go. Their house is sold to Mr. Mitchell who moves in this week.

¹⁸ Waist was a common term in the United States for the bodice of a dress or a blouse or woman's shirt from the early 19th century until around 1910.

Thursday, April 2nd, 1891

Rainy and disagreeable again. I am sure to remain in the house and attend to my work such weather as this. Can neither go out on business or pleasure though. This morning I skipped off and went up to Mr. Herms¹⁹ to see about some trimming, an errand which it seemed best for sure to do.

Friday, April 3rd, 1891

Weather not very pleasant. We have been busy with our dress making and Margaret is embracing the opportunity of having her summer dress waists fitted. Bessie Hall came in this forenoon and we prevailed upon her to remain to dinner with us. Heard from Jennie who wrote Mother of their safe arrival in Zanesville but says Barton and the baby have had colds.

Saturday, April 4th 1891

Weather rain and unpleasant and I have been taking cold all day. We kept on with the sewing and in spite of my failings finished off my wrapper after supper before going to bed. If the wrapper lasts as long as it did the first time it was made it will repay me for the trouble of making it over.

Bessie was here a little while again today.

Sunday, April 5th, 1891

Day quite fair and pleasant. I was unable to get up so spent the day in bed. Have taken another bad cold and had a very uncomfortable night of it. Could not read either aloud or to myself today.

The rest went to Sabbath School and church as usual.

Monday, April 6th 1891

Rain and snow continued to make this one of the most disagreeable days of the season. I could not go out anywhere so Maggie Silcox took my place at the Corps. Called here early and made me quite a visit before the meeting. Then Mrs. Gull came afterwards and made quite a long call.

Election day passed off very quietly and Jennie being one of the clerks was at the polls until late. Mr. Forbes of Church's tuned the piano.

¹⁹ Herms Dry Goods Co. sold dry goods and notions, trimmings and white goods at 519 Chillicothe St. according to the 1892 Portsmouth City Directory.

Tuesday, April 7th 1891

Wet and disagreeable after the rain and snow of yesterday. Was at home all day of course and sewed as busily as I could. Maggie Silcox was here to bring me the W.R.C. books and papers. She was going from here to Mrs. Clough's at the upper end of 3rd Street. Towards evening it snowed quit a good deal.

Mrs. Tappan called this afternoon.

Wednesday, April 8th 1891

Bright and quite warm in the sun. Sewed busily most of the day. Mother came over and wanted me to go out so we went together to see Mrs. Pratt at Mary Ellen's but she had gone out to dinner. She is only to be here this week.

Was unable to go to prayer meeting but those who were able went. Almost finished my blue tricot dress and the shrug wrap we continued out of the scrap or trimming box.

Carl returned to school today.

Thursday, April 9th, 1891

Beautiful day though the evening was cloudy and it sprinkled a little at tea time. Sewed most of the day but not very vigorously. Mother and I walked up to see Mrs. Peebles, who was not at home, then went to Mr. Foellner's, then home again. I had just lain down to rest a little when Dr. Tappan called so I came down stairs and rested while meeting. Sent the Golden Wedding Album to Mother Ricker today. It has been nearly a year since I began to collect names and there were 211 in it besides many interesting facts. Saw Jennie Corsen she still suffers with erysipelas.

Friday, April 10th, 1891

Pleasant. Sewed industriously. Intended sewing all day but went ~~up to inquire about Mrs. Shipman~~ out for a while. Got some more medicine.

The Friday evening Teacher's meeting was begun again this evening but I cared not to go.

Saturday, April 11th, 1891

Rather chilly, we need fires all around yet. Maggie O'Connor finished her two weeks today and while some things have been completed, there are many yet unfinished and some not begun. This is Mary Warner Moore's birthday.

Prof Lewis and his wife called this evening for a few minutes.

Preparatory service this afternoon for Communion but I could not go. Lizzie and family came in last night to remain over Sabbath.

Sunday, April 12th, 1891

Weather pleasant but cold enough for my winter wrap. It has been thirty years today since Fort Sumter was fired upon and the War of the Rebellion began in earnest. Did not go to Sabbath school but was present at church in the morning. Had planned to go in the evening but a coughing spell set in about the time for starting so it had to be given up. Communion today and among those received were four on profession, Grace Gillian, Jms and William Peebles and Paul Tappan.

Monday, April 13th, 1891

Weather variable. Spent the day trying to finish up some of the work. Made the trimming for the neck of my wrap and it is ready for use.

It has been quite warm especially this afternoon. Mrs. Chris Young was here to talk about going to Ironton, she and quite a number of others are going tomorrow.

Tuesday, April 14th, 1891

Cloudy with slight rain in the morning but it cleared off so I got ready and went on the morning train to Ironton to visit Aunt Ad and Helen Ricker and attend the Presbyterial meetings. It proved shower in the afternoon so I remained in but went to church in the evening and heard a sermon from Mr. Van Dyke the retiring moderator. Twenty-six years ago tonight President Lincoln was shot by Wilkes Booth.

Wednesday, April 15th, 1891

Beautiful day. Spent it at the church attending the meetings. Ladies gave a lunch and I remained with the others at the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury took tea at Aunt Ad's.

It has been 26 years today since Col. Anderson raised the stars and stripes over Fort Sumter again after the surrender of the fort to the Union Army

The great jubilee over the mutual close of the War took place twenty six years ago today.

Thursday, April 16th, 1891

Beautiful weather still. After breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury came from Mr. Ellison's to see the folks before leaving for home. Mrs. Ellison and her grand son Louis Tomlinson and his mother, also Mary Ricker, Hleck's wife called. I came home with what was left of the delegation to Presbytery Dr. Tappan and Della, Mary Ellen Moore, Sallie Reilly and a few others. Found all well and feel better for my trip. Mother and I went out in the afternoon and made a few calls. Mrs. Jones and Maggie mason called while I was out.

Friday, April 17th, 1891

Quite warm. Went this morning to see Mrs. Shipman who is very low with consumption, called to see Maggie Mason and invited her to take tea with us tomorrow evening. Stopped at Mrs. Dennis's and sat quite a while. Intended going to Teacher's Meeting this morning but began coughing at an inopportune time and was afraid to sit an hour in the lecture room. Jimmie and I went to inquire after Dr. Dennis who met with a slight accident today.

Saturday, April 18th, 1891

Weather delightful. The leaves and blossoms are coming out rapidly and spring seems really here at last. Maggie Mason and her little boy Walter, three years old, took tea with us this evening and shortly after we left the table a wind came up which was quite threatening for a while, but after quite a showering rain, the clouds broke and the moon came out beautifully.

Sunday, April 19th, 1891

Beautiful spring day. I was out to Sabbath School this morning for the first time in weeks. Attended both morning and evening service. Mother was out also. Spent the afternoon in the usual way with lessons and reading.

Battles of Lexington and Concord 1775

First fight of the Rebellion at Baltimore, Md. 1861

Monday, April 20th, 1891

Beautiful day, warm and bright. Vegetation growing rapidly. Did some sewing, finishing up some of the pieces begun. Aunt Maria was here just before tea time.

Jimmie asked me this evening to go to Cin. with him tomorrow, he is to go on business for the Water Works. We decided to take the O.N.W. train in the morning at 5.40.

Tuesday, April 21st, 1891

A very beautiful day. Had breakfast then walked to the train, reaching it in good time. Had a pleasant trip, reached Cin about 10 o'clock and went to the Palace Hotel where we had dinner. After dinner, J.W. went to Covington to see the clk of the Water Works so I went with him, and we called first to see Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn. Mrs. B. had gone to Presbytery and Mr. B. was just ready to start so we made a call and left with him. Went to Music Hall in the evening and heard McKinley of the famous "McKinley bill" speak. Returned to the Palace.

Wednesday, April 22nd, 1891

Rained early in the morning. I remained in my room until after 10 o'clock then J and I went out together. Met Enos and arranged to meet again at dinner time at the Glencairn for dinner together. After that he attended to his business and we having finished ours, took a cable car ride to Arendale. Decided to call on Emma Voirhees and she was at home, glad to see us and took us all over her beautiful new house. Enos and we came home on the 4.10 train. Lizzie and her boys got on at Henley and Mrs. Dr. Ellis was here at Father's when we came.

Thursday, April 23rd, 1891

Beautiful day. Went over home early and saw Mrs. Ellis at breakfast. She will prescribe for and treat Mother, Lizzie P. and myself while she remains for a few days.

Mrs. Peebles called to see her this afternoon while I was over there.

Had letter from Mother R. and answered it, also wrote Helen. Have fallen behind with my correspondence and spent some time trying to catch up. Ruth came this morning to clean house. Was away this afternoon attending a funeral.

Friday, April 24th, 1891

Beautiful weather.

Went over home this forenoon and took a treat went after which I came home and served some. Made some button holes for Margaret.

Wish I could have gone to Teachers' Meeting but am not able to do so yet. Ruth has been helping Jamie with the housecleaning. They are working upstairs.

Saturday, April 25th, 1891

Still dry and dusty.

Housecleaning went on with. Ruth is principal, Jamie had regular work and I did what I could, sewing. Am trying to make sure trimming for my black dressing sacquer which is still unfinished. The folks are talking of my going home with Mrs. Ellis in order that she may see if she cannot cure the hives and some other troubles which I have had for so long.

Sunday, April 26th, 1891

Bright and lovely but getting quite dusty. Went to Sabbath school and church and enjoyed the privilege.

Mrs. Ellis went with us to church in the evening.

Jimmie had such a bad cold, and nose bleed just at church time so he could not go out.

Monday, April 27th, 1891

Weather delightful. After the children went to school, I went over home and took a treatment which proved to be quite severe. Came home and lay down but did not remain there long. In the afternoon I had just settled myself again when Mr. McGuily came to fix the gas fixtures and spent most of the afternoon in there, leaving them in good order.

Tuesday, April 28th, 1891

Weather still beautiful Have been feeling quite badly all day but went to Mary Ellen's this afternoon to attend the Foreign Missionary Society as it is her Topic day and she asked to have it at her house. She had asked Mrs. Gilruth (wife of our Ohio Missionary who went to India and married her there) to talk to us about her native country India. She had a great many things to show us and tell us about and her talk was very interesting Maggie Silcox was here.

Wednesday, April 29th, 1891

Bright, dry and very dusty. Ruth came again this morning to resume the housecleaning. We began on our rooms, took up the carpet and not wanting to wait indefinitely for a man, Jamie, Ruth and I cleaned the carpet with brooms and put it down again before night, all except tacking in one corner.

Thursday, April 30th, 1891

Fine day. House cleaning went on at our house. Mother and Mrs. Ellis went to Henley on the noon train expecting to return tomorrow.

The dining room was next in order to be cleaned and that was done by night.

Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Bannon and Mrs. Murfin called this afternoon and the former remained nearby all the afternoon.

Friday, May 1st, 1891

Fair and warm. Ruth and Jamie cleaned the parlor and hall today and that finished Ruth's part of the work. It has gone on remarkably well this time. Mother and Mrs. Ellis returned from Henley at noon. I was over to see them after dinner. Made button holes nearly all day and have now finished all that even left to me made is in M's sewing. Got Margaret's large crayon picture and like it.

Saturday, May 2nd, 1891

Bright, warm, and dusty, a light rain began to fall about dusk. Was busy all day, spent the forenoon putting away winter clothes and gathering up things which Margaret packed into the trunk preparatory to my leaving for Knoxville next week.

Our house cleaning is now about done for the present except what Jamie will do herself. Margaret got her new light suit home, the one her Aunt Mary gave her.

Sunday, May 3rd, 1891

Cloudy and damp but we were all able to attend S.S. and church as usual. I remained to Teacher's Prayer meeting, Della Tappan being leader for the day was not surprised when I was asked to fill the place next Sabbath. Nothing occurred to vary the usual routine of the day, lessons and reading in the afternoon, and service in the evening. No, it was today I led the Teacher's prayer meeting, Della having done so last Sabbath and Vinitia Ramsey will do so next Sabbath. Mrs. Ellis took dinner with us today.

Monday, May 4th, 1891

Beautiful day. Have been busy gathering up the last things but had so many interruptions that it was late when the trunk was finally ready. Went to Corps meeting in the afternoon, Maggie Silcox calling for me and taking charge of the books at the close of the meeting until I return, Bessie hall took tea with us and remained until about 8 o'clock. There was a sudden grind welcomed by a decided change in the air. Several were in to say good bye having heard that I am to leave in the morning.

Tuesday, May 5th, 1891

Fair but cooler than yesterday. Arose early, had breakfast and then Mrs. Ellis and I left in hack for the O.N.W depot to take the train for Cin. Arriving there found quite a change in the temperature. I did an errand for Mary and Mrs. E. did some shopping. Saw on a bulletin board that there was as low as 42° in Cin today. Took dinner at the Glencarne then went to depot stopping on the way to buy flowers for Mrs. Warner, an errand for Mary. Reached Louisville on time and found a cold depot in which to wait two hours. Maggie Bell met me there and waited until train left for Knoxville. Took sleeper at 8 o'clock and retired some.

Wednesday, May 6th, 1891

Awoke early and looked out upon Tenn, the first time I have ever been to the interior of the state. The country looked broken and barren in general, reddish clay soil, scrubby oaks and pines abounding. A white port glittered in the early sunshine and forebode evil to the fruit. Blackberry blossoms covered the abundant bushes and I heard for the first time that "Blackberry Winter" may always be expected in May when those blossoms, the semblance of snow, appear. Reached Knoxville on time and were welcomed at the depot by Helen & Elma.

Called this A.M. to see Mrs. Alex Warner, the only person in Knoxville aside from this family here that I know. She is bearing up wonderfully under her loss.

Knoxville, TN

Thursday, May 7th, 1891

Still cold enough for good fires. I was assigned to the parlor for the present and found the lounge a comfortable bed, and a veritable "parlor border" and am quite content with my surroundings. Mrs. Ellis was taken with a very severe chill in the night and was alarmingly ill for a time. Feared Pneumonia, this is the result of the change in temperature and exposure to cold in Cin. and Lou. Am surprised that I have not taken cold. Was out in the buggy with Helen this forenoon and went up on Fort Saunders, what remains of that defense constructed during the war of 1860 or 65. Our trunks have not yet come. Was inquiring for them this A.M.

