

## **Thursday, January 1, 1885**

A bright pleasant day, rather cold but milder than many of the days we have had. I sewed busily all forenoon and after dinner changed my dress and was ready to see my callers who came but none came except Dr. Kline to see J. W. and Enos to see me. We had a little almanac which he had just received from Paris and came to show it to me. We are all well and comfortable but the new year finds us like many others, having pinching times!

## **Friday, January 2, 1885**

Weather cold, ground frozen hard. Children stayed in the house all day and played together very happily. I wish Carl was here with them. We miss him very much. I was down street a few minutes and stopped to see Lizzie on my way home.

Miss Emma Bell was here to dinner.

## **Saturday, January 3, 1885**

Quite cold. Ther. 7° early in the morning. Children went skating in the afternoon. I was busy all forenoon cleaning up. Finished off Margaret's apron. Was over home an hour or more cutting out some work which I want to do next week. Had a letter from Mary Barr.

## **Sunday, January 4, 1885**

Weather pleasant, not very cold. The children went to S. S. and afterwards Will and Lizzie went to church with us. Margaret was not feeling well so remained at home.

We went again in the evening all except Lizzie. Uncle Jimmie was here in the evening.

## **Monday, January 5, 1885**

Week of prayer.

Not very cold but it rained all day and in the forenoon the stone walks were icy, the cold stone freezing the falling rain just enough to make it slippery. Sewed hard all day on underwear for myself. In the evening Willie and I went to prayer meeting but J. W. went to a G. A. R. meeting.

## **Tuesday, January 6, 1885**

Weather like April, warm and rainy with occasional gleams of sunshine. Went over home and up to see Lizzie before dinner. After dinner Mary and I went to call upon Mrs. Sam Johnson then to the reception given Miss Wood by Clara Waller. Miss W. has visited here before and is very pleasant. From there I went to see Mary Murphy and then to Dr. Pratt's but did not see Julia as the doctor was in at the time. J. W. Willie + I went to prayer meeting in a hard rain.

## **Wednesday, January 7, 1885**

Weather moderate for the season. Arose with a stiff back the result of a cold taken yesterday so I was kept at home all day. Miss Em had invited Jas + myself to dine with her, Geo + Maggie + Mary today but I could not go. Could not go to prayer meeting and was sorry to hear that our meetings would be discontinued for the present as Dr. P is not well.

## **Thursday, January 8, 1885**

Was at home all day until church time and then we went to the Meth service. The Democrats have been firing cannon today, celebrating Jackson day.

## **Friday, January 9, 1885**

Cold but pleasant.

Worked on some little linen shirts all day or until late in the afternoon when I went out to do a few errands. Stopped at Miss Em's to make my apologies then called upon Clara Waller + her friend Miss Wood then went to Lizzie's but as she had gone to take tea with me informally, I hastened home. Found her awaiting my return.

Wrote part of a letter to Mary Warner.

## **Saturday, January 10, 1885**

Bright and not very cold. I was busy at home nearly all day. In the afternoon Margaret + Lizzie went to a children's meeting at Bigelow. In the forenoon Mary Damarin and Hattie Scudder called. I finished off the little shirts I was making all except a few stitches and took them up to Lizzie. She is sick in bed with a severe cold.

## **Sunday, January 11, 1885**

The children went to S. S. but as we had no service at our church, four of us went to Bigelow Methodist church and heard an excellent sermon on revivals of religion. In the evening it rained very hard so I remained at home and Willie went with his father. Lizzie though the flood was at least one inch or two deep on the street.

## **Monday, January 12, 1884**

Cold and windy and clear. I began making over Maggie's cloak for Lizzie and it is quite an undertaking. Late in the afternoon I went over home, up to Lizzie's, out to Clara Pursell's and down to Flo McConnell's then came home and dressed for the meeting at G. A. R. hall. The Bailey post + Corp installed their new officers tonight all except Mother who is the new Sen. Vice Pres. in the Corp. The exercises of the evening were quite interesting. Sent letter to Mary Warner.

## **Tuesday, January 13, 1884**

Quite cold, Ther marked away below freezing but I forget the figure.

Was over to see the sick this morning. Pa was out and gone, Ma able to be up and Jno up but hardly able to sit up, they all have cold.

In the afternoon I took my work and went over awhile. Did not go up to Lizzie's during the day. Wrote to Aunt Helen.

### **Wednesday, January 14, 1885**

Moderating and at night when we came from prayer meeting, it was beginning to rain. I have been busy all day with the cloak and in the afternoon I took it up to Lizzie's and sewed there while visiting. John is yet out so I called a few minutes to see him. Had a letter from Mother Ricker which I answered after church.

### **Thursday, January 15, 1885**

Rained slowly and steadily nearly all day. This evening it was raining hard when Jas and Willie went to the Methodist church to hear Mr. Jackson.

I have stayed at home all day and worked on Lizzie's cloak which I hope to finish this week.

### **Friday, January 16, 1885**

Rained steadily all day and in the evening the storm created, the wind blew very hard and it began to grow cold. I sewed on the cloak all forenoon and got it ready for the button holes which Mother offered to make for me so while she worked on them I went to get the fur for the bottom of it, did one or two other errands, made a call at Mrs. Kline's and one at Lizzie's. In the evening Jas + Willie went to Methodist church and I wrote.

### **Saturday, January 17, 1885**

Very cold. The weather changed rapidly during the night much to our relief as the constant rains and rapidly rising river seemed to threaten another overflow. The thermometer was as low as 13° at 8:30 AM and a high wind blowing. I finished Lizzie's cloak and am very satisfied. Was up to see Lizzie in the afternoon.

### **Sunday, January 18, 1885**

Still very cold, ground frozen very hard and ry. The children went to S. S. as usual and all of us except Mary went to church.

I was over home a few minutes both before and after tea. Uncle Jimmie was not well and failed to make us his usual visit.

### **Monday, January 19, 1885**

Very cold. Ther 7° at 7 AM. Pump frozen we could get no water until about noon. The river is high and has been rising so rapidly that the water is quite muddy. Father left on the boat for Cin to superintend machinery on the new boat and I went over to see him off. Mary gave me a dress which I ripped up and took to the dyer to be colored. Went to see Lizzie a little while then came home and ripped up my old black cashmere dress.

## **Tuesday, January 20, 1885**

Very cold. Ther 10° at 7 AM. Have been busy all day washing, pressing and beginning work on my dress which I very much need.

Will and his father have gone to the Methodist church this evening.

## **Wednesday, January 21, 1885**

Cold and stormy or rather windy. I was busy with my dress all the time that could be spared from the fires which required close attention.

Mrs. Ben Richardson called in the afternoon and after she left Maggie Coles and Mollie Murray came. It was bitterly cold when they came. No letter from the folks yet but I wrote Carl tonight.

## **Thursday, January 22, 1885**

Weather still cold. When we came home from prayer meeting at 8 PM the ther stood above 3° and the wind was blowing quite hard. In the morning it was -6°. Sewed on my dress today but only succeeded in getting the pleating done and put on. I was up at Lizzie's a few minutes before tea.

## **Friday, January 23, 1885**

Not so cold as yesterday.

Ther 12 ° at 7 AM. About 3 PM it began snowing and in an hour about two inches of snow lay on the dry, dusty ground. Carrie Stearnes came to ask me to go to a practice meeting at the church. I went though not able to sing to do any good. She took tea with us and went to church from here. It was raining at the time and very disagreeable. Letter from Mother Ricker.

## **Saturday, January 24, 1885**

Weather moderating, thawing, slushy, slippery and unpleasant. Was busy at home all the forenoon. After dinner Ma and I went out to see Mrs. Kline then down to preparatory lecture, after that to Mr. Warner's store then up to see Aunt Mollie who expects to remove to Vicksburg next week. We then stopped at Mrs. T. J. Pursell's and finally came home at tea time.

## **Sunday, January 25, 1885**

Weather cold and indicating snow or rain. I went to S. S. to teach Miss Emma Bell's class. Afterwards all of us but Will went to church. When we got home it was snowing or sleeting a little. Communion in the afternoon, no new members except Mrs. Ferrell by letter. No church in the evening so Jas + Will went to Bigelow. Pa is still in Cin.

## **Monday, January 26, 1885**

Very cold again, clothes freeze before they can be put on the line. Ther about 16° and a great deal of wind. Margaret heard through Mattie Peebles that her Aunt Maggie had seen

Margaret's manuscript at the New Orleans Exposition. The first one in the book of bound M. S. of the Grammar Grade.

I have not sewed much as I had to attend a W. R. C. meeting this afternoon. Our Pres Mrs. Kline + some others go tomorrow to Akron to Depot Enc'pl.

## **Tuesday, January 27, 1885**

13°

Very cold and clear. The sun scarcely made any impression except where it shone all day on a spot and there it thawed a little.

I finished the skirt of my black dress, then went up to see Lizzie a few minute. Wrote to Mrs. bond after tea. Jas and Margaret went to the Meth church.

## **Wednesday, January 28, 1885**

Cold and clear. Ther 2°

Have a severe cold and have been at home sewing all day. Was over home on an errand in the afternoon but did not stay long. Mary was going up to Lizzie's and Ma was going to the Sewing Society at the church. I had a letter from Mary Warner. Did not go to church owing to my cold.

## **Thursday, January 29, 1885**

Cold and clear. Ther 10° snow not deep but some sleighing. My cold is no better and I have remained at home all day except once when Ma sent for me. She was dressing to go to Mrs. T. A. Johnson's at lunch.

I must write to Mother R. tonight.

## **Friday, January 30, 1885**

Weather cold and disagreeable. Sewed busily on May's dress which I began yesterday to make over. I am almost sick with cold and cannot go out anywhere so I have a good chance to sew. Lizzie was not able to go to school today, much to her regret.

## **Saturday, January 31, 1885**

Rained, the snow melted and it was not so cold as it has been. I felt better in the morning, did the housework as usual and by noon was scarcely able to sit up.

After dinner I was obliged to lie down and spent the afternoon in bed. Ma was here an hour or two.

## **Sunday, February 1, 1885**

Quite cold.