Friday, May 8th, 1891

Still beautiful and fair, growing warmer, dryer and dustier. Am beginning to feel the effects of the weather and have some cold. Have been out quite a good deal, find roses abundant and magnolias almost in bloom. Elma went with me to a W. C. T. U. meeting this afternoon where a faithful few were gathered. Mrs. Ellis is much better and sat up a little while today. Strawberries are abundant and fine and we have them every day. Have heard from home that all are well.

Saturday, May 9th, 1891

Much warmer. Walked down to the depot again this morning but got no tidings of the trunks. Delay was caused by opposition between roads and intentional delay in transferring baggage. My cold has been worse and I am taking medicine for it. Spent considerable time out with Miss Helen, going with her in the buggy when she called on her patients. Knoxville is very hilly but has many beautiful homes and room to spread out and make a large city. Horse and electric cars, eight lines and two dummy lines²⁰ traverse the city in every direction.

Sunday, May 10th, 1891

Beautiful warm day. Regardless of the fact that the baggage is still missing and no change could be made in my attire, I went with Helen to her church (the Christian) in the morning, with Elma to the Christian Endeavor at the Cumberland Ch. in the afternoon and heard State Pres. Lesse talk about the caning Con. in Nashville then went in the evening to the 2nd Pres. Ch. near by and heard the pastor Dr. Sutherland preach. Was quite tired afterward and retired early. Two of the walks taken were long ones.

Monday, May 11th, 1891

Still bright and warm enough at last to dispense with fires. After breakfast resumed my daily trips to the depot and was told the trunks might be expected tomorrow. I have become quite familiar with Gay, one of the principal streets in my way two and from the depot. Had letters from Lizzie and sister Mary, also card from J.W. Mrs. Ellis is much better and she and I took an electric car ride this afternoon to Lake Ottosee three or four miles out. Mrs. Warner and List got on the returning car but the noise made conversation out of the question. Had my first treatment this evening and am quite encouraged as to my future.

²⁰ A single-track streetcar route with a few open passenger cars and a tiny steam engine called a "dummy." It is commonly thought that the term "dummy" derived from the silencing equipment on the engines designed not to alarm horses.

Tuesday, May 12th, 1891

Still dry and dusty. Trunks came this morning safely, and Miss Dana, one of the roomers haven taken other quarters, where there was a place provided for mine which otherwise might have been much in the way. I have now been assigned to the vacant room and for some reasons find it more convenient though I was comfortable before. Another change in the temperature indicates rain in the vicinity. Feel evidences of another slight cold. Letters and papers from home, and writing letters has been one of my chief employments.

Wednesday, May 13th, 1891

Cooler so that we need fire again. Have taken quite a cold again. Find plenty of employment since the arrival of my trunk. Paid Miss Ellis 10.00 this A.M. Rain set in about the time I arose this morning and continued steadily until after tea so I did not step outside of the house. Martha the cook left this afternoon for a two week's visit to her home but household affairs will move on as usual, no one apprehends serious trouble in consequence. Letters from home and writing have occupied much of my time.

Thursday, May 14th, 1891

Cloudy and cold all day but no more rain, the dust, however, is effectually settled. Hove more cold again but the remedies are taking effect. Had a letter from J.W. and a Portsmouth paper which lost none of its interest on the way. The news is doubly interesting at this distance from home. Have spent the entire day in the house and at night went back to my old lodging on the parlor lounge by the fire.

Friday, May 15th, 1891

The sun greeted us again this morning and smiles upon a "field day" in Knoxville as it is the time for the annual Drummer's picnic the proceeds of which are divided between the Episcopal Orphanage and an Industrial Home here. Letter from Maggie Peebles who tells of the pleasant visit she, Mary and Mattie made at Kirkwood, from which point the letter was written. Elma and I took a pleasant walk before tea and saw some pretty homes. No letters from anyone at home.

Saturday, May 16th, 1891

Beautiful day but still a little cool and fires are needed in the morning. Went with Helen most of the forenoon, taking some work to occupy my time while waiting where she made calls. Letters from J.W. Margaret and Miss Robbins. Wrote in my book and also a letter or two. Miss Grigg, teacher of the free kindergarten, under control of the King's Daughters called to see me this evening.

Sunday May 17th, 1891

Beautiful day. Was just ready to start to the S.S. of the 2nd Pres. Church when a little girl came to go with Elma but as E. had gone I walked most of the way with here then returned to the 2nd ch. where I visited the Sabbath school then attended service and heard Dr. Sutherland again. Was introduced to him, also to Mr. Washburn, the S.S. Supt. In the evening, Helen and I went again to the same church and heard Mrs. Rhea, a returned missionary from Persia talk. She however did not say much about Persia.

Monday, May 18th, 1891

Beautiful day and somewhat warmer than it has been. No letters from home today but some papers. Wrote to Mother and J.W. this evening. Learned some very unpleasant things today in regard to my health and have felt quite discouraged in consequence. Had about made up my mind that I could go home soon but am told that a tedious treatment lies before me if I desire complete recovery.

Tuesday, May 19th, 1891

Beautiful day and just cloudy enough to be pleasant for driving. Helen took me out past for Saunders and some distance in the Western direction. We saw many beautiful homes and beautiful views of rivers and hill. Stopped on our way home and gathered a lot of daisies from an open common where they grew in profusion. Writing occupies much of my time after the daily mails are distributed. Letter from Mother today, wrote her only yesterday.

Wednesday, May 20th, 1891

Delightful day, slightly cloudy at times so the sun did not hurt our eyes while out. Had intended writing all forenoon but Mrs. Ellis had planned to have Elma drive us up the road, across the French Broad river and through some of the marble quarries. We crossed where the F.B. and Holston unite to form the Tennessee, just across the mouth of the F.B. and so had a view of the three rivers. A government survey is being made with a view to improving and opening navigation. Wrote to Maggie Peebles, Maggie Bell, J.W. and Margaret Ricker. Letter from Mother.

Thursday, May 21st, 1891

Bright and Beautiful, warm and breezy. Spent most of the forenoon in the buggy again and did quite a good deal of crocheting on my shawl while waiting for Helen to make calls. Letter from Mary when I returned. This is the day observed in the south as Decoration, or Memorial Day. The cornerstone was laid today for a monument to their dead soldiers. None of us went to I have no idea how extensively the service was observed but heard very little stir over it. Just at bedtime the fire alarm was rung so Mr. Mrs. Brownlee, Helen, Elma and I went to the fire. It was a Nail Mill.

Friday, May 22nd, 1891

Beautiful weather but quite warm. Letters from J.W. Mother and Mary. Was out with Helen a while early in the morning after which remained in the house all day. Wrote to J.W., Mother, Mary. They urge me to be content and remain as long as necessary. Mrs. Ringgold, wife of the Episcopal minister called and asked for me so I went to the parlor and made a very pleasant acquaintance. Mrs. Tillman and Fannie came over after tea and sat on the porch with us until bedtime. Fannie is a little older than our Lizzie. Wrote to Mother R.

Saturday, May 23rd, 1891

Beautiful bright day and warm. Was not out anywhere until late when I went to take letters to the office and bought twist with which I finished off my black cashmere dressing sack. Though I did not do it until after supper. It is quite warm and I want it for tomorrow. Crocheted two balls of wool on the shawl I am making. Wrote to Maggie Silcox and J.W. R. inclosing a note to Margaret.

Sunday, May 24th, 1891

Bright and very warm. Attended Childrens' Day exercises in the forenoon at the 2nd Pres. Church. After S.S. all assembled in church which was beautifully decorated with flowers and listened to a good sermon from Dr. Sutherland to the children in the "Bible" the subject chosen by the Con. A large open Bible wreathed in flowers was a fit suggestion of the subject as a decoration. At 8 P.M. Mrs. Ellis and I attended G.A.R. Memorial services at the 1st Methodist Ch. on Clinch St. near by and heard an excellent sermon on "Thankful"ness text Col. 3.15. After service I was greeted by members who had recognized my badge. Wind and lightening in the evening kept Mrs. Ellis and me at home.

Monday, May 25th, 1891

Bright and warm. A few stray sprinkles but no rain so far. Letters from J.W., Mary and also I.E.R. Wrote to J.W. and the little girls. Circus procession passed the house. Had all sorts of treatments this morning. Mrs. E. Is making a vigorous warfare on the ailments. Hives on the rampage. Spent the afternoon crocheting on my shawl.

Mrs. Welcker called and Helen and Elma went riding. Mrs. E. has not been well today but treated four patients this morning.

Tuesday, May 26th, 1891

Cloudy and bright by turns. Was not feeling at all well, got ready to go riding then decided to stay at home and take a sleep. Mrs. E. and Elma went. Letter from Margaret which I answered.

Have not felt as well for a day or two but this evening I went and got some stationary then Mrs. E, Elma, and I went to the Public Library which is a pleasant place to read. We expected to see the Knights Templar pass but the train was later than we thought.

Wednesday, May 27th, 1891

Cold and rainy. I was taken very sick in the night and almost fainted before I could get word to Mrs. E. but soon the whole family was around me and after doing all that could be done, Helen lay down beside me to be ready if I needed anything more. Was in bed all day but managed to write two letters home in order to keep their minds at rest. Had letter from Mary saying she and Enos intend sending Margaret to Mt. Holyoke in the fall.²¹

Thursday, May 28th, 1891

Still cloudy. Am better but have not dressed today, more than to slip on a wrapper. Had a thorough treatment with electricity which made me feel much better. Went to the dinner table but only ate a bowl of thickened milk and drank some too. No letters, probably because the P.O. was closed on account of the funeral of Congressman Hawk or there was no afternoon delivery, the time most of my letters came.

²¹ Mt. Holyoke, est 1837, was a liberal arts college for women, in South Hadley, Massachusetts, United States.

Friday, May 29th, 1891

Pleasant though still cool enough for fire. Was down to breakfast again and was better though weak all day. Had letters from J.W., Mary and M.A.S. answered two of them and late in the afternoon went with Mrs. E. to Miss McDonald's piano recital. Called at Mrs. Tillman's afterwards and was so tired by 7.30 that I went directly to bed and could not sleep for some time because I was too tired. Crocheted quite a good deal during the day as I lay on the lounge.

Saturday, May 30th, 1891

Rained quite hard in the night and again after day light which is unpromising for the Decoration exercises at the National Cemetery today. Cleared off by noon. Helen and I drove to the Cemetery where my W.R.C. badge secured both of us seats on the platform and afterwards an invitation to assist in stemming flowers, which we gladly did. Over three thousand graves to each was placed a few flowers. The graves of thirteen "Highlanders"; from New York who fell in defense of Fort Saunders have a special monument, larger headstones, and special floral decorations each year. Met several members of the corps. Mrs. E. had a letter from mother wanting to come here next week or some after.

Sunday, May 31st, 1891

One of the most perfect days I ever saw. Helen and I drove to the Fourth Pres. Ch. in the morning and heard Dr. Elmore preach a most excellent sermon from Matt 1. 1 and 2. His church is small, new and beautiful, located in the suburbs where it is as quiet as the country.

In the afternoon Mrs. E. and I went to the Opera House and again heard Dr. Elmore deliver the baccalaureate sermon to the graduates of the Girl's High School from Rev. 2nd 10th "Be thee faithful, etc." In the evening we went to the 1st Baptist and hear their popular young preacher Carter Helm Jones preach to a full house on Gal. 6th, 14th. A full day.

Monday, June 1st, 1891

Bright and very warm. Letter from Mary enclosing one from L.P. Wrote to L. Wm P. J. W. and the little girls. Helen and I called at Mrs. Warner's then drove out the pike where she had to make a call. Stopped on our return and saw the twins which they call "Helen's Babies." We were gone all the forenoon and were very warm and tired when we returned. Mrs. Warner invited me to spend Friday with her.

Tuesday, June 2nd, 1891

Weather very warm. Did some writing as usual, and some crocheting on my shawl. In the afternoon I went to the regular meeting of the Ed. Maynard Relief Corps #3. Made the acquaintance of several members, and became quite familiar with the contents of the Hall while waiting for the assembling of the society. Had quite a weak spell this A.M. but the battery and some tonic remedy revived and strengthened me. The hives seem to be about gone.

Wednesday, June 3rd, 1891

Weather very hot. Said to be the hottest day known in Tenn for twenty-one years.

My energies have been expended in letter writing. Have written twenty-seven pages in letters to Mother, J.W., Mrs. McQuiston, W.R.C. Record, Bessie Hall and Father. When the mail came I learned that father had written me sometime ago but the letter was still in the P.O. I got it and answered it at once so it went out in the return mail.

Thursday, June 4th, 1891

Very warm. Helen had a call to Mrs. Warner's this morning so I went with her in the buggy. After leaving there we drove about a while then went to Mrs. Ross's and got the "Loyal Mountaineers" a book written by Mr. Humes of Knoxville concerning the loyal people of East Tennessee during the War. Letters from Maggie Peebles, Enos, Jimmie and Will, the latter sent me some money which I appreciate very highly, coming from him. Jns and Mary's Anniversary. Mrs. W. came to postpone my visit.

Friday, June 5th, 1891

Hot and dry. Helen and I took an early start and drove out to see Mrs. Piet, a W.R.C. then stopped at Richardson's greenhouses where we were shown all that was to be seen. The house was occupied by Gen. Longstreet during the war, as Hdqns. We next visited the Colored College maintained by the U.P. Church. A literary society was having an open meeting so we saw and heard much that was interesting. Returned and went to the Cambridge for dinner, after which I went to the bank and had my draft cashed. Paid Mrs. Ellis 20.00. Visited the Marble shops of Mr. Pitman and was shown specimens of Tenn. marble.

Saturday, June 6th, 1891

Very warm. Elma, Fannie Tilman, and I went and gathered daisies this morning early, for decorating the Christian church. After that I called upon Mrs. Brownlee at her studio, upon her invitation. From there I went to the Library and read until 12.30 the time appointed for meeting Helen at the "Cambridge" for dinner. Spent the afternoon writing to Mother R., J.W., and Enos.

Rec'd letters from the two former also letter and papers from Mrs. McQuiston, Dept Pres. W. R. C.

Sunday, June 7th, 1891

Quite warm but somewhat pleasanter than yesterday morning since the rain of last evening. Helen had tooth ache and I was not feeling very well so we went to the dentist's then to the 1st Pres. ch. and heard Dr. Park, who preached here during and ever since the War. He preached a Home Missionary sermon this A.M. Read and slept in the afternoon. Quite a violent storm passed south of us in the evening of which we only got a part of the wind and rain. Helen and I went in the evening and heard Dr. Frazee at the hall where the Congregationalists are worshipping until their new church is finished.

Monday, June 8th, 1891

Bright cool and pleasant this A.M. after the rain, but more hard showers fell in the course of the day. Late in the day Mrs. E. and I went to call on Mrs. Al. Yeager and her baby Effie and after tea we returned Mrs. Ringold's call. Did considerable writing today. Wrote home, of course, also to Enos and Helen. My treatments, letters, and reading occupy my time fully. Wrote to father and also a letter for the Tribune. Am reading the "Loyal Mountaineers" by Thos. Wm Humes D.D. of Knoxville.

Tuesday, June 9th, 1891

Showery. Went with Helen to call on Mrs. Warner this morning and she was wanting company to go with her to the dentist's to have two teeth extracted. Helen went with her and I held the horse. Mr. List also joined us at the office. After dinner Helen and I spent the afternoon at the Deaf Mute Asylum and saw the closing exercises of the school. To me it was very interesting and made me feel very grateful that none of our family are so afflicted. Letters from Enos, none from home. Wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Peebles, J.W., Ira, and Margaret.

Wednesday, June 10th, 1891

Bright and clear this morning. This is the 56th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Jms G. Peebles wedding. Read most of the time today in Loyal Mountaineers which is very interesting. Rec'd a deed for the 3rd street house and lot which has been sold to Dr. Davis, had it witnessed, signed and returned it. Mr. Tillman witnessed it for me. Made a brief call upon Mrs. Ringgold, wife of the Episcopal minister. Was going to prayer meeting with the family but a rain, threatened storm detained us all.

Thursday, June 11th, 1891

Still somewhat showery. Rained early in the morning. Mr. And Mrs. Brownlee moved out of the front rooms they were occupying and the family began to spread themselves over the territory. They need the room. In the afternoon Mrs. Ellis and I went to call upon the widow of Mr. G. Brownlow, known as the fighting Parson during the War.²² We met a warm reception called upon Mrs. Lilliand also, then after tea, Helen and I went to return the call Miss Griggs had made me. Letters from J.W.

Mrs. Brownlow gave me a copy of Parson B's works, said her son had it, but she would send it to me, which she did.

Friday, June 12th, 1891

Cloudy all day and hard rain in the afternoon late. Have been in the house all day, not feeling my best. Had papers from home talking of Margaret's re-election and promotion, which was given without being asked for. I am quite pleased over it. Letters from Mother Ricker, wrote her and Margaret. Rained very hard this evening. After tea I read aloud from "Prue & I" to Helen while she served.

Saturday June 13th, 1891

Beautiful day. Atmosphere clear and pure after the rain. Came into full possession of my new quarters in the front room which is delightful. Good letter from Mary this morning telling of Margaret's pleasure upon her promotion. Read most of the forenoon in "Parson" Wm G. Brownlow's book, loaned me by his wife Thursday last. Wrote to Carl as Monday will be his birthday. Mrs. Tillman came in and sat awhile, then Helen and I went to deliver some medicines and were gone until tea time. Fannie Moore Griger's birthday.

Sunday, June 14th, 1891

Hot and stormy in the southeast but we seemed to be only in the edge of the storm belt and so only had rain. I attended service at the Episcopal church and saw Dwight Marfield ordained to the office of deacon in that church. His parents were present and are from Ohio. The old church is to be torn down after one more Sabbath and replaced by a new building of Ohio stone, the plans by an Ohio architect. Did not go anywhere in the evening owing to the threatening aspect of the clouds.

²² William Gannaway "Parson" Brownlow (August 29, 1805 – April 29, 1877) was an American newspaper publisher, Methodist minister, book author, prisoner of war, lecturer, and politician. He served as Governor of Tennessee from 1865 to 1869 and as a United States Senator from Tennessee from 1869 to 1875. Brownlow was a divisive figure who opposed the policies of Andrew Johnson, and after the Civil War, he helped Tennessee to become the first Confederate state to be readmitted into the Union.

Monday, June 15th, 1891

Hot and clear. Helen and I drove to a high point this forenoon and viewed the distant mountain ranges. Letters from Mary, Mother and J.K. Duke.

This is Carl's birthday, he is fifteen, and a good boy. Two telegrams stating that Mother will be here tomorrow.

Tuesday, June 16th, 1891

Was up early this morning and after breakfast went alone to meet Mother at the depot. Waited nearly an hour for the train. She arrived all right and we came to the house in the street cars as there was a rush of sick calls and no one could go with me. Day was very warm and I was not at my best. Went in the evening to the Opera house with Elma and the Tillmans to hear the address to the alumni. Grand wedding at the P.E. Church near us. Miss Cavau and Mr. Andes.

Wednesday, June 17th, 1891

Hard rain again today. I have been in the house all day and wrote twenty pages in letters to Father, Jimmie, and Myra Wels. It just poured about tea time. Mother seems quite contented and happy. The doctors are very busy with some very sick people. Postal from Jimmie who had been to Cin to start mother on her journey and could not write no one.

Thursday, June 18th, 1891

Sister Lizzie's birthday. Wrote her a letter to send with one from mother. Was out riding nearly all day and got quite tired. Took dinner at the S.S. picnic at Lake Ottosee. Had letter from Margaret and wrote to Will. Had note from Mrs. Warner inviting me to spend tomorrow forenoon with her.

Friday, June 19th, 1891

Beautiful day but a hard shower fell about noon and another seemed imminent later in the day still I made two visits and escaped both rains. Went in the morning to visit Mrs. W. She, List and I dined together. Her father was down town and did not return and little Emma was asleep, as was baby Alex. In the afternoon Helen and I drove out to Mr. Coppin's and had a pleasant visit with Ms. C. and her children, Alice, Margret, Ella, Rosie, Hector, and the baby girl. Had very fine raspberries and excellent cake served before we left. Wrote to J. W.

Saturday, June 20th, 1891

Beautiful weather, quite warm with almost daily showers which make it pleasant. Mother had letter from Enos telling her he had bought lots for her and Mary and intended building houses on there to rent. I had a letter from him also, not containing a gift, but something else that pleased me. Letters from Mother R. and Jimmie both of which I answered besides writing to J.W. Mrs. Pitt called this forenoon in return for the call Helen and I made her, she is extremely pleasant.

Sunday, June 21st, 1891

Delightful day, though it rained hard in the morning and the family thought they had never known such sharp thunder and lightning since they came here. It is said one man was killed, and a house was struck in North Knoxville. I went to the 2nd Pres. ch and sat with Mrs. Warner, upon her invitation. In the evening Helen and I went to hear Dr. Fragee who leaves for his vacation tomorrow. Remained through the young people's meeting after a regular service.

Monday, June 22nd, 1891

A little cloudy but nothing more than a sprinkle fell here. Mrs. Ellis, Mother and I went out for an evening

Took the street car ride to Lake Ottosee and back. Mother felt quite tired after it but it will do her good anyway. I had a long letter from Mary and wrote to her and the two little girls. Spent most of the day reading Brownlow's book to Mother. Wrote to Mrs. Gray of Medina for tracts

Tuesday, June 23rd, 1891

No rain again today.

Helen and I were out awhile. Elma's friend Mrs. Ena Wilson came today noon. She is a pleasant little person. I had no letters nor papers today and have missed them. Wrote to Jimmie, Mother and I took a short walk this evening, the first time she has gone out to walk since she came. We both retired very early.

Wednesday, June 24th, 1891

Cloudless, dusty and warm. Mother and Mrs. Ellis took a street car ride and Helen and I went out in the buggy and were gone until 11 o'clock.

Had a short letter from Jimmie with the gold buttons for my white dress. Mother has altered one of her dresses to fit me and visits upon my wearing it. She put lace around the basque today. Clara Wells died today after an illness of more than three months. My deepest sympathies are with her family, she was a good daughter.

Thursday, June 25th, 1891

Hot and dry. Have felt badly and been homesick all day. Had letters from Mary and the little girls.

Wrote to Jimmie.

Began making some alterations in my two thin dresses so they can be washed and worn. Weather is very hot. Was out a while this morning with Helen. Wedding of Mr. Cowan and Miss Dodson at the Episcopal church near us this evening. Mrs. Brownlow called this A.M.

Friday, June 26th, 1891

hot and dry. Was intending to go up to sit with Mrs. Beed this morning but was hardly able to sit up here so gave it up. Tacked some tobacco tracts on a shade tree near the fence and passers took them all before night. Had a full mail. A fine pair of lav shoes from Jimmie, also papers from him, and letters from Mary, Margaret, and Henry Hosman who has not written any of us for a long time, until now. Rode out awhile before supper. Margaret told of the death of Clara Wells. Poor girl we are all sorry. Mrs. Dr. Burr died today in Portsmouth.

Saturday, June 27th, 1891

Hot. Wrote all forenoon. Wrote to Mary, Margaret, Jimmie, Mother Ricker, Mrs. Tappan, and Mrs. Wells. Twenty six pages in all. Had letters from J.W. and Mother Ricker. Tacked forty more leave so on my "temperance tree" and they were soon all picked off. Hope they may do some good. Went with Helen to make two calls (professional) this evening and upon our return found she had been sent for by Mrs. Prince so she went in haste and did not return until late. I spent most of the evening at Mrs. Tillman's.

Sunday, June 28th, 1891

Quite warm and debilitating. Non one in the house slept much last night. The salon in front, the cats on one side, the mosquitoes everywhere did what they could to banish sleep so we all feel the effects of it today. I went alone to the 2nd Pres. ch. and upon my return found Mother had gone to bed for the rest of the day.

In the evening no one went out as it was raining a little and no one felt able to go anyway. Eight-years ago today Father and Mother sailed for Europe.

Monday, June 29th, 1891

Very warm and all of us feeling the effects of it. Rained in the evening. Cora Tunnel, the new girl came soon after seven o'clock this morning to the general relief of the family. She is very prepossessing.

I wrote to J.W., Mary, and Maggie Silcox. Had letters from J.W. and Mary.

Elma and Eva went to a small party this evening while Helen and I attended the meeting of the Hurricane Society of the Baptist Church.

Tuesday, June 30th, 1891

Warm. Spent the forenoon writing a letter to Maggie Silcox also a report to send to the W.C.T.U. and an article for the sentinel on the S.P.C.A. Took it to the office, interviewed an electric street car employee on my way home, there wrote to J.W. Had a letter from him and a very complimentary one from Prof Vickers in regard to Margaret. Mother is better. Miss Grigg dined with us today as she leaves for the summer tomorrow.

Wednesday, July 1st, 1891

A little cooler and more pleasant than it has been. There was nothing special to write about this day. Had some letters and wrote some. Washed and ironed my sateen dress, the trimmings of which had to be ripped off before washing. Mother and Mrs. Ellis took an electric car ride in the morning. I wrote to Margaret.

Thursday, July 2nd, 1891

Cooler than it has been and delightfully pleasant in consequence. Helen and I went over to North Knoxville soon after breakfast and returned in time for them to take Miss Eva Wilson to the noon train as she left for home today. She is a pleasant girl and we should be glad to see her in Ohio some time.

Elma and I took a pleasant walk after tea then I retired soon after. Waited only until Helen returned from making a call.

Friday, July 3rd, 1891

Pleasant. While Mrs. Beed was being treated this forenoon. I accepted her offer of her buggy and took Mother a drive up to the University and through the grounds. Her buggy is specially comfortable and tired her very little. Was in to see Mrs. Tillman a few minutes, she is better today. Mrs. Ellis sprained her ankle this evening about bed time. Write to Jimmie and Mother Ricker. Had a letter from each.

Saturday, July 4th, 1891

Fair and pleasant though quite warm. Went with Helen to North Knoxville in the forenoon. Write to Will after dinner. Only a postal from home and a letter from Mary in the morning mail. Nothing to indicate this is the Nation's Birthday. I never saw so quiet a 4th a few rockets across the street was the most we saw in the way of demonstration. Elma and I called at the office and got letters, one from Margaret and one from Maggie Silcox for me. One for Mother from Mary.

Sunday, July 5th, 1891

Quite pleasant. Went to the 2nd Pres. in the forenoon. It was communion and there were several additions by letter, to the church. Saw Mrs. Warner after service. Read and spent the day very quietly. In the evening Helen and I attended service at the 2st Baptist church and heard the pastor Rev. Carter Helen Jones talk upon the subject of Jesus in the storm upon the sea of Galilee.

Monday, July 6th, 1891

Weather still pleasant a little cooler than for a while past. Letters from Jimmie and Mary, the latter enclosing one from Jennie. Will and the little girls went to visit Jennie in Zanesville, left home on the 4th early in the morning. I am glad they had the treat. Wrote to Jimmie and Maggie Silcox, long letters, also one to Jennie which went with Mother's to Edward Greene. Mrs. Ellis is still unable to walk but crawls up and down stairs.

Tuesday, July 7th, 1891

Rained a little in the A.M. Breezy and pleasant later on. Wrote to Margaret, Mother begun a silk cover for the sofa pillow. Spent the day reading and writing and riding. Letters from home which contained good news. Was out in the afternoon with Helen.

Wednesday, July 8th, 1891

Weather cooler and very pleasant. The mail this morning was freighted with pleasant news. Jimmie's good letter contained one he had rec'd from Rev. W. G. Thompson, lately elected President of Miami University at Oxford, O. in which he offered Will a free scholarship in that excellent institution and I hope he will accept it. I also had a letter from Margaret who says very little as to what she intends doing this fall. She seems bent upon teaching again. Ten years ago today since Sallie Peebles died and 18 since Emma Spry died.

Thursday, July 9th, 1891

Quite cool. The usual routine was followed today. Read and wrote letters. Wrote to Will about the offer Mr. Thompson made him. Letter from Mary, Mrs. Ellis is still confined to the sofa and probably will be for weeks to come. Mother and I are getting all the pleasure one can possibly get out of our enforced visit. Took a little walk this evening.

Friday, July 10th, 1891

Cool and pleasant, we slept under extra covers last night. No letters from home today but Margaret is busy with the Conference and company now. Read quite a good deal. Was out most of the forenoon. After going to market, made calls with Helen, as usual. Went in the afternoon and bought a new supply of stationery, having used up that which I bought May 26th. Hope this will last until I go home. Took Mother a short drive this A.M. Wrote to May Ellison for Mother.