I was not at all well so did not go to church today. Late in the afternoon after having read to the little girls until I was tired, I went over home for a little while. Pa is still away, it seems strange for him to be gone so long.

## **Monday, February 2, 1885**

Moderated considerably but still freezing. The sun was out quite bright a while today. About sunset it was very clear and bright. Lizzie has been sick in bed all day, I have waited upon her and almost made a pair of pants for Carl. Jimmie + Ma went up to Mrs. Duke's this evening and while they were gone Mr. + Mrs. Tewksbury called here. Mrs. Graham was here in the afternoon.

## **Tuesday, February 3, 1885**

Beautifully bright and pleasant. I was in the house all day however not being at all well. Finished off a pair of pants for Carl and did a few other little things. In the evening Jas + Will went to Bigelow M. E. church and Margaret went to Minnie Miller's. While they were gone Aunt Mollie Smith + Lizzie S. called to say goodbye, they were on their way to the boat, the whole family are moving to Vicksburg. Co. Wm Boles' family left today or intended on leaving for St. Paul. Wrote to Jennie and Mary W. Fannie Moore was here.

## **Wednesday, February 4, 1885**

Weather damp and warm. Very little fire is sufficient. I added to my cold this AM so I concluded it a waste of time to wait for it to wear off. Washed the dress which I want to make over for Margaret then went up to see Miss Kinney about Willie's pocket rule which he lost. Think I know now where it is. Stopped to see Lizzie before coming home. Wrote to Mother R. did not go to church at night.

## **Thursday, February 5, 1885**

Weather quite warm and wet. Rained about noon. I went to look after the rule and got it finally.

Called to see Lizzie a few minutes. Finished off the over skirt to my black dress and spent the rest of the day mending.

Mary Murphy called in the afternoon having heard I was sick with cold. Jas and Margaret went to the Meth church this evening and the latter went forward when the invitation was given. I hope she will become an earnest Christian.

## **Friday, February 6, 1885**

Much colder. Ther 12° this morning and ground again frozen hard. Have been in the house all day mending stockings as the basket was full and I wanted to get the contents ready for use. Both Margaret and Will went to ch. with their father tonight, or rather M. went with Ma but they are all there together. Willie went up to the altar tonight.

## **Saturday, February 7, 1885**

Bright and pleasant tho' not warm. Was busy all forenoon doing Saturday work. Janie went home after dinner for a short visit. I am better than I was but not so well as I should like to be when without help. In the afternoon I went up to see Lizzie a while.

Mrs. Alex Warner called while I was out. In the evening Prof + Mrs. Lowes called.

## **Sunday, February 8, 1885**

Mild and muddy. Of course I could not go out today. Margaret remained at home and helped me after Sabbath school but Jas and all the rest went to church. Pa came home from Cin this AM and was over to see us in the afternoon. I gave him a letter which I wrote to him in Aug 1883 while he was in Europe and it just came to me from the Dead Letter Office lately. He also had one in his pocket for me which he had written to me when I was about to sail last summer + I did not get it.

## **Monday, February 9, 1885**

Hard rain with thunder + lightning last night, rain all day. The flood was upon us at this time last year and it looks now as though a third one was imminent. Mrs. Duke came to see me this afternoon. Ma was here also. Janie did not return owing to the rain I suppose.

## **Tuesday, February 10, 1885**

A sudden change in weather ran the Ther down to 13° at 7 AM and it kept blowing and growing colder all day. To my great relief Janie came home in the afternoon. After dinner, I went up to see Lizzie and then out to see Mrs. Kline whom I found suffering with a toothache. Will + his father went to church at Bigelow.

## **Wednesday, February 11, 1885**

Very cold again. Ther -2°. Am unable to sew much such weather but keep trying. Han an invitation to a reception at Lillie + Minnie Johnson's to be held tomorrow afternoon but cannot go so sent regrets. Had letter from Maggie Bell written from Louisville where she was called suddenly last week by the illness of her parent. Could not go to church. Wrote to Mother Ricker.

## **Thursday, February 12, 1885**

Weather quite cold. 8° though clear and rather windy. I could not venture out to the reception of the Mrs. Johnson's owing to my cold, the weather and some other reasons. Lizzie Peebles has been having such a siege with her Elizabeth because she refuses to obey her that we all fell we ought to stay by her to help + comfort her. Elizabeth chose to remain in bed ten days rather than speak her name which she has long been able to do.

## **Friday, February 13, 1885**

Bright pleasant day 17°

Have been sewing on the plaiting for Margaret's dress. Do not progress very fast. Ma was over in the afternoon awhile. In the evening Jimmie and Will went to church. They do not miss many of the meetings and are greatly benefitted by them.

## **Saturday, February 14, 1885**

21°

Weather somewhat milder with indications of snow or rain. I was busy all day, gave the house an extra cleaning and then sewed a little in the afternoon on Margaret's dress. Carrie Stearnes came in and made quite a visit. After tea I went over home to see if any of the folks were going up to Lizzie's, as they were not I spent the evening there. J. W. was at a meeting down town + called for me about 9 o'clock.

### **Sunday, February 15, 1885**

About 5:30 AM Rich came after me and I went up to assist in the reception of the new daughter who they call Margaret Louise for the present at least. Before S. S. was dismissed Rich went to tell Ma that Lizzie wanted to see her. When she and Mary returned from S. S. they received the message and went up. It was a great surprise to Ma to find she had another grand-daughter.

### **Monday, February 16, 1885**

Rained in the night but froze before morning and at 7 AM the ther stood or rather marked 14°.

After the work was done up I took Mary + my crocheting up to Lizzie's. Mary was surprised and pleased to find the new cousin there. All the children were there in the course of the morning and all equally surprised. Wrote to Carl and sent letters from the other children.

### **Tuesday, February 17, 1885**

Snow and Ther 5°

So cold we can barely keep comfortable though we have good fires. Took my work over home this AM a while ago and got well warmed. Was up to see Lizzie a little while also. It was snowing when I went. Jno left for Kirkwood this evening. Enos was here a few minutes. While Jas and Willie were gone to church I read a few chapters in "Views Afoot" by B. Taylor. It is even more enjoyable than when I read it years ago since I have been over some of the ground.

### **Wednesday, February 18, 1885**

Cold and clear. Ther 15°

Have been working on Margaret's dress. It is going to be as nice one and quite different from any she has had. In the evening I wrote letters, one to Mother Ricker, one to Maggie Bell and one to Jennie Ricker. Have not been out in the evening for about a month so did not go to church.

### **Thursday, February 19, 1885**

Colder. Ther zero at 7 AM

Have been over home several times but went no further. Ma was helping me fit Margaret's waist. Was invited to Mrs. Helfenstein's reception this afternoon but could not go on account of my cold. Did not dare change my heavy every day dress for anything lighter. In the evening Will and his father went to church as usual at Bigelow. The meetings continue interesting there.



## **Friday, February 20, 1885**

Snow and sleighing. Ther -6° at 7 AM. No wind however which is better than it has been. Dwight came looking for a teacher to take his place Sabbath as he is going to Winova today. I finished off Margaret's basque and went up to see how Lizzie was. She was doing very well. Folks are gone to church, that is J. W. + Will. The girls all went to sleep early.

## **Saturday, February 21, 1885**

Still very cold. Ther -6° at 7 AM. Went early to stay awhile with Lizzie as she was not well last night. Saw Maggie Peebles who has returned lately from the southern trip she and Mary have been making. In the afternoon I finished off Margaret's over skirt and in the evening she played at Miss Jennie Gharky's concert. It closes her lessons for a while. Her father + Will went but I did not owing to my cold.

Letter from Bessie Barr.

## **Sunday, February 22, 1885**

Ther -4 and snow still unbroken except in spots where the sun had fair play. No thawing in the shade.

Went to church this evening, the first time for three or four weeks. Was not up to see Lizzie but heard she was doing well.

## **Monday, February 23, 1885**

Clear and not quite so cold. Ther -2 at 7 AM. No thawing in the shade. The longest, coldest spell of the winter has come in Feb which is unusual. In the forenoon I went to see Lizzie, after dinner Ma + I attended the W. R. C. meeting and in the evening I went with Margaret + Will to study to meet the Session of the church. The desire to write with the church and their answers seemed quite satisfactory to those present. I am thankful to God that they give evidence of being true Christians and trust they may be faithful. Letter from Carl.

## **Tuesday, February 24, 1885**

Into a change. Ther 23°

Was up to Lizzie's and also over home awhile with my work. Ma was at the church helping sew on the new rag carpet which she thinks the prettiest she saw. Wrote to Bessie Barr in the evening. This is Jennie Ricker's 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday, also Mrs. Tewksbury's but I do not know her age.

## **Wednesday, February 25, 1885**

More snow fell during the night and continued a while today. Was busy with the mending most of the day. Did not go anywhere except over home. Louise left today so Ma + Mary have no help. L. was lonely without Dena who left last week + concluded she couldn't stand it alone. I could not go to church in the evening it was so snowy under foot. Jno was here this morning, just returned from Kirkwood + reports Carl well + happy.

## **Thursday, February 26, 1885**

Snow still on the ground with enough thawing to make miserable walking. A deep water slush under which lies an icy foundation and it looks as though a general thaw would bring a flood. Was up to see Lizzie before dinner and spent the afternoon cutting carpet rags. Think now I will cut up all the material I have before laying it aside. Jas + Willie went to Bigelow tonight.

## **Friday, February 27, 1885**

Still thawing. Bright overhead. I spent all my spare time on the carpet rags. Prayer meeting was held at our church this evening as a preliminary to extra meetings next week. Jas + Willie went. I was not well enough to go out at night in such weather. Wrote to Bessie Barr and Maggie Bell in the evening. Was over to see Mary Murphy a few minutes this morning.

## **Saturday, February 28, 1885**

Quite mild and pleasant. The only day of the month which has seemed like a real Feb day such as we usually have early in the month. Was busy at home all the forenoon and after dinner I went up to sit awhile with Lizzie. Made a little call upon Mary on my way home and found Uncle Enos there. He has been sick nearly three weeks and looks badly. Mary had a letter from Uncle Tom today.