Saturday, July 11th, 1891

Warmer again and clear. Went with Helen in the A.M. to make calls in the north east part of the city. Letter from Mother Ricker. Shall today finish "Loyal Mountaineers" for the second time having now read it to Mother. It is by Dr. Humes of this city and is very interesting. I took Mother quite a drive this afternoon which she enjoyed very much. She is ever so much better.

Sunday, July 12th, 1891

Warmer again still very pleasant. Attended service at the 2nd Pres. church both morning and evening. In the morning Mrs. Warner had little Alexander baptized and it was touching to see the frail looking little mother, in her deep mourning robes stand alone with her great responsibility. In the evening Rev. John G. Meem a young man is about to leave for missionary labor in Brazil, preached.

Monday, July 13th, 1891

Warm. Twenty eight years ago today the Federal army reached Yazoo City, Miss and let us out of the S.C. so called. We drove over to North Knoxville this forenoon after having gone to Dr. Prentiss' and to market, altogether it took us the whole forenoon. Wrote to Jimmie and Mary in the afternoon. Had two letters from each of them in today's mail.

Tuesday, July 14th, 1891

Warm again. Drove to Dr. Prentiss' in the morning, then to Mrs. Warner's after which I did little else until after dinner. Had letters from Margaret and Will. Wrote to Jimmie as tomorrow will be his 50th birthday. This is the French 4th of July. Mrs. Rammage called to see me this afternoon. I had a letter from Maggie Peebles also today. Miss Lohr came to spend the evening and night here. She is helping with Elma's dress.

Wednesday, July 15th, 1891

Beautiful day. Jas. is fifty years old today. Wish I could spend the day at home with him. Have bought a copy of the Loyal Mountaineers by Dr. Humes of this place for him but did not send it. Dr. Humes is still living, an aged Episcopalian minister who lived here during the war.

Had a letter from Jas, enclosing 5.00 from Carl and the same from himself to me. took mother a little drive after supper then we made a little call upon Mrs. Tillman.

Wrote to Margaret and M.J. Peebles.

Thursday, July 16th, 1891

Warm. Was out in the forenoon awhile with Helen and then wrote to Carl, a long letter. Had one from Lizzie Ricker and begun answering it when Fanny Tillman came to invite Mother and I to go meet with her and her mother to visit the Girls' Industrial Home. We went and enjoyed the visit very much. The house is a pleasant place, nice building surrounded by three acres of ground. Twenty-five girls are well cared for and happy. ~~Wrote~~. Saw a company of convicts on the street.

Friday, July 17th, 1891

Shower in the morning, followed by steady rain nearly all day. Delightful time for working or writing. Had letters from Mary and J.W. Wrote to him and finished Lizzie's letter, also one to Lettie Wilson at Vicksburg and Maggie Bell.

Helen was out all forenoon and is nearly sick with a cold. I was with her a while. Mrs. Ellis is still unable to put her foot on the floor and it is now two weeks since she hurt it.

Rained very hard part of the time.

Weighed #122 today.

Saturday, July 18th, 1891

Beautiful after the rain but still cloudy at times.

Helen is sick with a severe cold but was out to see some patients and I went with her.

Spent the day as usual in writing, reading, and riding. The new boat Mr. Rose is building was launched this afternoon and upon invitation I went with Fanny Tillman and her parents to witness the launching. It was a perfect success. Fanny named the boat "Onega," Indian word for swift. Mother and I took a walk after tea. Lost my glasses today for which I am very sorry.

Sunday, July 19th, 1891

Warm again still quite pleasant. Went to the Second Pres. ch. in the forenoon and again in the evening. Mother went in the evening and seemed to enjoy and stand it very well. Paid 1.00 to the Church Erection collection.

Monday, July 20th, 1891

Warm and bright. Went with Helen on her round as usual. She is better. The militia and convicts were sent back to Knoxville by the Briceville Miners this afternoon about dark another large squad of convicts passed our door on the way from the train having been sent in by the Miners. Quite an excitement was kept up until late over the affair.²³ Letter from J.W. which I answered.

Tuesday, July 21st, 1891

Weather warm. Quite an exciting day. More troops have come in today and there are now several hundred of the militia. They were camping temporarily on the Court H. grounds until evening when they marched to the university grounds on College Hill. More convicts were brought in and they are "stored" in a ware house because the jail is full of "moonshiners" there being 127 of them I was told this morning. Preparations for a move to the coal fields were under way all day but we retired early with the prospect of a quiet night. Letter from Henry. Wrote to J.W. and Mrs. Silcox.

Wednesday, July 22nd, 1891

Very warm Was out in the buggy to make two calls with Helen. Had no mail except from Miss McKee of Oxford, and a postal from J.W. Did a little sewing. All quiet today but the troops are still very numerous in the streets and the convicts are still in town. Wrote to J.W. as usual. Went over to Mrs. Tillman's a little while after supper.

²³ Miners at Briceville, TN led an armed strike in resistance of the use of convicts in the mine. As a result, the military was called in to stop the strike.

Thursday, July 23rd, 1891

Breezy and not so hot as yesterday. Letters from J.W. and Mary. Went with Helen to hold the horse while she made two calls. Afterwards took mother a short drive up around the "Circle" past the university grounds and saw a few of the soldiers under the trees. After dinner Helen and I went to do a few errands after which Mother and I went on the electric car to see Mrs. Warner. Found another letter from J.W. upon our return. Matters are quiet today awaiting the actions of the miners in regards to a proposition which it is thought they will accept and end the trouble for the present. The state laws will be changed in regard to convict labor this fall.

Friday, July 24th, 1891

Rained in the night and is still showery this morning. Began letters to Mother R. and Will after breakfast and finished Will's in great haste about dark, having had several long interruptions. Went with Helen in the morning. Mrs. Bead came to our room for a visiting the afternoon and then Mother, Elma and I took a drive before tea. Rained very hard after supper. Had letters from J.W. Margaret and Carl in the afternoon. Miners' trouble not yet settled but things are quiet at present.

Saturday, July 25th, 1891

Pleasant. A good breeze modifying the heat of the sun. Went with Helen to Market then to Mrs. McCully's, Mrs. Phillips' and Mrs. Beaman's. Gone all forenoon. Wrote to J.W. and Carl. The militia returned to their houses and the convicts to the mines this morning so the streets look unusually quiet. Our trip to Mrs. Beaman's was made after dinner and then after tea I took Mother for a short drive going to Gray's Cemetery.

Sunday, July 26th, 1891

Beautiful day with just a light sprinkle at noon. Mother and I went to the 1st Baptist ch. in the forenoon and heard an excellent sermon on a broader life from Matt 6th 25th last clause. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? In the evening we went again and Helen with us and witnessed the immersion of two candidates, a young girl and a young man.

Monday, July 27th, 1891

Pleasant. Went with Helen to make her call at Mrs. Phillips' but had previously gone out to do some errands for Mother and myself. Bought her some stationary and a small cloth telescope trunk. saw some of the jewelers, police, newspapers ect about my lost glasses. Found upon my return that we had rec'd seven letters in the morning mail. Three from Mary one from Lizzie to Mary and from Mary Ricker, one from Mother R. and one from Enos. I wrote to Mother R., Jimmie, Jennie, and Mrs. Pratt. Took a nice little drive after tea, which Mother enjoyed very much.

Tuesday, July 28th, 1891

Light rain most of the day. Mother and I had planned to go to Mrs. Warner's in the afternoon but could not owing to the weather. I wrote to Margaret and Enos, then spent some time on the paper on Narcotics and Tobacco which must be ready for the District Convention in Spt. Letter from Jimmie and Mary. Mother wrote to Father and Mary.

Rich Peebles' birthday.

Wednesday, July 29th, 1891

Rained steadily all forenoon. This is Lizzie Ricker's birthday, also Jennie Green's and Ira Ricker's and Venie Smith's. Rained all day so we did not go out any where except that I took letters to the P.O. in the evening. Wrote to Jimmie and Lizzie Ricker, also a letter to Mary Y. Moore and Fannie which went with one to them from Mother. We had letters from Jimmie, Enos, and Mary. Mother wrote to Jennie as it was her birthday. I finished the ice wool shaw which has been in hands so long and gave it to mother.

Thursday, July 30th, 1891

Rain over but still cloudy, moist and warm. Was out with Helen in the morning and did some writing in the buggy. Began a promised letter to the Times in fulfilment of a promise to Kate Newman. Helen and I visited the Reservoir while out this morning and obtained some information which I shall use in a letter to father soon.

Mother and I took a drive in the afternoon. Began embroidering my silk quilt squares.

Weighed #125 this afternoon. Wrote to Mary and Henry. Postal from J.W.

Friday, July 31st, 1891

Beautiful day just cloudy enough to be pleasant. after breakfast I sat at the window writing and glancing out I saw Enos walking towards the gate, looking at the house. I lost no time going down to invite him in. We were all delighted to see him. I took him and Mother for a drive before dinner and showed him some of the sights, the university Grounds, Fort Saunders, and some handsome residences and public buildings. In the afternoon we three and Elma went to Fountain City on the dummy line and enjoyed the ride very much. No letter for me. Wrote to J.W.

Saturday, August 1st, 1891

Cloudy with some rain. Mother, Enos and I went to the First Baptist church both morning and evening. It was the last day of Mr. Jones' sermons until after his vacation. The house was crowded both times. The texts were what he called messages from the upper chamber. The above is intended for the following day, of course.

It was raining today, but Enos and I went out in the buggy in the forenoon between showers, and in the afternoon we took two trips in the electric cars.

Sunday, August 2nd, 1891

Weather pleasant though it rained a good deal of the time. We enjoyed the day very much visiting with Enos. I made a blunder in writing up the above date as is evident.

Monday, August 3rd, 1891

Beautiful day after the rain. Which we might have had such weather while Enos was here. He left on the 8.30 train for Middlesborough, ten Louisville and home. Mother and I went with him in the buggy to the station, have enjoyed his visit very much and it has helped mother wonderfully. Helen and I were out most of the forenoon. Brought Cora's little sister Essie to help awhile as Cora is not well. Did some sewing in the afternoon.

Tuesday, August 4th, 1891

Weather lovely and cool. Miss Helen, Fannie Tillman and I drove out to Lyon's View this forenoon. Found a letter from Mary on my return. After an early dinner Elma, Mother and I drove to Beverly and were gone all the afternoon. I have driven twenty-two miles today, and Mother about twelve. She is getting much stronger. Wrote to Maggie Peebles and sister Mary.

Wednesday, August 5th, 1891

Beautiful day, a little cloudy and a little breezy. Mother and I went driving in the forenoon and visited the cemeteries. Then in the afternoon we made two calls, found Mrs. Ramage out of town and Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Bead at home. returning from there we went with Elma to Sharp's Gap, a lovely drive to a point of interest in War times. Wrote letters to Margaret and Father.

Lucy Moore's 13th birthday.

Had a letter from Maggie Bell and Mother had one from Enos.

Thursday, August 6th, 1891

Somewhat cloudy and quite warm. Elma left at noon for her long expected visit to a school fiend in Va. This is our Margaret's birthday and I wish I could see her. Had letters from Mary and J.W. Went with Helen in the forenoon out on the Lyon's View road. Had Mother out for a while. After supper I went with Helen on the electric car to make a call at Mrs. Phillips'. Wanted to go to the Industrial home today but there seemed to be no chance for it.

Friday, August 7th, 1891

Warm and bright. Was out with Mother a little while early in the morning then went with Helen to market and to Mrs. Philips'. Did a little writing, answered a letter from Mother Ricker and a card from J.W. Frank Ricker is expected at Portsmouth today to visit our family. Wish I was there too. Mother and I meant to make calls upon Mrs. Brownlow, Mrs. Al Yeager and Mrs. Warner in view of our expected departure for Asheville soon.

Saturday, August 8th, 1891

Warm and dry. Rather an exciting day both in the house and on the streets. Primaries were held to select the Republican Candidate for Congress to fill Col. L.C. Hauk's place. Helen was called to Mrs. Cain's so Cara Mother and I went to market then Mother and I took a very short drive. I had a letter from Enos containing a check for 100.00. The dear brother, he wants me to use it for a trip to the mountains. Wrote to Mrs. McCrary of Asheville saying we would go there next Thursday if not prevented.

Sunday, August 9th, 1891

Very warm and still quite dry and mosquitos getting very troublesome. Mother did not go out anywhere this forenoon or evening. I went to the M.E. church North and heard a visitor Rev. R. J. Cook. Church full and service long but very good sermon. Did not go anywhere in the evening.

Monday, August 10th, 1891

Warm. Arose early and Helen took Mother and me over to Island Home, Col. Dickenson's model farm. It was a most delightful drive and when we reached there one of the attendants showed us all over the place. W little grand niece, Lucy Given went with us. I did not see her when we left so have written her a note to say good-bye. Letter from J.W. Mother had letters from Enos and Helen. Found Mrs. Brownlow here to see us when we returned.

Asheville N.C.

Thursday, August 11th, 1891

Bright and warm. This is Father's and Mother's 44th Anniversary. We were up early and finished our preparations for the trip to Asheville. Left at 8.15 and after a dusty ride reached our destination about 2. P.M. or a little after. Took a room with Mrs. McCrary at 99 Haywood St. Six other borders all strangers as yet. Wrote to Father, Jimmie, Enos and a postal to Helen Ellis. Find our room pleasant and accommodations good.

Friday, August 12th, 1891

Warm and bright but clouded up in the afternoon and was showery the rest of the day. Have not received any mail yet and miss our daily letters very much. Mother and I ripped and altered our dresses a little this forenoon. Then finished embroidering the quilt square which I had begun. Boarders in the house are Mr. and Mrs. Williamson and little boy and Miss Eulalie Attneave, Masers, McLauren and Martin, Mr. Reynolds the widower son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. McCrary. Wrote to Helen E. and Margaret but have not sent the letters.

Letter from J.W. and Margaret.

Thursday, August 13th, 1891

Jas. Russell Lovett died today in Boston, Mass. Was 72 years old Feb 22.

Fair and pleasant. Was ready for breakfast and had read and sewed a little besides having begun a letter to Mary Y. before the bell rang. After breakfast went to C.H. square, did a little shopping then went to the P.O. and afterwards a ride on the electric car out to Lookout.