## **Sunday, March 1, 1885**

Thawing and snowing lightly all day. Went to church in the forenoon. After lessons Margaret went over home for a little visit and soon after Mother came after me saying Margaret had burned her hand and needed me. I found she had fallen partway down stairs and in trying to break the fall had caught hold on the steam pipe and burned her hand badly. Had fainted and frightened them all. Father was there having just arrived from Cin in the Telegraph.

## **Monday, March 2, 1885**

Very light snow fell last night. Ther 30° at 7 AM. Had a busy morning as I had both my own and Margaret's work to do besides helping her as she cannot use her hand. During the day I mended Will's coat and pants. Father was here a few minutes and then returned to Cin on the noon boat. He has been gone about six weeks in all so far. Letter from Mary W. Jas + Will went to service at our church tonight.

## **Tuesday, March 3, 1885**

Bright and pleasant.

Have been at home all day working on the carpet rags and trying to get everything done.

Had a letter from Nannie Sympton. Went to church in the evening. There seems to be a prospect for a service of good meetings. I trust it may prove to be the case.

## **Wednesday, March 4, 1885**

Bright and sunny day. Ther 32° at 7 AM. Mr. Cleveland, Dem President, is inaugurated today at Washington. It has been more than twenty years since a Dem was elected to the office before. Times are very hard now, with a prospect for harder if possible.

## **Thursday, March 5, 1885**

Bright and pleasant. Was 27° busy with carpet rags all forenoon. Mary Murphy came in before dinner on an errand. After dinner I went and bought a canton flannel for underwear for Mary, was just cutting it out when Jno came in. He has been sick for several days and came in on his way to the office but did not go any further until nearly 5 o'clock. We both enjoyed his call. The children were all up at Lizzie P's. Went to church in the evening. Letter from Mother R.

## **Friday, March 6, 1885**

Rather chilly again. Cloudy in the afternoon with a few flakes of snow, I hope the last of the season. Lizzie has been sick in bed again all day so I have stayed with her and sewed as I had opportunity on Mary's underwear. Had a nice letter from Mrs. Bond of Toledo, my S. S. Austral room-mate. Willie and his father went to church. Margaret's hand is much better still it was not best for her to go out in the damp at night.

## **Saturday, March 7, 1885**

Was busy all forenoon with the sweeping and dusting until nearly dinner time when I went up to sit with Lizzie until noon.

She has had a trying time and it is not yet ended.

## **Sunday, March 8, 1885**

Real March day. Only three of us at church today Willie, his father and myself. Dr. Pratt preached a good sermon.

In the afternoon we had our usual lessons and then I went over home a few minutes. Uncle Jimmie was here to tea and Jno was here a few minutes before tea.

## **Monday, March 9, 1885**

Windy and clear. Went down to the boat with Ma to see Mrs. E. B. Greene who was going to Cin. I was taking cold all day and by coming was unable to go out. Margaret's hand was so much better that she started to school again this morning. She lost just one week with it. I wrote to Jennie this evening so she would get the letter on her Anniversary.

## **Tuesday, March 10, 1885**

Weather bright in the morning but rainy in the afternoon. Janie and I are both nearly sick with colds. Have been working a little on carpet rags. Mary Ellen called this afternoon to see me, it has been nearly a year and a half since she was last here but Uncle Enos has arranged

matters on a peace basis I think and we hope it will last. Letter from Bessie Barr and one from Maggie Bell.

### **Wednesday, March 11, 1885**

Rather gloomy, damp day. Was feeling badly all day but kept up and about. Dr. Pratt called in the afternoon. This is Jennie's and Bart's Anniversary. Jas and the children went to church. Finished the letter to Mary Warner which I began last evening.

Fannie and Mary returned from New Orleans this morning.

### **Thursday, March 12, 1885**

Was not able to get up this morning and spent a very uncomfortable day in bed with a severe cold. Had a letter from sister Jennie and sat up in bed to write to Mother Ricker. The folks went to church in the evening but said attendance was smaller than it has been, owing perhaps to the opening of the new Roller Skating Rink on 6<sup>th</sup> Street this evening. 20 years today since sister Anna died.

### **Friday, March 13, 1885**

I did not see much of the weather being in bed all day. It looked bright from the window. Ma and Mary were in at different times, also Jno a few minutes in the morning as Mary has not been well today and spent part of the day in bed with me.

### **Saturday, March 14, 1885**

Beautiful spring-like day. I did not arise until after breakfast and was hardly able to do so then but was tired of lying in bed. Have not attempted very much in the way of work. Have not been up to see Lizzie in more than a week but hear she is improving all the time, Mary is better today and Margaret nearly sick with cold.

### **Sunday, March 15, 1885**

Cloudy in the morning but later it cleared off and the sun shone brightly. I was not well enough to go to church so Lizzie and her Papa represented the family, Margaret + Will both being sick. Pa came home this morning to stay until tomorrow. Was here a few minutes. I went over home in the afternoon for a little while. Uncle Jimmie was here. Will was enough better to attend church in the evening.

### **Monday, March 16, 1885**

Cold and windy. After my morning work I went over to see Pa who left at 11 o'clock for Cin. They went to sit awhile with Lizzie. After dinner I went to a called meeting of the W. R. C. then called upon Mrs. Helfenstein + Grace and lastly upon the 4<sup>th</sup> st folks. Fannie + Mary have just returned from New Orleans. Miss Caroline Hershel's birthday, she was Sir Wm's sister was born in 1750.

## **Tuesday, March 17, 1885**

Weather clear, windy and quite cold. Sewed on collars and spent most of the afternoon with Lizzie. The three girls were there with me part of the time. Wanted to go to church but it was not thought prudent for me to go out as my cold is not all gone.

## **Wednesday, March 18, 1885**

Have been at home all day sewing on collars, have nine for Margaret and eight for myself underway. Did not go to church.

## **Thursday, March 19, 1885**

Weather cold. Went up to sit awhile with L. who is in a strange state of mind. She seems perfectly happy but not natural at all. All this week we have been in trouble about her.

She is up and around but she had a nervous shock Monday which has done her great injury. Jas went to church in the evening but I have not been able to go out for weeks at night. Mrs. Pratt was here this afternoon to see how I was.

## **Friday, March 20, 1885**

Cold and snowy but clear. Ma came to me early this morning asking me to go up to Lizzie who was to have come home to spend the day but she has agreed to wait until after R. took the children to his father's for a visit. She is far from well and when she got home she was rejoiced but before night both mind + body succumbed to exhaustion and we were called in haste to go over and help care for her. I put her to bed and watched beside her nearly all night. Drs. Kline + Ricketts were called.

## **Saturday, March 21, 1885**

I cannot describe the scenes of the last night and today so terrible have they seemed. Lizzie has had only a few lucid spells during the time and has refused to swallow anything unless I gave it to her. I often had to use all my tact to accomplish that. Aunt Mary Moore spent the afternoon helping me, she is so gentle and kind that L. likes to have her around. L. still refuses to speak to the Drs. and does not sleep any though she sometimes lies with her eyes closed.

## **Sunday, March 22, 1885**

This has been a hard day for all of us. L. seemed somewhat rested and more natural early this forenoon but is still in a very precarious state. Mrs. Towne + Mrs. Hall sat with her last night and had no trouble giving her the medicines so she slept some. The Drs. saw her lying quietly in the morning, and at night when they came she spoke to them for the first time. Therza Spry will sit up.

## **Monday, March 23, 1885**

Was with L. all forenoon but was so exhausted from loss of rest and excitement that I had to stay out of the room after dinner. Mrs. Lowes called and as I was alone in Mary's room she sat with me. L. has finally had some rest and begins to improve. I began a letter to Mary Warner but did not finish. Fanny Moore and sister Mary will take turns watching tonight.

## **Tuesday, March 24, 1885**

Weather fair and pleasant. Have been with Lizzie all day, she has been much better today but we cannot be sure the improvement will last. Her children have been at our house all day. Barton brought Jennie and her children down today so they two houses are full, all the older ones staying at our house. Mrs. Duiduit sits up with L. tonight + I will stay home. Letter from Jennie Ricker last Sat.

## **Wednesday, March 25, 1885**

Bright and clear. My time is wholly occupied with Lizzie who needs close care. The children have been at our house today. Bartie, Jno and William P. stayed last night and Elizabeth + Edward came over so Ruth Holmes stayed here with them and she had her hands full. I came home at bed time and slept here. The Drs. say L. is improving but must be carefully nursed. Letter from Mother Ricker.

## **Thursday, March 26, 1885**

Weather bright and spring like. The window have been open much of the time and many ladies are on the street. Lizzie seems bright and improving and in the afternoon I walked down to the Shop with Jennie to see Enos' little engine which he has just finished for the new Bonanza.

## **Friday, March 27, 1885**

Beautiful spring day, sun bright and warm. Lizzie seems improving all the time. I have been with her nearly all the time today. Jennie and her little folks went up to Mrs. Greene's after dinner. Pa came home from Cin. It seemed somewhat like rain in the afternoon but none fell.

## **Saturday, March 28, 1885**

Cloudy all forenoon and after dinner snow + rain began to fall making a very disagreeable afternoon. Dwight brought Bartie + Elizabeth down to our house and E. stayed but B. had to go back after supper as he had a new suit of clothes to be tried. I have spent the afternoon at home, the first one in a week. L. sat up today and became too tired, she was not so well tonight. She asked for R. tonight.

## **Sunday, March 29, 1885**

Quite pleasant, especially in the afternoon. I was over home most of the day. L. did not sit up any and it is necessary for someone to be with her all the time. The children are so numerous and so small that they also require a great deal of time and attention so our hands are full.

The Drs. went + told R. this Am that L. was able + ready to see him if he would go with them but he declined going until she went to their own home on 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Monday, March 30, 1885**

Bright in the morning but cloudy and rainy during the middle of the day, sunshine later. Bartie + Elizabeth were here all day. I was over home most of the time and have been very weak + tired all day. L. improves but has been in bed all day. The Drs. were there a long time this morning. They have been so very, very kind through all our trouble. Sent a letter to Mary Warner. L. asked the Drs. why they did not tell her what R. said to her message, so they gave her his ans.