After dinner I wanted to go to the P.O. so mother went with me and then we took the Montford Avenue car and after going to the end of the line returned and stopped at 99 Haywood St. our boarding place. M.Y.M., Frank, and M.T.R. M.J.P. Mrs. E.J. G. H.E.

Friday, August 14th, 1891

Beautiful day but very foggy in the morning. Mother was unable to get up this morning, was not well last eve. Remained in bed all day. I wrote most of the time and she read.

Wrote to J.W. and Mary requesting her to send to Lizzie.

Spent most of the afternoon on a Paper on Tobacco and Narcotics which I promised for the district Convention. Went to the P.O. after dinner.

Saturday, August 15th, 1891

Beautiful day. Mother better and up again, but remained in the house all day. I went down street to mail a letter to Mary with a note enclosed to J.W. In the evening I had a letter from Helen Ellis but nothing from home. Bought a bottle of ink and went into a china store and saw some very beautiful china. Shortly after I had gone to sleep tonight, one of our boarders who sits beside mother at table, was "held up" by two men on the street in front of the next house and his money demanded. Not getting any they told him to run then shot, but missed him. It created quite an excitement.

Sunday, August 16th, 1891

Beautiful day but warm. Mother could not venture out so I went alone to the Pres. church and heard the sec'y of the Board present the claims of Tuscaloosa Theological Sem. (colored) to the congregation which he did very ably. I was much interested. The church was full. We did not go out in the evening, Wm Martin's experience of last night was a warning not to go out alone.

Monday, August 17th, 1891

Bright and warm, a little promise of rain which was not fulfilled. A quiet day. I only went to the Post Office and back, was heated and got hurt by striking my shin against an iron rail at the P.O. and was too late after all for the outgoing mail. Had four letters in the morning, two from J.W., one from Lizzie, one from Margaret and one later from Mother R.

Miss Effie Ellis went back to Skyland today. I liked her very much and hope to meet her again sometime.

Tuesday, August 18th, 1891

Spent the whole day in bed. Was taken in the night with just such an attack as I had in K. and was unable to sit up today. Had six letters in the morning including one to Mother from Mary with one of Lizzie's enclosed. I had letters from Jimmie, Will, Margaret, and Frank, then in the evening I had three more, one from Helen Ellis, one from Mr. Bryan, pastor of Pres. ch. and a partnership one from Mary Y. Moore. I wrote to Margaret only.

Wednesday, August 19th, 1891

Pleasant. In writing up my book I mistook the date and wrote today's events in yesterday's date. Tuesday I wrote a few letters and put in all the rest of the time crocheting on another shawl used four balls of wool. Spent this day in bed instead of yesterday and together Mother and I received none letters in the two daily mails, only one of which I answered, one from Margaret when I want to go to Kirkwood for the rest of the vacation.

Thursday, August 20th, 1891

Rainy and quite warm. Was not down to breakfast but went to dinner. Wrote four letters to Jimmie and Will, Mary and Helen Ellis. Had one from Jimmie and one from Helen Ellis. Blind Tan plays here tonight but I do not think we will hear him. This is Enos's birthday. Felt much better this afternoon and did some crocheting. Several of the boarders went to the concert but we retired about the time they left. Wrote a letter to Kate Newman for the Times to redeem a promise.

Friday, August 21st, 1891

Beautiful morning and we both feel better but I still have hives and think I have lost in flesh. Spent the morning in the house until late when we went down street and then made the round trip on the Montford Ave line. I bought a willow work basket to take home.

Had no letters but one to Jimmie, to Helen Ellis, and Maggie Silcox. Four Blades came tonight having been held for postage.

Saturday, August 22nd, 1891

Will is eighteen years old today. Wish I could see him. Had letter from J.W. saying Margaret, Frank, and Carl would leave Cin today for St. Louis for the rest of the vacation. Beautiful day. Mother and I took a ride on the dummy to the end of the line as far as finished towards Braggy Mt. Went again in the afternoon with Mr. Williamson and family intending to go to Sulphur spring but the car was not running as we took the dummy again. Letters from J.W. and Mary. Visited Battery Park hotel in the Atm.

Sunday, August 23rd, 1891

Beautiful day. Quite warm tho until late in the afternoon when a hard thunderstorm and rain cooled the air very much. Rained all evening. Mrs. Williamson kindly asked at the P.O. for her letters and is so surprised with one from J.W. and a Herald. Mother and I went to the Pres. church this morning and liked Mr. Bryan very much. His text was Psalm 31-14, first clause. We found Mrs. Robinson and Genevieve this morning on our way to church.

Monday, August 24th, 1891

Very cool. Warm clothing and closed windows and doors are necessary to comfort. Mrs. Robinson spent most of the morning with us. We are to spend Wednesday with them if all goes well. Letters from J.W. and Mary, the latter enclosing one from Jennie.

Wrote to Jimmie and Helen Ellis telling them we have decided to remain here awhile longer.

It was so cool that none but the lovers could sit out on the veranda the rest remained in the parlor and then retired early to get warm.

Tuesday, August 25th, 1891

Positively cold, fire would feel comfortable. The sun has not been able to penetrate the clouds today and it looks dreary out of doors.

In the afternoon I went to put a letter in the box and continued around Battery Park square so had a little walk but the sprinkling hurried me back to the house. Wrote to Will today and got no mail from any source. Spent the evening in the parlor with Mrs. McCrary and Maude and Miss Ellis.

Wednesday, August 26th, 1891

Still raining this morning but it cleared up a little at noon. I managed to get down street three times today. Went to the bank and saw Mr. Maddox about our checks. Found a way to go to Kenilworth, Tenn and so Mother and I made up a party of six including Mrs. McCrary and Maude, Mrs. Williamson and Eulalie Attneare and visited that beautiful new hotel which was only opened the 1st of July. It is wonderfully beautiful and we had the privilege of going up to the sun parlor which is now closed to the general public.

Thursday, Aug 27th, 1891

Bright and considerably warmer. Mother and I spent the day with Mrs. Robinson and Genevieve at Col. Ray's a little distance out of town. Had a very pleasant day, returning about 4.30 P.M. There was a dreadful railroad wreck near Statesville today and several Asheville men were killed. Had letters from Jimmie, Helen M. and Mother had one from Mary enclosing letters from Margaret and Lizzie P. Wrote to Margaret.

Friday, August 28th, 1891

Beautiful day still cool except about mid-day. Had letters from J.W., Mother R. and Mary, enclosing one from L.P. Wrote to all of them except Lizzie. Mother wrote to Mary and Enos and I sent notes on both her letters.

Mr. Williamson and family left today for Black Mountain and wished that we would go with them but we find it cool enough here. Sleep under winter bed clothes and wear our heaviest dresses. Saw Genevieve as she was passing this morning.

Saturday, August 29th, 1891

Cooler again with the appearance of snow more than anything else. Had letters this noon from J.W. Mary and Mother had one from Lizzie P. I wrote to J.W., L.P., Bessie Hall and Helen Ellis. Have been down street twice after little things and to start up my circulatory, cold feet makes me cough. Mother began knitting some white zephyr lace on edge for skirts.

Sunday, August 30th, 1891

Lovely day. Mother did not go to church so I went alone to the Presbyterian service. Saw Mrs. R. and Genevieve again for a few minutes.

Spent the afternoon quietly as usual, read some and took a little nap. Retired early.

Monday, August 31st, 1891

Beautiful day, warmer than it has been. Hand six letters in the forenoon, none at night. Letters from J.W. (2) and Margaret. Mother had letters from Mary, Enos, and Helen. I wrote to J.W., Mother Ricker and Helen. Mother wrote to Mary. this is Lizzie's and Rich's Anniversary, 15th. Mother and I took a street car ride and went to see Mrs. Robinson and Genevieve again and had a delightful visit. We have enjoyed finding them here very much.

Tuesday, September 1st, 1891

Beautiful morning. We were up and putting a company air on our room, early in anticipation of our visitors who came in due time and we had a most enjoyable day with them. Genevieve and I walked down street in the afternoon to mail a letter and look at the stores a little, while Mrs. Robinson and Mother worked and chatted. We walked down to the square with them when they left in the evening. I wrote to Jimmie, but no one else.

Wednesday, September 2nd, 1891

Beautiful day.

Miss Ellis and I drove out to Kenilworth Ten this forenoon and heard the music which is played each morning at 10.30 o'clock. Mr. Lormis had invited us when we were out before and we were received and entertained with great cordiality. They went so far as to put up our horse and feed him so the colored man told us. Had a letter from L.R. and answered it.

Thursday, September 3rd, 1891

Rained hard in the night but was pleasant today. Mrs. McCrary had guests to dinner. Mrs. Hunt and Miss Kincaid, whom we found quite pleasant. Mrs. Hunt proved to be a friend who boarded in the same house and cared for Belle Connolly when she died here about twenty years ago. Had letters from Jimmie and Will, and Mother had one each from Mary and Lizzie.

Friday, September 4th, 1891

Rained hard in the night and continued cloudy and rainy all day. Our circle was broken today by the departure of Miss Effie Ellis, beloved and regretted by all. I hope to see her again in the future. Finished the shawl I have been crocheting for Hellen Ellis. Wrote to Jimmie then a letter for the Tribune sent a note to Genevieve R. relative to a prepared visit in answer to me from her.

Saturday, September 5th, 1891

Beautiful day after the rain. Maude took me in the buggy up on Beaumont. Said to be 2800 ft above the sea. Had a pleasant, though at times a dangerous ride owing to the dreadful roads. Had letter from J.W. which I answered then wrote to Maggie Bell. Mr. Williamson and family came back from Black Mountain this afternoon. We were pleased to see them. Mother and Mrs. McCreary went out for a drive. Mrs. Robinson and Genevieve called again this morning.

Sunday, September 6th, 1891

Cool and pleasant. We went to church in the morning and saw Mrs. Robinson but Genevieve was not out. In the evening Mrs. Williamson, Eulalie, Maude McCreary and I went to the Methodist Church and just before the services were concluded, the gas went out and the congregation found their way out by the light of matches.

Monday, September 7th, 1891

Arose early and did most of our packing then wrote a letter or two after which we went to Rauroth to take dinner with Mrs. R. and Genevieve at Mr. Ray's. Had a pleasant time, the day was lovely and we met Mr. and Mrs. Chute who had come to call on Mrs. R. Mr. Chute having been a friend of Dr. Reggis the Indian Missionary who was Mrs. Robinson's uncle. Met the family around Mrs. McCreary's table in the evening and made our adieus in anticipation of going on the early train to Knoxville.

Tuesday, September 8th, 1891

Arose very early, finished packing and had breakfast before the rest of the household were up, excepting Mr. and Mrs. McC. and Mrs. R. Waited for the street car until we gave up hope of it then walked. Missed the R.R. street car and got a carriage. Missed the train and returned to the house finding everybody at the breakfast table. Waited until the evening train and left for Knoxville in company with Mr. and Mrs. McC. and Maude, Mrs. Specker of Lexington and her two daughters. Reached Knoxville about 10 o'clock and found Mrs. E. and Helen still up.

Knoxville, Tenn.

Wednesday, September 9th, 1891

Beautiful day. Rode out with Helen in the morning, went to Mrs. McCully's and one other place. Saw Mrs. Brownlow who called later in the day to say good-bye to us. She has been very sociable. Mrs. Tillman had not returned but Mr. T. and Charlie Rogers came to say good-bye and so did Mrs. Grigg. We left on the 8.30 train for Louisville without seeing Elma who will not be home until Friday.

Thursday, September 10th, 1891

Reached L. in time for the Cin. train and took it without having breakfast, except the lunch Helen gave us. Reached Cin. at noon and got something to eat, then went to the depot and took the 2 P.M. train for Portsmouth. Met Aunt Ad. Ricker and Mary, Alex' wife on their way home.

It was a beautiful day and we enjoyed the trip surprised everybody at home. Walked in and found them all in but Carl.

Bessie Hall is here.

Was gone four months and five days.

Friday, September 11th, 1891

Beautiful day but dusty. Was at home all day. Ruth was here to help Jamie do some extra cleaning and arranging in the trunk room which was made while I was away. Unpacked the trunks and put all my clothes away which was a tiresome job. Mrs. Silcox and Janet were here before supper.

Portsmouth O.

Saturday, September 12th, 1891

Pleasant. Had peaches to put up today and Margaret and I worked at them most of the day. Late in the afternoon I had my first ride behind Andy in the new carriage. Maggie Peebles called while I was out. Mary came later with John G. who has come to town to go to school. Dr. Tappan called a few minutes also. Della and Julia were here earlier.

Sunday, September 13th, 1891

Beautiful day.

I went to Sabbath School and church in the forenoon as usual. Found my class all present and well prepared. Miss Mary Bowman had them while I was away. Jessie Smith came to see Bessie Hall but she was out.

Went to church in the evening. It was the first day since Dr. Tappan's vacation.

Monday, September 14th, 1891

Cool in the morning. Was busy one way and another all day. Had a letter from Mrs. Bard. Wrote to her and Maggie Bell. A letter from Mother R. Also. Aunt Mary Moore called to see me.

Helped Margaret put up another half bushel of peaches. Bessie sold their home.

Mrs. Tewksbury was here just before dinner.

Mother seems pretty well, she and Mary went to call upon Mrs. E.B. Greene who is at Mrs. Johnson's or intended going when I saw them last. Aunt Mary called. M. put up a few more peaches.

Tuesday, September 15th, 1891

This is Mother's and Mary's birthday and Bessie Hall gave them a very large and handsome bouquet of flowers, made in a large pan. Mother went to Henley at 2 P.M. I drove out to the train with her, then came back and had a call from Maggie Silcox, then later Mrs. Lewis called. Jimmie went to Huntington West Va. to attend the reunion and make cousin Libbie a little visit. Uncle Enos and Mary Ellen and the littler girls were here.

Wednesday, September 16th, 1891

Weather warm and dry. Cold a litter better but still bad. Was busy with mending all day except when company was in. This is Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary's 28th anniversary. None of us went to church this evening, no one to go but Margaret and she cared not to go alone. Mother returned from Henley and brought little Margaret Peebles who started to school in Margaret's room, this afternoon.

Thursday, September 17th, 1891

Pleasant day. Was home all day. Cold somewhat better. Had several calls in the afternoon. Mrs. Peebles, Mrs. Evans. Mrs. Tappan, Therza Spry and Mother. Jimmie returned from Huntington sooner than he had expected, having made his visit to his cousins Libbie and Mattie, Sadie being there also. It was warm and dusty and he got tired so came home. Wrote to Jennie and Mother Ricker.