## **Tuesday, March 31, 1885**

Beautiful day, warm and spring like. Made several visits over home during the day but spent most of my time at my own work as L. is improving and does not need our undivided attention now. We have only lately found how much she has endured and it is little wonder that her nervous system was so completely unstrung. We can hardly realize the situation now. We have long known that L. was not loved by the Peebles family but she has bravely kept all her troubles to herself until it was no longer possible to do so.

## **Wednesday, April 1, 1885**

Weather beautiful and mild. Spent some time with L. + then came home to sew. Elizabeth G. was not well so had to have the Dr. + be taken to her mother at Mrs. G's. I am not at all well and Jas took me out for a little drive which did me good. Drs. K. + R. called to see L. and bade her goodbye for the present. Dr. K. + family have left tonight for a trip south. Pa went to Cin again and Jno left for Kirkwood on the same boat.

## **Thursday, April 2, 1885**

Beautiful day. Elizabeth G. was not at all well today and Jennie came down from Mrs. G's early to see her. Took her over home to wait and see Dr. Rickletts after which she went to stay with her mother. I was back and forth between the houses frequently. Lizzie improves all the time. Jennie was down in the afternoon. After tea Enos had the monkey brought up again for the children's benefit. Bertie Spry spent the day with Margaret and all the little folks had a good time. Letter from Mother R. which was answered.

## **Friday, April 3, 1885**

Rainy and disagreeable.

Jennie and her children went home today. Bertie left here about 8:30 with Ma + Margaret for Mrs. Greene's. Dwight goes with them. Finished off Lizzie's dress. The brown basket cloth and plaid makes a very pretty combination.

### **Saturday, April 4, 1885**

Bright and pleasant again. The usual Saturday sweeping and cleaning kept me busy all the forenoon. After dinner Ma came and sat awhile with me, I was mending underwear. After she left Julia Yong called and when she left I went over home only a few minutes but during that time I missed a call from Alice Ross, so Lizzie told me. Margaret took the little girls up to Mrs. Well's after dinner. In the evening Jas + I called upon Mr. + Mrs. Sturges at Judge Towne's.

### **Sunday, April 5, 1885**

Beautiful day, not assign of rain until after church time in the evening when it rained a little while. We seldom have a finer Easter. I went to church in the morning with Jas, Margaret + Lizzie. Had lessons in the afternoon as usual then went over home to see how they all were. Lizzie wanted to come home with me so I brought her home to tea. Two weeks ago today it was doubtful whether she would ever be able to come home again and we are thankful for her rapid recovery.

### **Monday, April 6, 1885**

Lovely day. We are all well, thankful and happy but only succeeded in ripping up, washing + pressing my old gray dress which I want to make over for somebody. Lizzie continues to improve but Ma is not at all well. She has had trouble and anxiety enough to almost kill her. This was Janie's birthday and the little girls thought it a great day. I gave each of them a present for her.

### **Tuesday, April 7, 1885**

Rained and was cold and miserable.

After dinner it rained steadily until nearly night. J. W. was obliged to go to Pond Run, had a headache and could eat no dinner before starting. Fannie Dugan Adams was buried this afternoon, the weather being a fit emblem of her life which has more than the usual share of sorrow + suffering allotted to 32 yrs, being twice married to the same man who was never what he should have been.

### **Wednesday, April 8, 1885**

A lovely spring day, warm and bright. The trees are still bare however and looks as though they had forgotten to prepare for spring. The grass is quite green + growing rapidly. Have been busy today with a dress for Lizzie.

Wrote a birthday letter to Mary Warner tonight after church, then began a letter to Mother R. The sick all seem better except our Mary who has had a bad cold.



## **Thursday, April 9, 1885**

Cold and disagreeable.

We had a mixture of rain and snow nearly all day. I was late getting settled at my sewing and did not finish the little dress I had hoped to.

Had a letter from Mother R. and finished the answer I begun last night. Also wrote to Jennie Ricker. The Roller Skating craze is at its height and a carnival is in progress tonight at the Palais on 6<sup>th</sup> street.

## **Friday, April 10, 1885**

Weather bright but cool enough for good fires. The sick all seem better today. Willie had a fall coming from school at noon which hurt his head so badly that he could not go out after dinner.

I finished off Lizzie's gray dress, it is made from a part of mine and is very nice. Lizzie brought her work and sat awhile with us before supper. J. W. + I went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Mrs. Coles died this evening at Ashland.

## **Saturday, April 11, 1885**

Bright but cold. Jas + Will went to Pond Run this AM. I was busy until church time in the afternoon when I went to preparatory lecture. Willie had returned so he and Margaret went with me. Mary W's birthday and I should enjoy seeing her. Ma is not at all well, has a bad cold. Wm Peebles is sick in bed with the same trouble.

## **Sunday, April 12, 1885**

Bright and cool. The children went to S. S. as usual. Four of us went to church in the evening. After dinner + lessons we went to Communion. Fifteen united with the church. Mrs. Sam Johnson by letter, Margaret + Willie Ricker, Isabel Murray, Mattie Peebles, Bertha Couray, Ethel Colton, Tracy B. Johnson, August Hacquard, Mary Bowman, Maggie Raper, Willie + Minnie Eberhandt, Nellie Johnson, Maggie Evans. No service in the evening. Went over home to see the folks awhile. Jno came home from K. he missed the train yesterday and had to take the boat. Mrs. Carl Coles was buried today.

## **Monday, April 13, 1885**

Rained in the night and we had both sunshine, wind and clouds today but no rain. Mattie Wood called this morning and spent an hour or more with us. I have been ripping up and washing Margaret's school dress preparatory to making over. Jno was here most of the afternoon. There are several topics to engage our attention now. His wedding, Lizzie's troubles, business matters and so on. Letter from Mary Warner.

## **Tuesday, April 14, 1885**

Bright and pleasant but cool enough to make good fires necessary. Have sewed nearly all day on Margaret's school dress. Ma was in bed all day with my work. Lizzie seems to be improving, and cheerful. Jno was busy with his list of names and invitations to his approaching wedding and enjoys the prospect before him very much.

## **Wednesday, April 15, 1885**

Weather wet. However it did not rain in the evening, we went to prayer meeting, Dr. Pratt being away at Presbytery. Mr. Murray led the meeting and asked Mr. Helfenstein to read one of D. L. Moody's sermon's on Paul.

## **Thursday, April 16, 1885**

Rainy.

Finished off Margaret's school dress. Took the basque over home and worked over the button holes while sitting with Ma. Mrs. E. B. Greene called this afternoon in the rain and made me quite a visit.

Jimmie has been going to the country nearly every day this week, I think every day so far.

## **Friday, April 17, 1885**

Pleasant. I began work on a summer silk which I am making over for Margaret and sewed busily at it most of the day.

My time is divided between the two houses as Ma is still in bed.

## **Saturday, April 18, 1885**

Real April weather with both sunshine and shower. Was busy all forenoon until about 11 o'clock when I went over home with my work. After dinner I sent the little girls and soon after followed them over home. It rained quite hard most of the afternoon.

## **Sunday, April 19, 1885**

Bright and pleasant. Both the little girls were sick all day and I was not out to church. Was over home a little while to see the sick.

## **Monday, April 20, 1885**

Beautiful day, warm and bright. Both the little girls have been sick all day, Mary has a very bad cough. Ma is not able to be up yet and three of Lizzie's children are sick in bed. Have sewed a little on Margaret's dress but had very little opportunity to do much besides wait on the children.

Enos left for Cin to attend to putting his little engine on the new boat. Will go east before he returns. Mrs. Towne, Mr. + Mrs. Sturges called this evening.

## **Tuesday, April 21, 1885**

Beautiful weather, so warm that scores of ladies are out with spring hats and parasols. Mrs. Lowes was here this afternoon, then went over home to see the folks. Before tea I walked over to see Aunt Mary Moore, with Lizzie. It is the first call L. has made for months. Short as the distance was it was too much for her going from the street into a room where there was no fire, added to her cold so she went to bed early.

## **Wednesday, April 22, 1885**

Pleasant but the sun is hot. Matters over home were in such a state with so many sick and so little help that I spent most of the day with them. Went after Mrs. McFarland who came to the rescue. In addition to all this we saw a card written to Mrs. Greene by Jennie saying Barton has Pneumonia and is very sick. Dwight has gone to him. Had letter from Mother R. which I answered.

## **Thursday, April 23, 1885**

Beautiful day. The grass has grown like magic this week + fruit blossoms are opening. The sick are all better but none of them well yet. Letter from Jennie tonight said B. was no worse, is still very sick. Finished off Margaret's summer silk and it looks very well. Is made entirely of old material, lining + thread costing less than 25 cts being the entire expense. Did some mending + Wm was here.

## **Friday, April 24, 1885**

Made a beginning on the house cleaning. The weather is just right for it, a light rain last night settled dust and cleared the atmosphere. Jno came over in the afternoon and visited with me while I rubbed the furniture. Letter from Jennie Ricker.

Barton is much better and I think out of danger.

## **Saturday, April 25, 1885**

Bright and pleasant. Janie and I have been house cleaning nearly all day and I became quite tired still I managed to work in the yard a little. There was a fire at noon just back of court street on an alley and the fire extended to Mr. Murray's fence + stable but did not burn them down. I saw it from Margaret's room where I was wiping the wallpaper.

## **Sunday, April 26, 1885**

Pleasant. The children went to S. S. and Margaret and her father and I went to church. Dr. Pratt let down the bars for the young people but perhaps would be greatly surprised if anyone should say so to him. I did not go out in the evening and Will + his father went to hear Mr. Jackson.

## **Monday, April 27, 1885**

Clear and windy. It rained last night but the wind dried up the mud very quickly. Lizzie's baby is sick and Ma is still in bed so we have had a busy time running back and forth. I could not attend the Relief meeting, the second one I have missed unavoidably.

Father Ricker is 72 yrs old today.

## **Tuesday, April 28, 1885**

Bright and pleasant but cooler. Have been working in the yard much of the time today and with frequent visits over home took up the entire day. Lizzie brought her work and came over awhile and I finished off something I had on hands while she was here.

Aunt Nancy Stuterlant died in Springfield Mass today aged 75 years and a few days, her birthday being April 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **Wednesday, April 29, 1885**

Beautiful weather but quite cool. Frost last night and fires again today. Sewed at home nearly all day and Lizzie and her children spent several hours here. They playing and she talking or reading to me. We are quite interested in the Life of Miss R. I answered the latter. J. W. took Lizzie P. out riding and afterward took Mary M.

## **Thursday, April 30, 1885**

Warm and bright until late in the afternoon when it rained slightly. The event of the day was the burning of the Johnson Hub and Spoke Factory. It was a very hot fire and in a bad place to spread if there had been any air stirring. Mary + I went out together + met Jno who stayed with us while we watched it for nearly two hours. The fire dept. did well to confine the fire within the limits of the factory.

## **Friday, May 1, 1885**

Damp and cloudy. It rained last night.

This is Minnie Miller's birthday and she invited Margaret, Bertie Spry, Mary Badger + Essie Spry, Mary Badger + Essie Cochran to spend the evening with her. They are great friends. Willie went home and has as much good of the party as any of them.

## **Saturday, May 2, 1885**

Weather pleasant. Have been trying nearly all day to get my work in shape to take over home but in the morning it was of a kind that could not be taken from home and after dinner I was just leaving when Mary Y. Moore came. I was glad I did not get away as she is not often here. The new Bonanza leaves Cin today on her first trip.

## **Sunday, May 3, 1885**

Beautiful day. Attended service twice in the forenoon as usual and in the evening we went to Bigelow to hear Mrs. Fannie Leiter's address on Scientific Temperance instruction. It was excellent. The sick are all improving, Ma has not been up today but it was because she thought it best to wait. Mrs. Hamill, Enos' friend was over home to dinner and supper.

## **Monday, May 4, 1885**

Bright and pleasant but a little cool. Have been busy with the summer dresses. Have four of Margaret's ready for her and hope soon to have them all in order. After dinner Jimmie took me out in the buggy to do some errands. Mary went with us and we called upon Maggie Bell first then did the errands. I went to see if Louise couldn't be prevailed upon to stay a few weeks over home and give the folks a chance to go to the wedding. Wrote to Jennie Ricker in the evening. She sent me her photos to select one from.

## **Tuesday, May 5, 1885**

Beautiful day. It has been spent much the same as the others, in working with the summer clothes. The sick are better. Ma sat up nearly all day. In the afternoon Jimmie took Lizzie riding and after tea took Margaret + Lizzie then came after me to ride down and see the new bridge over the Scioto, and the fires on the hills over on the Westside. Father + Mother R. have been married 45 yrs today.

## **Wednesday, May 6, 1885**

Mary Ricker + I went down street this morning to do an errand + while down we met J. W. who went to the river with us to see the new Bonanza. I had not seen her before. Pa + Uncle Enos were there and seemed to take great satisfaction in exhibiting the beauties of the new boat. From there I went out to Mrs. McClain's to call upon Mrs. Belle Tracy + Persies who have lately returned from Boston, also from Carrie Brooks who is there from Ashland. Stopped to see Clara Pursell. After dinner I called upon Dr. Kline's mother and Ella Overturf. Went to PM in the evening.

## **Thursday, May 7, 1885**

Beautiful day. Have done about what I usually do. Sewed every moment I could get and when I have work I can carry, I take it over home to sit with the others or since L. is able to come she brings her work and children here and we have delightful visits together. Wrote to Mother Richer this evening, she is so busy she can scarcely write and I am always anxious to hear from my boy.

## **Friday, May 8, 1885**

Pleasant but so much cooler that it seems like snow or a cold rain must be in the vicinity. Have sewed on the machine, fixing over summer dresses until I am quite tired. The children will not need any new clothes, at least very few if any. Had a letter from Kirkwood saying all were well and busy. The wedding is occupying all their thoughts now.

## **Saturday, May 9, 1885**

Weather cooler than it has been. Have sewed nearly all day altering dresses and underskirts, did not finish until after supper. Was very tired and could not write as I had intended doing.

Miss Jennie Gharky was here to borrow a book, she takes part in the musical exercises at the Camp Fires next week. Margaret baked her cake this forenoon and is improving rapidly. Has made one each week now for six weeks past.

## **Sunday, May 10, 1885**

Lovely weather but cool, had fire all day. Went to church in the forenoon as usual. Had lessons on the afternoon with a little visit over home and one from Uncle Jimmie Wood at tea time.

In the evening Lizzie P. Jimmie + I went up to Bigelow but Mr. Jackson was sick and there was no service so we went on our own church and L. went home.

## **Monday, May 11, 1885**

Beautiful day but cool enough for fire in the morning. Have done a little mending but not much else today. Willie began driving Flo to L. E. Miller's pasture. Got goods from Wannamaker's to make up with the same old gray dress which I was making over just two years ago. It has done me good service. Jimmie took Ma and Lizzie out for a drive, the evening was lovely. Jno left for Cin to get his "trousseau" in order for the wedding and will go to Boston before he returns on other business.

## **Tuesday, May 12, 1885**

Bright and pleasant though for a little while at noon it sprinkled very lightly. A circus was in town and the procession passed down 5<sup>th</sup> so we had a good view of the animals that were to be seen. In the afternoon I put away some of the winter clothing, furs, etc. Colored Margaret's school hat, some ribbons + socks and became very tired.

## **Wednesday, May 13, 1885**

Weather pleasant. Did a little mending, a little visiting and a little work in the yard. Went to prayer meeting in the evening. The Dr. had a short Bible reading on Trust which was very good. There are new bibles for the lecture room but the print is small and hard to read by gas light.

## **Thursday, May 14, 1885**

Delightful day, just cloudy enough for comfort at noon. Went to call upon Mrs. Irving at Dr. Kline's in the forenoon and stayed until after the procession passed. The G. A. R. held a Camp- fire at the Palais Rink all day and evening. The exercises in the afternoon being very interesting. Mrs. Irving of Toledo recited, also Lena Kline, Katie Newman and Mr. Sparks. We all went, that is Jimmie, Margaret, Will + I. Ma went also though I feared it would be too much for her. J. W. gave Janie 6.00 which pays her up to April 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **Friday, May 15, 1885**

Uncle Enos came this AM quite early to discuss Lizzie's affairs with me. He spent more than an hour and we had a pleasant talk but it was difficult to see things just alike. In the evening L. took tea with us after which Jimmie took her out for a drive. When they returned he took me a few squares. Wrote to Mother R. in answer to a letter from her today.

## **Saturday, May 16, 1885**

Warm and pleasant. Have done the usual work of the day, Jimmie took Ma to the farm this afternoon to see the cow. After dinner I prepared things for Sabbath and then answered a letter from Jennie which came today. She has moved from Winova and gave me a description of her new home in her letter. After tea I went to call upon Maggie Mason who is here on a visit. Jimmie called for me and we had a pleasant visit together.

## **Sunday, May 17, 1885**

Lovely weather only a little too dry and dusty for comfort. The children went to S. S. as usual and Will + Lizzie went to church with us, Margaret and Mary remaining at home to sing from Gospel Hymns so we shortened the usual lessons and went. The day has been very pleasant. In the evening three of us went to church.

## **Monday, May 18, 1885**

Warm and dusty. Rain is very much needed. This morning I went over home to Uncle Sam's, then stopped to see Mollie York who is here on a visit from Minneapolis. Went to the store after lining and then came home to sew on my gray dress which I am making over. After dinner I was over home awhile then when I returned Lizzie and three of her children came and stayed to tea with us. After tea Uncle Jimmie Wood came and when he left I went to call upon Bell Martin who is at her brother's on 4<sup>th</sup> street, having come to attend her sister's funeral.

## **Tuesday, May 19, 1885**

Bright and pleasant. Lizzie began a week's sewing with Maggie O'Connor today and I went over home and brought them over here with the work and machine. I am sewing on my gray dress as the opportunity presents.

Dwight Greene came to return my letter from Jennie and made quite a call, discussing church matters + such things of like nature. Letters from Mary Warner + Jennie Greene.

## **Wednesday, May 20, 1885**

Beautiful day. I went early this AM to call upon Aunt Mary + Uncle Sam, stopped to call on Mollie York who is home from Minneapolis. Went to Mr. Brunner's and got lining no, I have repeated Monday here. I sewed today and had a busy time. Went to help my neighbor a little while, before church, with her baby as it had an earache. Pa came soon after my return so I missed going to church. Jennie is going to the wedding. My letter last Saturday prevailed.

## **Thursday, May 21, 1885**

Pleasant. I took extra trouble putting the house in order and was just finishing when Rich came and stayed until after two o'clock PM. We had a long talk which I presume accomplished nothing. L. saw him and talked with him two hours or more. The case is a serious one and we cannot tell how it will end. In the afternoon M. E. called socially. I have not sewed much today. Letter from Mother R. Which I answered.

## **Friday, May 22, 1885**

Beautiful day but warm and close. The sewing progress and L. seems to be really enjoying the days. We enjoy every moment of the time we are together. She is the most patient cheerful Christian I ever saw. One would think from her manner that all her affairs were just as she would like them but instead of that they are anything but.

## **Saturday, May 23, 1885**

Lovely and bright after the rain of last night and in the evening we had a heavy rain from the south. Birdie Spry spent the day with Margaret to celebrate her birthday tomorrow. Lizzie and Miss Maggie were here also and our table was well filled. We had a pleasant day. Maggie Bell called in the forenoon. I finished off my gray dress.

## **Sunday, May 24, 1885**

Delightful since the rain. We took umbrellas to church but the showers fell during service and after we came home so we did not need them. Memorial Services for the G. A. R. were held in the Washington St. M. E. church went over home and sung Gospel Hymns with Lizzie until we were hoarse. Birdie Spry is 14 years old today and Queen Victoria is 66.

## **Monday, May 25, 1885**

Beautiful day, just right for fruit and flowers. Miss Maggie and Lizzie sewed on Ma's velvet dress today + with it finished up her week's work. I went out to see Mrs. Kline in the morning about the Relief meeting. Mrs. K. is sick so is Ma, Mrs. Pursell + Mrs. Ewing. I took messages to Mrs. Beatty, Maggie Silcox, Annie Purdeum + Mattie Lyon. Went to Crop meeting in the afternoon + Mrs. Wells brought me home.