Friday, September 18th, 1891

Not so cool in the morning and quite hot by noon. Very dry and dusty. Was busy all day and did some mending. Had a long call from Mrs. Gis Davis in the forenoon. Sewed again after dinner then went up to the High School to see Carl's teachers after which, Mother, Mary and I went to see Mrs. Johnson's. Mathew and I went in to call on Mrs. Greene who thinks this will be her last visit to Portsmouth. Little Margaret is happy and doing well.

Letter from Maggie B.

Saturday, September 19th, 1891

Hot and dusty. Father and Carl spent the day on a sand bar gathering boulders. Misses Caroline and Mary Jane Greene spent the day over home and I took my work over a while after dinner and visited with them. Had not seen them in years before. This is the Anniversary of the battle of Winchester or Opequon as some call it.²⁴ Bessie Hall took Mary Ricker with her to Haverhill to spend the day.

Sunday, September 20th, 1891

This is Mary Ricker's birthday. I brought each of the girls a souvenir apron from Knoxville for their birthdays, two of them were too late and the other too early but they are very acceptable. Went to Sabbath school and church as usual in the forenoon but remained at home in the evening, not being entirely rid of my cold. Will has decided to stay at the shop another year.

Monday, September 21st, 1891

Warm and dusty.

Was home all the morning and went out all the afternoon. Went to Relief Corps meeting then Mrs. Johnson and I called on Mrs. Loves, after which she took me to Mrs. Evans' and I made her a short call. Have been darning stockings all my spare time today.

Bessie, Margaret and Will went out to a chorus practice meeting this evening, the two latter went as company for Bessie.

Thursday, September 22nd, 1891

Dry, dusty and warm. This is Emancipation Day, September 22nd, 1862 Abraham Lincoln signed the paper that freed the colored race in this country. I saw the parade this morning as it passed Mr. Peebles' house. The Knights Templar went to Cin and I saw them march by on their way to the train.

Had a pleasant visit with Mary Peebles, Maggie had gone to Ashland.

Wednesday, September 23rd, 1891

Weather dry and dusty. Have not felt well today and did not go to prayer meeting. Glen Whitney came for cream and made quite a little call.

²⁴ The Third Battle of Winchester (or Battle of Opequon), was fought in Winchester, Virginia, on September 19, 1864, during the Valley Campaigns of 1864 in the American Civil War. Casualties were heavy on both sides but the Confederates were forced to retreat after a battle that lasted several hours.

I am trying to make up lost time in the mending and darning and find it will take some time to catch up. There are other little things that have been waiting for me also but I hope to get all done in the course of time.

Thursday, September 24th, 1891

Weather warm and dry. Was busy one way and another all forenoon. Mother was here awhile and I went to the All Day Temperance meeting at 2 P.M. It was decided that half a day was enough for the few who would be present. I left in time to be home and open the house by the time little Margaret came from school. Took time to stop at Mr. Heill's and get a pair of picture frames.

Friday, September 25th, 1891

Warm and pleasant. Helen came over early and made me quite a visit. She and Enos came on the train last night. Mrs. Dennis was here while H. was. Enos came directly after dinner with Helen but did not remain long as he was to leave on the 2 P.M. train for Cincinnati.

Saturday, September 26th, 1891

Warm, dry and dusty. Busy all day and tired at night. Carl took the children and me in the buggy to do a few errands, late in the day. Helen left on the early train to join Enos in Cin and go on home today. Their visit was short but better than none. Helen seems as glad to see us and we certainly are glad to see her.

Sunday, September 27th, 1891

Dry and warm. It was what is called rallying day at D. H. and the attendance was very good. Had no regular exercises but special program for the occasion including the quarterly review. Went to church in the morning and evening. The Y.P.D.C.E. met for the first time this evening and three of our young people went. Miss Bessie, Margaret, and Will.

Monday, September 28th, 1891

Weather warm and dry. Have felt miserably all day, was asleep a little while in the forenoon then sent for Mrs. Silcox who came and helped me prepare the W.R.C. books for the auditing Con. She is not well either. We put everything in good order and are now ready for the Con.

Have done some mending but there is yet much to be done.

Tuesday, September 29th, 1891

Warm and pleasant. This is the day for the McKinley speech and a large crowd went to Waverly to meet and escort the speaker to town. J.W. went with others. The Missionary meeting was held at our home this afternoon, ten present and a good meeting. Elizabeth Peebles made us a call, came with her Aunt Mary.

Our folks went to the Opera House in the evening and could not get seats so came home. Great crowd out.

Wednesday, September 30th, 1891

Another warm dry day. Suits me and I am feeling better.

The corner stone of the Elk building was laid this afternoon with great ceremony. After going to see several members of the school board about the property next to us. I went to the W. W.ks office and witnessed the laying of the cornerstone but could hear nothing. Went to prayer meeting, the first time for months.

Thursday, October 1st, 1891

Beautiful day. Had a telegram from Rich early this A.M. and a note at noon. Started to Henley at 1.35 P.M but when within seven miles of that place came to a burning trestle over a creek and were stopped. Crew and passengers put out the fire then awaited orders from hdqrs. Train was ordered back to town and I reached home while the family were at supper. Walked from station to Biggs House and home. Sorry not to home seen Lizzie. Saw several members of school board about the property adjoining us.

Friday, October 2nd, 1891

C.G. Ricker's birthday.

Warm and dry. Went to Ned Peebles' before school with Miss Bessie and the little girls to look at cloaks. From there I went to see Harry Greene on School Board business. Had company in the evening to meet the Misses Caroline. Mary J. Green. Uncle Enos and Mary Ellen, Prof and Mrs. Lewis, Uncle Sam, Aunt Mary and Ada, Mary Y. Moore and Mrs. McColin were here. Mr. McC. Father, Mother, Mary did not come. Father went to Mr. Hans' trial.²⁵

Went to see Mrs. Wells who was out.

²⁵ Philip Hans, watchman at Moore's foundry was charged after a quarrel with Captain George Ingalls, a coal merchant, led Hans to stab Ingalls with a pocket knife. According to the August, 20th article in the Lima Daily Times, the fight began over a complaint that Ingalls's son had been throwing flasks in the foundry yard.

Nora Franklin was taken to Dayton today.

Saturday, October 3rd, 1891

Quite warm and dusty. Went up to Marting's in the A.M to see about cloaks. Selected one for each of the little girls. Miss Bessie got one also. Went with her on an errand then came home. Went afterwards almost to the Hub and Spoke Works on an errand for Lizzie Peebles. After dinner drove up on 3rd on the same errand then went to Mrs. Ges Davis' and got the valise²⁶ I left there Thursday.

Dr. Tappan gave a reception to the younger children of the congregation. Lizzie, May, and little Margaret Peebles went. Philip Hans was convicted of manslaughter today.

Sunday, October 4th, 1891

A little cloudy. Rained in the evening.

Went to Sabbath school and church in the morning. Children learned their lessons and went to Junior Endeavor Society in afternoon. Miss Bessie, Margaret, and Will went with the C.E. at 6.30 and we all went to church at 7.30, but Will went to All Saints' Church.

Arrival of a new son at Henley today.

Della Tappan was here to tea between meetings.

Monday, October 5th, 1891

Rained a little last night and is much cooler today. Had fire in the evening. A note from Henley announced the arrival of a young son, an addition to Richard's and Lizzie's family. Mother went out at noon.

I attended the W.R.C. meeting in the afternoon. Mrs. Heresy of Ironton was present. Changed time of meeting to twice a month.

Wrote to Mrs. Ellis and sent her 15.00 on account. Paid M. Lloyd. Saw letter from Jennie.

Tuesday, October 6th, 1891

So cool that when I went to the Home Mis. Soc. in the afternoon, I wore my winter cloak and sat close to the furnace during the meeting. it was an experience meeting when twenty three members told how they earned their dollar each. I took mine from what I consider my tithe fund.

Helen Draper and W.A. Hutchins were married at noon today.

²⁶ Valise: a small traveling bag or suitcase.

Letter from Helen Ellis.

Wednesday, October 7th, 1891

Beautiful weather. Mother returned from Henley on the noon train and I went out on the 1.35 P.M. Found Lizzie not feeling very well and the afternoon was spent in counteracting the effects of a chilling. Mrs. Ross is doing well as nurse.

Was tired and went early to bed. Richard spent the day in Cin. and did not return until after I was asleep.

Thursday, October 8th, 1891

Beautiful day.

Father is 76 years old today. Mary gave him a nice overcoat. Bessie gave him flowers and I wrote him a letter.

Have spent the day with Lizzie and did some mending and a little writing. Wrote to Father, Jennie, and Mother Ricker. Lizzie calls the baby Richard.

Friday, October 9th, 1891

Lovely weather. Lizzie was better this morning. I finished the mending I had brought to Henley to do. Jimmie came out on the noon train and spent the afternoon with Richard. We came home together on the evening train and Carl met us with the carriage. Just after we had all got settled in bed Grace Hall came in, having come up on the C&O train. Our home is now full.

Saturday, October 10th, 1891

Bright and cool. Went down street early to help Mary select a cloak and do some errands for Lizzie. Called at Mr. Peebles' to see about John's taking the things to the train. Went to preparatory lecture in the afternoon, after which Carl took Mary, Bessie and Grace Hall for a drive. Robert spent the day with Margaret Peebles at our house. Cool enough for fires. Wore my winter cloak.

Sunday, October 11th, 1891

Beautiful day.

Grace went with the rest of us to Sabbath school and church. It was Communion day and three young ladies, Lillie and Sally Coates, and Mary Agnew were received in profession of their faith while Dr. and Mrs. Van Tine and Mrs. Thanas were received by letter. The young people all went to C.E. meeting, all except Carl.

Monday, October 12th, 1891

Beautiful day.

Ruth washed but will not be here next week so she has promised to stay with Mrs. Damarin while Hattie Scudder and her husband and boy are here, they are expected soon. It is said to be 399 years today since Columbus discovered America. Margaret and Bessie went to the Columbus Society tonight but finished the evening at the rehearsal of "Ruth."

Grace left this noon.

Tuesday, October 13th, 1891

Dry and very, very, dusty. Am busy every minute and can hardly tell what has been done or what to do next.

This is the anniversary of Libbie Lloyd Field's wedding when I was one of four bridesmaids and made my first appearance as a member of a bridal party. Mollie Murray was also of the number is here visiting now, still Mrs. Murray and I know not where the Misses Hand and Wambaugh are.

Wednesday, October 14th, 1891

Weather still dry and rather warm. Did the mending and put away the clothes then began on May's blue flannel dress which needs new sleeves and lengthening. Went before church to see Mrs. Tom Yeager but she was not at home. They took her out to her daughter's where she could be cared for as she is sick. Bessie, Will, Margaret, Carl, Lizzie and I went to prayer meeting.

Went to see Mrs. Cross today.

Thursday, October 15th, 1891

Beautiful day but very dusty. Was out nearly all forenoon in search of a wash woman. Walked as much as 80 squares. After dinner I had just got started with my sewing when Mary sent for me to go driving with them. I went and did the driving. They took Mary Y. also. Got home just before the school children began coming in. Margaret and William went to the cantata of "Ruth." Bessie and the children went last night.

Friday, October 16th, 1891

Beautiful day.

Sewed most of the time and did not go anywhere except over home a few minutes. Carl and Miss Bessie started as soon as they were out of school to drive up to Haverhill to stay at Mrs. Boynton's until tomorrow evening. It is a lovely day for it and they will have a fine time.

Saturday, October 17th, 1891

Blustery and cold. Was busy at home all forenoon and sewed on May's blue flannel dress until after 2 P.M. then left a little to be done in the evening. It is now made over for about the third time, is trimmed with light gray braid and is quite a nice dress. Margaret and I went to call upon Mrs. Coates and daughters, then to see Lydia Knowles for L.R. then I went to Dr. Tappan's and she to Miss Edward's.

B and C came home with a buggy full of pumpkins, nuts, and apple butter.

Sunday, October 18th, 1891

Rained some and was cloudy all day. Rained quite a good deal in the evening. We went to S.S. as usual, those of us who go, all except J.W. Found a fine large picture of Mr. Bell hanging over the platform, a gift from his daughter Lucy, to the school. This is Mattie Peebles' twentieth birthday. The little girls went to C.E. meeting and brought Della Tappan home to tea to save her the long walk in the rain.

Monday, October 19, 1981

Rainy. Mrs. Ediniston came to wash and Jamie and I put the lumber room in order and cleaned off the yard a little.

In the afternoon I went to Corps meeting where we had an unnaturally good attendance, rainy as it was. In the evening I wrote up my record book and put my papers in order. Rec'd invitations to the reception at Mr. Tewksbury's next Thursday, Margaret, Will, J.W. and I.

Tuesday, October 20th, 1891

Cloudy but no rain. Sun shown a few minutes in the afternoon.

Was at home all day except a few moments spent in going to see Mattie who had gone to take her nap so I came home again. Sewed on an apron for May and a skirt for Margaret. Put away the ironing and was busy all day. Bessie and Margaret went to a "Y" meeting, J.W. to a political meeting and the rest of us will soon be in bed. Glen Whitney gave Lizzie a tiny century plant.

Wednesday, October 21st, 1891

Weather rather pleasant but it sprinkled about church time and I did not go out. The three little girls were at home with me. My days are very busy ones and I am thankful to feel so well as I do.

Thursday, October 22nd, 1891

Rained in the forenoon but cleared after dinner. In the evening J.W. and I, Margaret and Will went to Mr. Tewksbury's to the farewell reception given in honor of their Julia Russel and Winnie who are soon to leave for Freeport, ill. The house has recently been attended and renovated, is very nice. Will appeared in his Uncle Enos' full dress coat and cut quite a figure.

Friday, October 23rd, 1891

Bright and pleasant but quite windy.

Was busy all forenoon until after dinner, went with Mother and Mary to drive. went to the farm and the wind blew in our faces all the way. It was quite cold. Was very sleepy and tired when I came home.

Saturday, October 24th, 1891

Bright and delightful. Was very busy all forenoon, was almost tired out by noon, but rested a few minutes after dinner then dressed and went with Margaret and Mrs. Silcox to the Duduit reception. Mrs. F.E. Duduit, Mrs. Marie Duduit, Allie and Carrie received, while Mrs. Sawford, Mrs. Varner, Mrs. Beyerly looked after the guests. Mrs. Silcox and I called at Miss Damarin's on our way home but saw none of the ladies.

Sunday, October 25th, 1891

Beautiful day. Went to the usual services, including s.s. and ect. Spent the afternoon in the usual occupations, teaching and reading. All four of our young people went to C.E. meeting, Margaret led. Said the attendance was good.

Monday, October 26th, 1891

Bright, dry, dusty, and windy with prospect of rain soon. Was busy about the house until after 2 P.M. when I went to drive for Mary. Took Mrs. Jones who enjoyed her outing greatly. The hills are beautiful with fall foliage. Had letters from Jamie, Mrs. McCrary and Effie Ellis of Florence. D.C. Speaker Reed (Tom of Maine) is in town tonight. Sewed, wrote and did a little of everything today.

Tuesday, October 27th, 1891

Pleasant but a little cool. Mother and Mary went to Henley this afternoon. Missionary society met here and ended with a tea. Good attendance and pleasant meeting. About 25 present.

Uncle Sam, Aunt Mary and Ada came to spend the evening and hear some music. I had planned to make out a W.C.T.U report but was glad. Uncle Sam came as we have talked of it for sometime.

Wednesday, October 28th, 1891

Pleasant. Was busy all day paring and preparing apples for apple butter to be made tomorrow.

Mother and Mary came home from Henley just about noon. They drove out yesterday. It was a little too cool for such a trip. Was not feeling well today and went to bed about 7.30 P.M.

Thursday, October 29th, 1891

Beautiful day but dry and dusty. Made apple butter with help of Jamie and Mrs. Deeming. Finished before 3 P.M. After meeting awhile dressed for the party at Mary Damarin's. J.W. Margaret and I went. Large crowd, house very beautifully decorated with flowers, music, and everything in fine style. Came home early. Margaret went home with Mr. and Mrs. Selby and finished the evening there. Will was there the whole evening.

Friday, October 30th, 1891

Warm again, very dry indications of rain.

Was over home most of the forenoon putting up the lace curtains. Went driving with Mother and Mary most of the afternoon so accomplished very little in the way of work. Sliced up the last of Lizzie's crop of tomatoes and want to make pickles of them. Letters from Mother Ricker.

Saturday, October 31st, 1891

Very windy and dusty.

Margaret went to Henley on the early train with little Margaret and John to spend the day. John is 14 today. He and Margaret returned on the evening train but little M remained at home. Intended making some calls in the afternoon but it was too windy so I stayed at home and wrote letters to Maggie Bell, Eulalie Attneave, Miss Johns, Miss Wallace. Had written Jennie and Miss Stebbins before attended the annual meeting of the Magazine Club with J.W. in the evening.

Sunday, November 1st, 1891

Pleasant. Went to Sabbath school as usual, then remained to Teachers' prayer meeting and church. Had lessons and reading in the afternoon then went to church again in the evening, all of us.

An alarm of fire this afternoon came from a tenement home down on 2nd street. It was soon extinguished.

Monday, November 2nd, 1891

Bright and fair.

Was busy at home in the forenoon. Went to take Mother to see after a girl for Lizzie then called to see Maggie Coles at Mr. Peebles.

After dinner, went to W.R.C. meeting and did not get home until late. We have missed little Margaret today.

Margaret, Will, Bessie went to the business meeting of the C.E. and elected officers.

Tuesday, November 3rd, 1891

Cloudy part of the day. Pleasant in the afternoon. This being election day and J.W. one of the clerks, we could not celebrate our twenty-first anniversary in any way. Even the supper we had planned for our selves was spoiled because we could not eat together. We had a serious time last night, were awakened by an alarm of fire which was only across the street and ended by burning the Fourth St. School.²⁷ We had an exciting night of it.

²⁷ The Fourth Street School began as a ten room school building built in 1838 on the northwest corner of Fourth and Court Streets. The founder of Portsmouth, Henry Massie, donated the lots for the school to be built. The original structure was razed and replaced in 1872, and in 1930, the Fourth Street School was replaced by the George D. Scudder School. According to the November 7th article in the Portsmouth Times, the fire began with five burning stables on the north side of the alley between Fourth and Fifth streets at the rear of the school which spread to the attic of the school building.

Wednesday, November 4th, 1891

Weather still dry and dusty. Between the election and the fire alarms again last night there was little sleep for us. J.W. came home sick at 1 A.M having been unable to finish his job as clerk of election. Will went out when the second fire alarm was sounded and did not return until breakfast. The fire proved to be serious and ruined the Damarin house occupied by the Military Academy.²⁸ The second education institution burned this week.

Thursday, November 5th, 1891

Weather still dry a slight sprinkle hardly laid the dust. Was busy all forenoon at various things and went down street to pay a few bills. Went to W.C.T.U. meeting at 2 P.M. came home at four o'clock and found half a dozen children in the yard wanted their books and slates. Went to do some errands on Chil. St then called to see Mary.

Letter from Lettie Wilson.

Friday, November 6th, 1891

Fair and warmer than it has been. Spent the forenoon preparing unions for pickles. After dinner finished M. flannel shirt then went to meet the little girls and take them to see the display of chrysanthemums at Heiners greenhouse. Met the folks in the surrey and they granted me to take it so I took Lizzie and May, Margaret and Bessie to see the flowers. They are the finest I ever saw and about 3000 flowers are open.

Saturday, November 7th, 1891

Quite pleasant.

Was busy all forenoon. Besides the usual work Margaret and I washed and ironed her light Challi²⁹ to be made over. Maggie Peebles, Mollie Murray and Maggie Coles called before dinner, also Mrs. Jack. About 3 P.M. Margaret and I got started and called at Miss Damarin's, Mrs. Tewksbury's, Mrs. Joe Reed's, Mrs. Dudit's, Mrs. McCollough's and then came home. M. went to Miss Edward's. Della Tappan was here.

²⁸ According to the November 7th article in the Portsmouth Times, the Damarin house was built on Rose Ridge (Jackson Street) by D.N. Murray sometime in the late 1840's and purchased by L.C. Damarin sometime after the war. Damarin, who remodeled the house and improved the grounds, lived there for many years. At the time of the fire, the property was owned by the C.A.M. Damarin heirs. On the evening of November 3rd, the fire department responded to a fire in the kitchen and laundry of the Military Academy in the Damarin Building. After assuming the fire was out, they left the house around midnight. By 2 o'clock the fire had returned, burning most of the internal structure of the building.

²⁹ Challi: soft fabric of plain weave in wool, cotton, rayon, or other staple fiber, either in a solid color or, more often, a small print.

Sunday, November 8th, 1891

Fair and pleasant. This is John's birthday. Went to Sabbath school and the usual morning services and again in the evening.

Monday, November 9th, 1891

Bright and pleasant. Was busy at home in the forenoon then went out with Mother and Mary in the surrey awhile. When Mother was tired we took Mrs. Jones for a drive about town to show her the improvements. Spent the evening at the High School entertainment and were much pleased with the progress and everything generally. Came home tired. Heard Carrie Dudit's sister Mattie is very sick.

Tuesday, November 10th, 1891

Wet. Rained very hard in the afternoon. Went up to see about my bill at Herms and when I returned I heard that Mrs. Connolly died last night. Went over immediately and stayed until nearly noon. Went to the Home Mis. Meeting in the afternoon, having promised to read a piece but did not attend Mrs. Colton's reception, partly because of the weather but more for sympathy with Gussie Halderman. All the family except May and I went to the Schubert Concert.

Wednesday, November 11th, 1891

Damp rain, and chilly.

Went early to see what I could do for Gussie and soon after a telegram came saying Barton and Jennie had a new son at their home this morning. Went with Mother to see Mrs. Ross and tell her to go on the first convenient train to Zanesville. Spent most of the day at Mr. Connolly's doing what little I could Gussie was at the cemetery nearly all day seeing to the removal of their family from the old lot to a new one.

Thursday, November 12th, 1891

Cloudy in the morning and evening but fair a part of the day. Went over to Gussie at 8.30 and was with her when her mother was put in the casket. She did everything in the way of arranging details and did it well. The funeral was about 2.30 at the house and only a few of the nearest friends went to the cemetery. Mother, Mary and I with Mrs. Draper were in the same carriage. Spent the evening at Mr. Peebles' seeing the Mexican curiosities. Father, Uncle Enos and Sam and a few of them were there. Maggie read a paper on Mexico and we spent a delightful evening.

Friday, November 13th, 1891

Beautiful day. Have been at home except for very brief calls over home and at Gussie Halderman's. Was occupied with various duties all day. Wrote to Mother R. to Jennie G. and a note to Helen.

Did not go to the C.E. meeting at 2nd church as I had planned. Will and Bessie went and reported the state President Mr. McConley a good teacher.

Saturday, November 14th, 1891

Beautiful day. Was busy at home all morning and expected to remain in during the afternoon but about 3 o'clock Mother came to ask if I wanted the horse and carriage. as M. was just starting to Miss Knowles' we took the carriage and while she was seeing about her dress I went after Della Tappan and there we three took a drive. It was quite cold when we came home.

Papers state there is a great water famine in New York City. J.W. and I went to the grocery then made a call at Mr. Tewksbury's.

Sunday, November 15th, 1891

Mild and pleasant. Attended the usual services, both morning and evening, and read to the children after hearing their lessons.

There was an eclipse of the moon this evening between seven and eight o'clock but when we went to church, clouds obscured the moon so we could not see it. Others saw it later while we were in church.

Monday, November 16th, 1891

Rained a little but was so cold it seemed more like snow. Mrs. Ediniston washed. Was busy at home until Mrs. Mills reminded me of a Corps Meeting and I then went out to notify, personally, as many members as I could. Mrs. Silcox came some after dinner and we went to Ned Peebles' store before time for the meeting then stopped at Mrs. Dennis's a few moments on our way to the Hall. Came directly home from the meeting to replenish the fires and get ready for the family.

Tuesday, November 17th, 1891

Quite cold, the first snow of the season fell today, enough to thinly cover the house tops and fence rails. Did not last long. Put away some of the ironing this morning and did a little mending. Went to see Gussie after dinner but she was lying down so I came home. Went with May to Mrs. Silcox's with the milk. It was stinging cold when we were out.

Wednesday, November 18, 1891

Cold, thermometer down to about 19° and things are frozen hard. Went up to Mr. Herms this morning and settled my account there to date. Also paid 5.00 on acc't at Marting's. Made Gussie a call before dinner then came home to have fires in order before the family gathered in.

Did a little machine sewing on the children's waists. Went to prayer meeting and remained to Teachers' meeting. Miss Pet (Mary) Agnew was married to Mr. Pul this afternoon.

Thursday, November 19th, 1891

Quite cold. Thermometer about 18°. Was home most of the forenoon, was over to see Mother a little while before dinner and wrote a letter to Dr. Hayes for her. Spent most of the afternoon at Mrs. Ewing's with W.R.C. work and the inspector Mrs. Borth. Had a special meeting at the hall in the evening. Mrs. Whitney called for me and we went and came together.

Friday, November 20th, 1891

Milder with a kind of damp atmosphere. Quite pleasant but I did not go out. Was over home in the morning with my darning and then came back and spent the rest of the day sewing on the children's waists. Did not finish until after dark as Mrs. Brent came in and I talked with her until Margaret came. Dill Ramsey called to solicit for the Home for Aged Women. Had letter from Jennie and wrote to Mother R. and Lizzie Peebles. Will M and Bessie went to the Mystery Box Social of the "Y's".

Winnie Gared and Dr. McBride were married today.

Saturday, November 21st, 1891

Indications of rain. Had a pleasant surprise today in a picture from Uncle Drew bearing a group of himself and his five sons, Charlie, Jake, Ira, Will and Frank. As fine a family as can be found anywhere. I wrote him a letter of thanks this evening. Have been busy all day and am tired tonight.

Sunday, November 22nd, 1891

Rained some. Was quite unpleasant. Attended the usual services at Sabbath school and church. Was at home all afternoon reading with the children.

Monday, November 23rd, 1891

All sorts of disagreeable weather. It snowed more or less all day.

Carl took Bessie's dinner to her and was going to take some to Margaret but she came in before he started. It was a good day for indoor work. Took some mending and went to see Gussie Halderman a little while thinking she would be lonely. Mr. H had not gone but expects to leave tomorrow.

Tuesday, November 24th, 1891

Weather milder. The sun came out quite bright for a while. Lizzie and the children came in to spend Thanksgiving at Mr. P.'s as usual. Are over home now. The Foreign Missionary Society met here this afternoon. About a dozen ladies came. Had a pleasant meeting. Mrs. McCollough and Miss Duddridge called but I could not prevail upon them to come in though the business of the society was over.

Wrote to Helen M. and Mother R.

Wednesday, November 25th, 1891

Cloudy and rain.

Have been very busy all day, did a little mending and other necessary work before dinner. Went to do some errands after dinner then came home and helped Jamie make mince meat for tomorrow.

Was so tired I was sick at night and went to bed as soon as the others left for church. Wrote to Jennie Green.

Thursday, November 26th, 1891

A clear, cold, beautiful Thanksgiving. Our own family were all at home and enjoyed a good dinner and the privilege of being together. Miss Bessie went to dine at Mr. Titus' and did not return in the evening. We attended church at the 1st and heard Rev. R. K. Porter preach on law and order. A good sermon. Rich and Lizzie with their six children dined at Mr. Peebles' unfortunately J.W. had one of his bad headaches and had to go to bed after dinner. He and the boys put in a new pump in the A.M.

Father spent the day having his boulders made into a sort of pyramid in the front yard. A newspaper of this date is enclosed in a bottle and placed inside.

Friday, November 27th, 1891

Cloudy with a little rain. Was busy at home in the forenoon. Went to W.C.T.U. at 2 P.M. and from there to the drug store for Mother who is not well. After that went to a tea party at Mrs. Spry's on sixth st. She had her two parlors full of old ladies and neighbors who laid off their things and enjoyed an afternoon of visiting then sat down to an excellent supper. Dr. Tappan was the only gentleman at table. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson called this evening. Will and Carl drove to Henley.