## **Tuesday, May 26, 1885**

Lovely day. Maggie Bell came about 11 o'clock and spent the day with me. I lengthened a gingham dress for Lizzie P. in the morning and then visited with Maggie the rest of the day. J. W. + I took her home in the buggy after supper and we took a ride afterward. Letter from Mother R.



## **Wednesday, May 27, 1885**

Rained. Uncle Sam called early this morning to bring a set of teaspoons which I had ordered for Mary + Jno. The plan I had prepared was that we four sisters join in giving a dozen but the others have about decided that they cannot join now though they may here after. I began darning the summer stockings and have several days' work before me. Wrote part of a letter to Jennie in answer to one I had from her. Clara Pursell called while I was out and called Mrs. Lowes.

## **Thursday, May 28, 1885**

Delightful day. Lizzie has been sick in bed all day. I had a caller who wanted to discuss our family matters and it was with difficulty I managed to avoid trouble. Wrote another sheet to Jennie, a letter to Mr. Warner expressing regrets that we cannot attend the wedding. Had a letter from aunt Hele Ricker inviting us to stop with her if we went out so I wrote and told her we could not go.

## **Friday, May 29, 1885**

Weather delightful, slight showers make vegetation grow and everything is fresh and lovely but the season is unusually backward and flowers scarce. Enos went to Cin to meet Jno and they expect to be home Sunday. The boys both leave home Monday with the expectation of going into business in Boston after Jno's wedding which is set for next Thursday. Lizzie spent the afternoon with me.

## **Saturday, May 30, 1885**

Bright and warm in the forenoon but rainy all afternoon. Exercises for Decoration Day began with the procession at 4 o'clock PM and no one from our family except J. W. + Will went to the cemetery. Margaret + the little girls walked to the cor of 5<sup>th</sup> + Chill to see the procession. I was to have taken part in the decorating but am not well. Had invitations to the Class Day exercises at Vassar on June 9<sup>th</sup> when Jennie + Mary Ricker graduate

## **Sunday, May 31, 1885**

Showery but delightful. Between 7:30 + 9 o'clock PM a very hard storm with wind and hail occurred. Mrs. Happer a returned missionary addressed the meeting at our church. I was not well and did not go out at all, Margaret, Will and Lizzie went with their father. Jno + Enos made a short call before tea. It was a farewell as they leave tomorrow for Kirkwood then go to Boston.

## **Monday, June 1, 1885**

Beautiful day. All was hurry and bustle this morning until after Ma + the boys got ready to leave on the boat. We decided this morning to let Lizzie go with them to the wedding. She was delighted of course and no one then will enjoy it more than she will. It was well there was such a stir when the boys left as we would have felt the parting move had time to think. We will miss them very, very much but hope it will be for their own good in the end.

## **Tuesday, June 2, 1885**

Very warm and bright.

William Peebles is 5 years old today and Margaret gave him a little tea party at which Jno + Elizabeth and Birdie Spry were the guests. After tea the little ones had to go home and some of Margaret's older friends came in and enjoyed a play in the yard.

## **Wednesday, June 3, 1885**

Delightful day. We began to prepare for house cleaning. I put my closet in order and it took all the forenoon and part of the afternoon. Lizzie was cleaning the attic over home and sent me a load of old music and school books some of which I've not seen for as much as fifteen years I think. Margaret sorted over the music, and after tea she went with Uncle Jimmie and me to church.

## **Thursday, June 4, 1885**

Rained early in the morning but was bright afterwards. Janie and I did a hard day's work house cleaning, did not take up and carpets but made through with other wise.

I wrote to Mother Ricker, have had no letter from her this week. This is the wedding day when Jno and Mary Warner will be married at noon in her home at Kirkwood. I should enjoy being there.

## **Friday, June 5, 1885**

Lovely day. Have been busy with the house cleaning all day, swept, dusted, and washed lambrequins, renovated cervias (?) ect. Mary had a letter from Jennie form Kirkwood written the day after she arrived.

Have been enjoying a little of my old music and would be glad if I had more time for practice. Jimmie had a telegram from Enos at Detroit asking to have their mail sent to Quincy House Boston.

## **Saturday, June 6, 1885**

Beautiful day. Was busy with the usual occupations of the day until after dinner, when I finished fixing our room and put them up.

After tea Jas and I went in the buggy to call upon Mr. Wells' brother Jno + his wife. They were just going out so we did not stop but called at Will Pursell's and then at Mr. Theo Johnson's out on Robinson Avenue.

## **Sunday, June 7, 1885**

Bright and warm. A sudden shower fell while we were in church this morning but it was all over when we came home. Dr. Nevin of Pittsburgh preached, he was a pastor here at one time, nearly fifty yrs ago he said. A union Bible meeting in the evening was well attended and Rev. Mr. Jackson of Washington M. E. ch. delivered a very fine address on the Bible. Helen Rhodes Wendt sung both morning and evening at our church. Her father, Wm Rhodes formerly lived and sung in Ports.

## **Monday, June 8, 1885**

Warm and showery, or rather threatening, very little rain fell. Was busy about the house all the morning and after dinner I went to the W. R. C. meetings. It was decided by vote to discontinue the meetings until Sept. unless special business comes up. After tea J. W. and I spent the evening with Judge and Mrs. Towne. Birdie spry made Mary happy by giving her the doll buggy which she had outgrown.

## **Sunday, June 9, 1885**

Bright and clear here.

Had all the books out of the case, dusted and we arranged them. L. and her children were here in the afternoon. Mrs. Hall and her sister were Amelia Thompson called. The latter has been residing at Hastings Minn. For the past ten years.

## **Monday, June 10, 1885**

Pleasant. Was busy all day doing little nothings which need to be done but make no display when finished. The days pass pleasantly notwithstanding the troublesome questions + situations which might spoil all enjoyment if we had not the unfailing comfort which all Christians may have.

Lizzie is a sunbeam which for all those who are so fortunate as to come under her influence. J. W. + I went to church this evening.

## **Tuesday, June 11, 1885**

Quite warm. Have been hard at work all day cleaning. A man whitened the ceilings which have not been touched for two years and needed it badly. Commencement exercises were held at the 6<sup>th</sup> st Rink tonight. I should have enjoyed attending but could not do so.

Paid Janie 10.00 today which pays her up May 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Wednesday, June 12, 1885**

Carl came home from MO with Ma + Lizzie.

Bright and warm.

Housecleaning goes on slowly but we hope to finish soon and not be any worse for it, taking it slowly. Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Helfenstein called today on business but did not stay long. While they were here Janie upset a bucket full of suds in the upper hall which frightened the guests and drenched things generally but did no great damage to a house which has survived the floods.

Wanted to attend Alumni meeting but did not go.

## **Thursday, June 13, 1885**

Hard rain in the morning. After it ceased Jas took Margaret, Will + Carl out in the country to spend the day. Fannie Moore took her birthday dinner over home with Mary. I was over there a while before dinner. In the evening after tea Jas took me riding and it was very pleasant to be out.

## **Sunday, June 14, 1885**

Warm. We attended the usual service but in the evening we had a rare treat in a lecture by Prof. White who formerly superintended the schools here. His subject was Prayer considered in the light of philosophy. It was able and interesting.

## **Monday, June 15, 1885**

Warm with rain early in the morning and late in the evening. Carl is 9 years old today and we are enjoying having him at home again. The day has been uneventful to us, the various things which have absorbed all my time are so insignificant that I can't remember them. Maggie Bell called to tell me she was going back to Louisville to live as Goo has been elected Sec'y Taras of the America Writing Co. and entered upon his duties. His health has been so poor for two years that we did not think he could ever do anything again.

## **Tuesday, June 16, 1885**

Pleasant. A little sewing, a little housework, a little time in the yard and a few errands make up my daily routine. We have heard through the other members of the family from our boys in Boston and hope soon to see Jno and Mary for a few days. They will settle somewhere and be doing something.

## **Wednesday, June 17, 1885**

Pleasant. Jas and our neighbor Mr. Herder spent the day making a new fence between our yards. I have been sewing and in the evening Margaret, Will and I went to prayer meeting, Jas being too tired to go.

Spent a part of the afternoon over home with my sewing.

## **Thursday, June 18, 1885**

Quite warm. This being sister Lizzie's birthday. I invited her and the children over to spend the day and allowed her to spend it as she liked best. She wanted to arrange our new room upstairs as a school room in which to teach her little folks and our labors to the coal house, stable and yard and she was radiant with pleasure and anticipations. I am glad she can enjoy it.

## **Friday, June 19, 1885**

Weather all we could desire. Lizzie has been busy with the school room all day, it seems to give her complete satisfaction, she enjoys it as much as the children and thinks she will learn more than they. She has made the room quite attractive with pictures, maps, ect. Wrote to Mother Ricker tonight after coming home from a pleasant drive. Maggie Bell left on the Bonanza today for Louisville hoping to remain there I saw at the boat. Aunt Maria McCall was here this AM a few minutes.

## **Saturday, June 20, 1885**

Very warm, but pleasant as all the days have been lately. Went to take Julia Pratt home fresh butter milk this noon and found her very weak. It seems impossible for her to last much longer. A year ago we thought her time on earth was short but now it must be near the end. Mary proved a faithful nurse for her and Julia can scarcely spare her to take needed rest.

## **Sunday, June 21, 1885**

Warm in the middle of the day with a shower and heavy clouds + wind in the evening. I took Mrs. Pratt's S. S. I. for her this AM. Went to ch. as usual. Lizzie + Ma went also and L. says it is one year ago today since she has been to ch. She felt well + said she enjoyed every moment of the rime. R. was in the choir. We had lessons + singing in the afternoon and in the evening Jas, the boys + I went to 2<sup>nd</sup> Pres ch to hear Rev. J. L. Wells.

## **Monday, June 22, 1885**

Windy and cool but no rain in town, there must have been some near. I sewed nearly all day, cut out and finished off a night shirt. Find a great deal to do out of doors and spend considerable time in that way. We are looking for Jas + Mary soon but have not heard just when they will be here.

## **Tuesday, June 23, 1885**

Cool and pleasant.

Have been busy with the parlor curtains all day and when they were up I finished arranging the parlor. Lizzie was late getting over to her little school but they put in the time faithfully when they began. Read a letter from Enos to Ma in which he speaks hopefully of his future. One year ago today he and I were all ready for our trip to Europe.

## **Wednesday, June 24, 1885**

It has been just one year today since Enos and I left home for Europe. Today he is gone to stay perhaps in Boston but any way he will not return here. We will probably be gone in another year. Lizzie, Jimmie and I went to Prayer meeting and on the way stopped to inquire about Julia Pratte and L. left some flowers for her. Saw Laura Southard at the door.

## **Thursday, June 25, 1885**

Pleasant but warm in the sun. I spent the day on window curtains and became very tired. Sewed on the machine steadily making some long white curtains for Janie's room and the ruffles for the top of Margaret's curtains which are of sheese cloth. In the evening Jimmie took me rising which rested me very much. Margaret + Bertie had the little girls out walking. Col. Moore was buried in the afternoon.

## **Friday, June 26, 1885**

Weather pleasant, remarkably cool for the season. Preparation of our houses for the arrival of Jno, Mary occupies all our time and thoughts. Jimmie took Ma up to see Mrs. Greene this evening about the pattern of a head dress which she wants to make for Mother Ricker. After their return he took me out for a little drive.

Made two short waists for Will.

## **Saturday, June 27, 1885**

Rained quite hard today and settled the dust after we had swept the house so everything was nice and clean. Jimmie + the boys went to Pond Run + brought a load of Alder blossoms home to us. Mr. Warner was to have been here today but missed his train and will be up on the Bonanza in the morning. I wrote a long letter to Enos this afternoon. Jno + Mary were to have come on the late train but they telegraphed that they would come Monday instead. We all feel quite anxious to see them.

## **Sunday, June 28, 1885**

Lovely day. One year ago today Enos and I sailed from New York on the Austral. I took Mrs. Pratt's S. S. class again for her. Julia died at 5 AM. She has been ill for more than a year and her death is only release from suffering. Mary + I called on the afternoon but saw none of the family. Mr. Warner preached for Dr. P. in the morning and in the evening he, Ma, Mary, Lizzie, J. W., Will, Carl + I went out to 2<sup>nd</sup> Pres. To hear Mr. Work who enters upon his work there today.

## **Monday, June 29, 1885**

Beautiful day, the late rain has made everything beautiful. Jimmie took Mr. Warner out riding this afternoon. Jno and Mary came on the late train, from Pittsburg and we sat up with the home folks to wait for them. Mr. Warner and Uncle Jimmie took tea with us. Rev. Mr. Jackson of Bigelow M. E. ch. called upon Mr. Warner at our house after tea.

## **Tuesday, June 30, 1885**

Weather beautiful. Of course not much was done aside from visiting with Jno + Mary. Dr. + Mrs. Kline, Mr. + Mrs. Wells, Dr. + Mrs. Dennis, Dr. + Mrs. Ricketts + Aunt Mary Sam Moore and ourselves were invited to meet the friends at tea. Mrs. D. + Mrs. R. were out of town. Mary is just as lovely as ever and we are delighted to welcome her into our family. Julia Pratt was buried this evening. Mr. Ketchum preached her funeral sermon. Mr. W. attended + Mr. K. took him to Cin with himself in Dr. Corten's buggy. Wrote to sister Jennie.

## **Wednesday, July 1, 1885**

Cool enough for fire so we opened the grate and kept fire all day. Mr. Warner, Jno + Mary and sister Lizzie took dinner with us. Uncle Jimmie could not come. He and our children including Jno + Wm P. and expecting Lizzie + Mary went over on the Ky. hills after dinner. Jno Moore had turned his ankle a little stepping out the door over home + the climb on the hill aggravated it so he had to ride home from the ferry in a hack. July 3<sup>rd</sup> will be just two years

since his last trip on the hills when we had trouble with the drunken men on the ferry boat + we feared Jno + Jimmie would be badly hurt, perhaps killed. 22 yrs ago today at 9 AM the battle of Gettysburg began.

### **Thursday, July 2, 1885**

Weather do cool that we had fire in the sitting room. Jas strained ankle kept him very quiet today. I was back + forth several times. Mr. Warner + Mary were here a while in the afternoon. I had to go alone to call upon Mrs. Porterfield (Father's cousin Minnie) as Jimmie had sick headache. Had letter from Mother R. which I took over home for Mr. W. to see + found Dwight Greene, Will + Clara Waller calling there.

Letter from Jennie.

### **Friday, July 3, 1885**

Weather beautiful and cool. Mr. Warner left on the C & E train for Cin + home. Uncle Jimmie, Dwight Greene and Fannie Moore were there with the rest of us to go see him off.

Mrs. E. B. Greene called to see Mary W. and I was there just as she was leaving. I went out and asked Clara + Will Pursell to call there this evening and they did so but I was not present at the time. Wrote to Mother Ricker and sent the letter by Mr. Warner.

### **Saturday, July 4, 1885**

Weather pleasant but the day has been long and tedious as holidays are apt to be. The universal rule is for help to take the day and our time is divided between kitchen work and keeping the children from destroying property with their fire crackers. The limited supply of the same being our chief source of comfort. We were saddened by the news of Dr. Gibson's death but since he was suffered since March we ought to rejoice his release.

### **Sunday, July 5, 1885**

Pleasant but warm. Went to ch. as usual, Rev. Mr. Lindsley preached excellent sermons for us. At 4 PM the funeral services of our friend Dr. Robt M. Gibson were held at his late home on Gallia street and J. W. attended but I did not. An hour later that same service was held for little Karl Franklin, but the latter was not cause for grief because the poor little boy had suffered for years with spinal disease + it was a happy release. We will miss Dr. Gibson sadly. Enos especially will mourn his loss.

### **Monday, July 6, 1885**

A little showery which made the day just delightful. The departure of Jno + Mary and other circumstances have had a depressing effect upon us all. We did little but visit + talk in view of the parting. J. W., the boys + I rode to the river with Jno + Mary about 10 PM and bade them goodbye on the Telegram. They go to Kirkwood for the present. One year ago today we landed at Queenstown and spent part of a dismal da in Cork but it was the beginning of a delightful week.

## **Tuesday, July 7, 1885**

Warm. 4 years today since Sallie Peebles died and a telegram from Cal. announced the death of Chas. W. Davis this AM at 4 o'clock. Spent awhile over home with the guests Aunt Mary + Mrs. Porterfield. They called here in the evening. Wrote to Aunt Betsey Ricker and Mrs. Bond. I am living over our trip taken just a year ago and the return of the dates brings my mind. No one ever had more good of such a trip than I have had. In playing over the Echoes of Killarney and meeting of the waters reading Tom Moore's Inns falling and other poems home enjoyed the day greatly.

## **Wednesday, July 8, 1885**

War. Called in the morning at Uncle Sam's to say goodbye to Mrs. Porterfield (Father's cousin) and her son Ralph. Ma, Mary + Lizzie were with me. Wrote to Enos in Boston. Mailed letter to Mrs. Bond in Toledo. It is 12 yrs today since Emma Spry died and 7 yrs since Belle Zimmerman died. How the time flies. Have finished reading the life of Caroline Herschel, a wonderful woman. Read an extract in Irving's Sketch Book, one I heard recited in a R. R. car one year ago today as Enos + I were doing to Dublin.

## **Thursday, July 9, 1885**

Weather unusually pleasant for the season. Was at home doing little nothings most of the day. L. came over in the afternoon and I worked on some trimming just because nothing else was ready. There are some things more important needed but I've neither material nor money with which to buy with just now so must wait awhile.

## **Friday, July 10, 1885**

Pleasant. Spent some time in the forenoon selecting out the winter stockings which needed mending and put all the rest into the carpet rags. Hope to have enough in order for the family by winter. After dinner I took Lizzie to the dentist's but Dr. D. advised me not to have her tooth taken out. She and I then called upon Bessie Hall. She then went over home + I called upon Emma Voorheis and Mrs. Connolly. After tea J. W. took me out to ride and we called upon Mary Brannon.

## **Saturday, July 11, 1885**

Pleasant. The usual sweeping and dusting occupied the forenoon. In the afternoon we went to preparatory lecture and after supper took a drive. It rained awhile after dinner and I put on a gossamer and transplanted a bed of pansies, also planted some vines and pansies in Willie's home-made vase which he made from an old pump cover. It gives him great satisfaction.

## **Sunday, July 12, 1885**

Pleasant. Went to church in the morning and Communion service in the afternoon. Marion Y. Reilly was received on profession and S. S. Peebles, Mrs. Smith, Addie Murray were



received by letter. In the evening J. W., the boys, sister Jennie + I went to hear Mr. Jackson at Bigelow ch. His subject was "the" love of money is the root of all evil.

### **Monday, July 13, 1885**

Weather delightful for the season. One year ago today I spent a delightful Sabbath in Edinboro. 22 years ago today the Union army reached Yazoo City, Miss where we then lived and we left with the soldiers when they came away. Sister Lizzie spent the day with me cutting carpet rags. We made good progress in the work. She was made very happy in the afternoon by a present of a handsome black silk dress, or material for one. After tea J. W. took her little folks + Maggie riding while she and I made a call at Mrs. Vincent's, he took me later.

### **Tuesday, July 14, 1885**

Pleasant except in the middle of the day when the sun is hot. This is the French "4<sup>th</sup> of July." Have not accomplished much today except make a call upon Mrs. Prescott. Was over home + saw Fanny Moore who was talking over plans for her approaching wedding. Poor girl, she has a dire time of it. Lizzie began on her new black silk which Ma + Mary got for her yesterday. It is very handsome but they got it at a bargain else they could not have taken it.

### **Wednesday, July 15, 1885**

Warm. This is J. W.'s Birthday and I should be glad to celebrate in some way but cannot do so. Margaret has been busy all day getting ready to go to Gove with Mary tomorrow to visit Jennie. I helped her until she was all ready. She stayed with Mary tonight as they leave on the 4 AM train. Uncle Jimmie brought Hattie Meredith, Mary + Hattie Crossley to call upon us this evening. J. W. + I went to prayer meeting as usual. Had a letter from Jno.