Mrs. Lou Spry gave a pleasant party this afternoon and those present were about the same as at the sewing bee, Mrs. T. and Della, Dr. T. came to supper, Mrs. McClain, Lewis, Prescott, Tewksbury, E. Miller, and J. Miller, Dennis, Buskirk, Moore, Young, Evans, Thompson, Merrill, Liete Grimes, Waller, McCall, Spry, Thyrza, Clara Waller, Mrs. Lewis and I were present. Purdum.

Saturday, November 28th, 1891

Colder. It did not rain much after all. After the usual Saturday work I spent some time mending a table-cloth.

Will and Carl returned from Henley having driven Andy in in about two hours, he is a good traveler. The two little girls went to call on Dr. Dennis' niece Maggie and they were invited to stay to tea. J.W. and I took tea at Dell Ramsey's with the Peebles' family and had a pleasant evening. Called for the children on our way home. Mrs. Dan Smith called.

Sunday, November 29th, 1891

Cold and fair. Went to Sabbath school as usual and remained to teacher's prayer meeting and morning service. Spent the afternoon in the usual way with the children then we all went to church in the evening except Margaret who had a cold and a fever sore on her lip. She remained at home all day and May stayed with her in the evening.

Monday, November 30th, 1891

Very cold again. Thermometer 18° this morning. Miss O'Connor began serving for us. We first took up a dress for May which she left unfinished when here last summer. I have felt so baldy all day that I could do very little. Lay down a while both before and after dinner.

Father is sick with a cold, confined to bed but I have not felt well enough to go over. Letters from Mother Ricker and Effie Ellice of Florence S.C.

Mr. Peebles' 78th birthday.

Tuesday, December 1st, 1891

Clear and cold but not so cold as yesterday. Had moderated considerably by afternoon. Mrs. Ewing called soon after breakfast. Felt better and sewed all day except when doing an errand at the store. Took some work and sat a few minutes with Gussie. Went three times to see Father who is sick with a cold. Began making the new red dresses Mary gave the little girls.

Wednesday, December 2nd, 1891

Cold but not severely so. Was busy all day in various ways. We have begun on the new dresses and am making fair progress, but as they were planned by Mother they are rather elaborate and tedious to make. There was an election of elders and deacons after prayer-meeting, but it is not yet known how many will serve.

Thursday, December 3rd, 1891

Rather raw and cold. Sewed in the forenoon and until nearly 3 o'clock P.M. when I went to the Sabbath Observance Convention at our church with Mary. Attendance only fair, meeting very good. Went again in the evening when the program was almost a failure because so few of the announced speakers were on hand. Elizabeth Peebles is 9 years old today.

Friday, December 4th, 1891

Unpleasant. Rain, wind and all sorts of weather including a little sunshine. Bessie went to Chillicothe on the early train with a number of teachers to visit schools. Mother and Mary went to Cin. on the early train to meet Enos and do some shopping. Mrs. Behrens was taken sick and we had to send for the Dr. before night. Father is better but not down stairs yet. We were up very late waiting for Mother and Mary to come home.

Saturday, December 5th, 1891

Beautiful day. Was busy all forenoon and should have been in the afternoon but Carl had the horse out and I went with him, Margaret and Bessie to take a drive. It was delightful until the sun got low and the air became cool. The little girls' new red are almost finished. Enos made us a call after supper.

Sunday, December 6th, 1891

Cloudy with light sprinkles. Attended Sabbath school and morning services. All of us who usually go were out though. Bessie is not feeling well and left church before the close of service. However she attended evening services. Was over home a little while to see Father.

Mrs. Behrens was so ill Dr. Van Tine took her home in his buggy.

Monday, December 7th, 1891

Cold and windy with a few flakes of snow. Maggie O'C. came for another week of sewing. Enos left on the early train. I had errands to do in the forenoon and attended the Relief Corps meeting in the afternoon. Mr. Drake's funeral was in progress at 6th, U.M.E. church at the time. Rich was here in the evening. J.W. Will, Car, Bessie and I went to hear Rev. Mr. Bashford of Delevan College lecture.³⁰ We were pleased with him.

Tuesday, December 8th, 1891

Fair, clear and cold. Have been at home all day trying to sew. Helped on Lizzie's gray flannel dress. Mrs. Wiles, Glen Whitney, Mrs. Pursell and Mrs. Miller were here at different times. Barton was over home this morning where I saw him some after breakfast. Rec'd cards to the wedding of Bessie Varner and Sam Adams.

A man who was dog bitten some days ago has a case of hydrophobia as the result. There is considerable excitement over it.

The man died tonight.

Wednesday, December 9th, 1891

Beautiful day. Jamie was sick this morning with the Grippe and had to give up for the day. I gave her what remedies I had and did the work. Was too tired to go to church in the evening. The Grippe is taking the town the doctors and drug clerks work night and day. Father had to go back to bed. Barton was here a little while after tea. Went to church with the others.

Thursday, December 10th, 1891

Lovely day. Jamie is better. Sewed as much as I could during the day. WE finished the girls' dresses, except the button holes in Lizzie's school dress. Sent report to W.C.T.U in the evening. J.W. and I attended the reception at Mr. and Mrs. C.P. Lloyd's. The house is beautiful and was decorated with holly, supper elegantly served, music and everything full. Many regrets were sent on account of so much illness in town. Came home early.

³⁰ Rev. Dr. James Whitford Bashford was a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States and the first bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in China. In 1891, he was the President of Ohio Wesleyan University at Delevan.

Friday, December 11th, 1891

Still beautiful weather. Have been busy with the sewing all day. We have made two dresses each for the little girls, a waist for Margaret, two shirts for Will and shirt for M. and have begun on night wear. Heard that Mrs. Holman died last night or this morning. Barton took supper with us. Mrs. Phoebe Gould and Dr. Burr are both very sick. Went to teachers' meeting at Dr. Dennis'. Jas. was elected Sec'y of S. School.

Saturday, December 12th, 1891

Pleasant. This was Maggie O'C.'s last day with us and we put it in faithfully. Worked on night shirts and night dresses but did not finished either of the four garments though the shirts are ready for button holes. Did not get over to see father as I had intended.

Jamie is not well and we have to do nearly all the work.

Barton went home on the early morning train. Mrs. Ross came home from Z. last night I think.

Sunday, December 13th, 1891

Weather very fair for the season. We were all at Sabbath school, except Jas, also at church.

Uncle Enos and Mr. Alex Mitchell were ordained elders and Messrs³¹ Boyd, Black, and Molster were ordained deacons at the morning service. Mr. Gillihan and J.W. were elected elders and Dr. C.P. Dennis already are elder and having been elected on in our church, all three declined to serve.

Monday, December 14th, 1891

Weather cloudy, threatening rain. Jamie came down stairs to help a little with the dinner but decided she had better go home until she is well so left on the afternoon train. Mrs. Ediniston did a little washing before leaving. We are not in very good condition to do our own work but must do the best we can. There are so many sick with the Grippe that we should be thankful that we are not sick ourselves.

³¹ Messrs: used as a title to refer formally to more than one man simultaneously, or in names of companies.

Tuesday, December 15th, 1891

Rainy and disagreeable. It is well Jamie went home yesterday. Mrs. Ediniston finished the ironing, it was late when she got through. Margaret has had another change in her work as there are fears that Dr. Vicker's children have scarlet fever and he must not come in contact with teachers or pupils. She has the office to herself and transacts business across the hall or through the keyhole.

Wednesday, December 16th, 1891

Weather wet and unpleasant. Heard this morning that Mrs. Huber died last night. Went to her late home as soon as I could, Mrs. Silcox and I found Mrs. Kline and Mary Damarin attending to affairs. Her daughter Lulu is left in a pitiable condition, as she has had all of her faculties impaired by scarlet fever. I was out this afternoon seeing members of the Corp. about flowers for the funeral.

Weather began turning cold late in the day.

Went to church.

J.W. and I drove out to Mrs. Stewart's after cream and took it to Mrs. Sanford.

Had pork to put away, lard to make, ect.

Thursday, December 17th, 1891

Quite cold. As soon as I could finish the morning work I went to help arrange the flowers for Mrs. Huber's funeral. Mrs. Silcox went with me and Mrs. Miles kept house for me. The children all being in school. The Relief Corps sent of a beautiful bunch of rose buds which was tied with white ribbon. Attended the funeral in the afternoon. Bessie Varner and Sam Adams were married in the same church, All Saints, only two hours before but the elaborate decorations were all removed before the funeral.

Friday, December 18th, 1891

Weather fair and wild. Lizzie and her family came in town today to remain until they leave for the south. The little girls came directly to us, bag and baggage. Had a card from Jamie saying she might possibly be back the last of next week. L. was here a few minutes.

I am keeping up remarkably but got very, very tired through all help as much as they can. Rev. Dr. Burn was buried from All Saints' ch. at 1.30 P.M. he was pastor for more than fifty years.

Saturday, December 19th, 1891

Weather bright and mild. Lizzie and some of her family spent the day our house, the little girls being here until supper time. Mary and Lizzie prevailed upon Mother to go with L. to Knoxville for further treatments. She has been busy this afternoon preparing to go. Wish I had more time to be with them, but with Jamie away, my time is all occupied.

Uncle Enos was taken quite ill with a chill this morning.

Saturday, December 20th, 1891

We all got up a little earlier and managed to get off to Sabbath school and after that Margaret went up to Mr. Peebles' to see Lizzie as it will be her only chance. The four members of Rich's family and Mother leave for Knoxville on the early train and Mr. and Mrs. P and Mary leave on the same train for California.

We all went to church in the evening.

Uncle Enos had another chill and is quite sick. We went from church to inquire about him.

Monday, December 21st, 1891

The shortest day of the year for one of the longest day's work of the year. Washing and Relief Corps meeting with a shopping tour at dusk to finished up the purchases for Christmas boxes. We shall not send any to Grand Rivers as Margaret and I will hope pay for the fine set of dishes Enos selected in Cin. We sisters, Mother and Margaret each give something. Margaret and I went after school and did a few errands, came home and found Mrs. Wiles still here superintending the effects of L. and M. to get supper.

Rich and Lizzy, Wm, baby, and Mother left on the early train for Knoxville, Tenn. Elizabeth and Margaret came to stay with us while their mother is away.

Tuesday, December 22nd, 1891

Weather pleasant.

Mrs. Miles kindly came and kept home for me once or twice this week while I went to do errands. Margaret and I gathered up things for the Kirkwood box and Jimmie packed it and sent it off this after noon. We had something for everybody at Grandpa's and nearly all of Uncle Drew's family.

Mrs. Miles has been very kind to come and sit here with her knitting to give me a chance to go out. Missionary Tea with mine present.

Wednesday, December 23rd, 1891

Weathers mild and very fair. I hurried through with the work and then gathered up the contents for the box to go to Zanesville. The children had prepared most of the things.

Margaret sent her aunt a pretty cracker jar and I sent her a small ladle for float or gravy. Did not go to church in the evening. Some one must stay with the little girls and I was less able to go than the others. Laura Beesley stayed here tonight.

Thursday, December 24th, 1891

Rainy and disagreeable very unlike Christmas weather. Have our hands so full of ordinary house work that we have little time for preparations for Christmas. School did not close until this afternoon. We each skipped out as we found a chance and brought what we could in the way of remembrances, I went with Carl after supper and helped him select what he wanted. He bought a nice scarf pin for Will which pleased me, then things for Miss Bessie and three sisters.

Friday, December 25th, 1891

Weather very mild more like a southern Christmas than we usually have in this latitude. After breakfast we showed the parlor to the children who found a well loaded tree but devoid of decorations, our time and strength being limited nothing was put on except the presents and a few pop corn bags. Bessie Hall and Arthur Titus helped Margaret and Will last evening and once here to enjoy the most of the day with us. Father and Mary, John, and Robert Peebles came to dinner and Father remained all the rest of the day, spent most of his time putting together a dissected map of Ohio which Carl gave Lizzie and May. The little girls had hands on books from Dr. Davis. We gave Will and Carl the extra pair of napkin rings we had given us for wedding presents and the little girls have the pair of butter knives Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury gave us. Margaret has her choice of what is left. All went to the S.S. entertainment in the evening.

Saturday, December 26th, 1891

Weather mild and very unlike the Christmas season. The tree was taken out last evening and today everything was put in order again so nothing remains to remind us of the festivities except the generous share of presents. Ruth came over and helped sweep and clean up. Our family are all reasonably well and happy, numbering ten at present.

Sunday, December 27th, 1891

Bright and quite cold. Managed to attend Sabbath school and church as usual but Margaret did not get out until evening, she was both busy and tired.

I went over home a while before tea to see Father who always seems glad do see me, and right to have a little special attention while Mother is away. In the evening I went to bed and the others except Mary, went to church. Heard that Mr. A Bentley died early this morning.

Uncle Enos' birthday.

Monday, December 28th, 1891

Beautiful day. No washer-woman came so Margaret put the clothes in clean water to soak and we proceeded to wash and iron napkins for use tomorrow. I had planned a small party for Mr. W. for tomorrow evening but Mary begged to have it at her house so we will move it. Margaret, Carl, Bessie, and Arthur went out to invite the guests this forenoon. They find many with previous engagements.

Tuesday, December 29th, 1891

Rained and the belated washer woman came so we had a bad day for the young folks' party. Carl drove me out to Mrs. Stewart's to get cream and do some other errands. I went to see Mrs. Cross a few minutes, she is very ill. The military meeting at Seel's and other affairs interfered with Margaret's and Will's list of guests but twenty-seven sat down to supper and had a fine time. Mary helped Mrs. B. in the kitchen and Bessie Hall, Mary Y., Carl and I waited on the tables.

See appendix.

Wednesday, December 30th, 1891

Pleasant and mild. Bessie left for Cin. on the 8 o'clock train. We had a busy day getting things back to their places after the party. All were very tired. Went to church in the evening. Will and the little girls excepted, they went to bed.

Mrs. Davis called late in the afternoon. Wrote to Mother R. and Helen Moore.

Thursday, December 31st, 1891

Weather remarkably mild and pleasant. No girl and very busy. Maggie Peebles and Miss Regnieer called before dinner. Children went to Myra Wells' birthday party this afternoon. Lizzie and May, Elizabeth and Margaret Peebles. Margaret and Will are going to Bertie Spry's to spend the evening. Charlie Murphy is here as I write. Think this is Uncle Enos and Mary Ellen's anniversary.

Had letter from Mother Ricker telling of the Xmas dinner at Uncle Drew's.