### **Thursday, July 16, 1885**

Warm. After doing my usual morning work I went over home and helped Lizzie awhile with her dress. Brought home enough pleating to keep me busy until 6 o'clock and was glad of the chance to help her. She has helped me many a time. After supper I wrote to Mother Ricker. Had letters from her and Enos. Carl had one from Grandpa who just misses the little boy very much.

### **Friday, July 17, 1885**

Weather very hot. While writing I hear locusts which sound is said to indicate frost in six weeks but it seems a long way off today. Am engaged in making new black jeans pants for Will, it is warm work. Sewed until supper time then watered the flowers, threw water on the walks and steps to cool things off a little. J. W. wanted me to go rising but I felt that I could not spare the time.

## **Saturday, July 18, 1885**

Extremely hot, Ther almost 99° in the shade at noon. Finished off Will's pants which was all I had time to do after my usual Saturday work. A hard rain in the afternoon cooled the air, settled up to June 27<sup>th</sup>. We had a pleasant drive in the evening.

## **Sunday, July 19, 1885**

Warm, hot I may say. Went to S. S. then all of us went to church. Spent the afternoon with our lessons after which J. W. read aloud to me awhile. Uncle Jimmie did not come to tea, nor did I go over home as I often do. In the evening J. W. and I went to church where the congregation consisted mostly of women, and they were scattering.

## **Monday, July 20, 1885**

Hot still. The sun seems making up for lost time for we have had unusually cool weather until very lately.

Began cutting out more pants today. A small amount of good in addition to what I had will make a pair for Carl after cutting two prs. for Will. Did not sew much on them. J. W. took Uncle Enos to the farm this AM early. We had a short but pleasant call with him before our breakfast was ready. Letter from Jennie Ricker which I ans'd. Called to see Mrs. Lowes this PM.

## **Tuesday, July 21, 1885**

Hot. Was all the forenoon trying to get settled to sewing but did little in that as Mr. S. of the Tribune came to talk about some letters for the paper which has just changed hands. Mr. McFarland having sold to Co. After he left, Dwight called and stayed until noon discussing policies and other questions with J. W. and myself. Sewed in the afternoon and accomplished a great deal on the pants. Letter from Margaret + a short call from Birdie Spry. Took a drive in the evening.

## **Wednesday, July 22, 1885**

Hot. Wrote to Jno. Began taking milk from Mrs. S. as my supply is low.

Put a good, honest hard day's work on the pants and was tired in the evening, however we went to prayer meeting as usual. The topic of the hour in all circles are is the absconding of Charlies Damarin, son of L. C. D. who is PM and Charlie has been going wrong until it could be hid no longer so he ran off.

## **Thursday, July 23, 1885**

Warm. After the morning work I began on the letter I had promised to write the paper and it occupied me most of the day and then was not finished. It is pleasant occupation for me as it takes me back over the past which was so delightful.

Had a letter from Mother Ricker which I answered this evening.

## **Friday, July 24, 1885**

Warm. Spent the forenoon finishing the article which I had promised to send in today. It was not returned to me. Took button holes over home to make in the afternoon and before tea I had them all done. Lizzie is finishing off her new silk dress. Rode in the evening.

Called and found Mrs. Kline sick.

## **Saturday, July 25, 1885**

Very hot. Swept and dusted as usual, put the last stitches in the two pairs of pants, bathed the children and after tea took a nice drive. We go nearly every evening and take some of the children. Called to see how Mrs. Kline was.

Had a note from Mrs. Reynolds who will write later.

## **Sunday, July 26, 1885**

Very warm and close. The atmosphere indicated rain which came in a hard shower about 5 o'clock PM. Dr. Pratt announced that we would have no service the next two weeks. Went to hear Mr. Jackson in the evening.

## **Monday, July 27, 1885**

Pleasant since the rain of yesterday. Early this AM I went to pay my bil at W. A. Conolley's \$7.91 being the am't. Then I went to see how Mrs. Kline was and found her better but still weak. Put in most of the day darning + after tea took a pleasant drive. Went down past the distillery, the old road where my grandparents lived and came back by river road. Wrote to Jennie when I came home. Lizzie Ricker wrote to Ira R. to wish him nay happy returns of his birthday which occurs on the same date as her and sister Jennie's.

## **Tuesday, July 28, 1885**

Cool in the morning but not later in the day. Ma came over and sat an hour or more while I was darning stocking, employment which never fails me.

## **Wednesday, July 29, 1885**

Unusually hot. We have suffered from the heat today. This is Lizzie Ricker's birthday. She had several little presents which made her very happy. Mary came home from Jennie's and brought a little chicken for the little girls. Jennie sent a nice dress to Lizzie, also a calico dress to May and Margaret wrote to Lizzie. We went to church as usual. I have not felt at all well. Wrote to Mother Ricker today, and had letters from Jno + Enos.

## **Thursday, July 30, 1885**

Very warm. My chief employment for the day was to have been letter writing. Mr. S. came and made arrangements with me by which I am to finish the paper with some letters and our sub. is to be paid thereby. In the evening we were rather scattered as J. W. had an

engagement down town and Will had one up town. I was over home a little while and the little girls with Carl were at Mrs. Herder's. Sent letters to Jennie and Margaret.

### **Friday, July 31, 1885**

Warm, very warm. After the dust was settled Lizzie and her little folks came over and spent the forenoon. We had a nice visit as always here.

Again my writing has been interrupted and I was until bed time getting the last of the M. S. ready.

We have been considerably annoyed this afternoon by a new development in L.'s affairs still we hope and pray that all will come out right in the end.

### **Saturday, August 1, 1885**

Hot. The day has passed much as other Saturdays. Sweeping, dusting, visiting when there was opportunity and writing a little. Finished the new heels in Will's winter stockings. Had a pleasant drive in the evening. Stopped to see an old schoolmate of mine who is visiting Mrs. Newman and had expressed a wish to see me. The Callie Scott of twenty years ago is now Mrs. Johnson, she was not in so I missed seeing her. Uncle Thos. R. Smith died at 5 PM at Vicksburg Miss.

### **Sunday, August 2, 1885**

Pleasant, a delightful breeze was stirring nearly all day. In the morning Lizzie and Jno went with us to hear Mr. Jackson and his sermon on christian charity or love, was excellent. In the evening J. W. Carl and I went again and heard him preach from the text "They have hewed the out cisterns, broken cisterns etc." and during the evening a refreshing breeze was blowing upon us all the time. The weather today has been a constant reproach to churches that have closed their doors on account of the heat,

### **Monday, August 3, 1885**

Rainy and delightful. L. came over to help me cut and sort carpet rags and spent the day here. In the morning my old friend Callie Scott Johnson called and as she asked for Mary I sent for her and we had a pleasant call. Our day's work was a dusty one but we accomplished considerable and if our minds had been free from care we would have enjoyed it greatly. L.'s looks and affairs generally have distressed me more than usual today.

### **Tuesday, August 4, 1885**

Weather delightful. Warm in the middle of the day but the nights are cool. Lizzie came to help me again today and by noon we were ready to begin sewing. Sewed all the afternoon and had four balls done by night. Ma helped and Lizzie Ricker sewed faithfully all the afternoon. The first ball was the work of the three Elizabeths Ma, Lizzie P. and Lizzie R. I went down street after tea and bought stockings to send to Margaret.

## **Wednesday, August 5, 1885**

Delightful weather. I did not get at sewing until noon as the clothes were to be mended and put away after the sweeping was done. After dinner I went over home to sew on the carpet rags, but just as we had commenced Mrs. Connolley came for Lizzie to go out and see Lizzie and as Lizzie had promised, she dressed and went. Ma was gone to see Mrs. Kline so May and I had the rags + children to ourselves.

## **Thursday, August 6, 1885**

Pleasant. Margaret is spending her birthday at her Aunt Jennie's and I am reminded that she has been away from me for the past three birthdays. Last year I was away. Had some mending and writing which kept me all the forenoon and after dinner Dwight came bringing Bartie and Elizabeth who came down with Fred from the Furnace last evening. They will stay here tonight. I had a good letter from Miss Reynolds who sent me one from her son also. Wrote to Mother and Jennie Ricker.

## **Friday, August 7, 1885**

Warm. It rained today quite hard, but we only had a sprinkle. The children, Will, Carl and Bartie went to the Brickworks in the afternoon with Dwight.

Elizabeth was up at her Grandmother's. I managed to get considerable time on the carpet rags but it is slow work as we are sewing very short pieces together. We took a drive with the little girls this evening. Will and Carl being at the Rink where the Bicycle Club was riding.

## **Saturday, August 8, 1885**

Warm but a little breeze has been stirring. This is the day for Gen'l Grant's public funeral and some kind of Memorial Services are to be held all over the country. A service was held in the Court House yard here in which several societies participated. I was over home awhile in the afternoon. Mrs. Connolley was there at the afternoon. Lizzie and Mary went to Julie Murphy's birthday party, she is ten years old today.

## **Sunday, August 9, 1885**

Unusually hot. I seldom feel oppressed by the heat as I have done today. We went to the Methodist church both morning and evening, that is our own family, those who went anywhere. Ma + Mary went to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pres. ch, yes and Will went there in the morning with Ma.

Mary Ricker has a cold and is very hoarse at night.

## **Monday, August 10, 1885**

Cloudy. Ma and Mary were down street this AM and notified the church collector that they wished to give up their seat in church. They have decided that it is not best for them to go there any longer. They get no good and can do no good.

Jas, Carl + I were out riding this evening, stopped at Mrs. Greene's for a short call. I wanted to tell her why we thought it not best for B. + E. to stay with us since Mary coughs so hard that we cannot be sure she hasn't got the whooping cough.

## **Tuesday, August 11, 1885**

Very warm.

Ma + Lizzie went up street this afternoon and took Jno and W. to see Bartie and Elizabeth who are at Mrs. Greene's. I sent off the letter which I have had on hands for several days for Mary Warner. Wrote to Mother R. in the evening. After tea I called a few minutes at Mrs. Connolley's.

Father + Mother's 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **Wednesday, August 12, 1885**

Hot. The usual house hold duties kept me busy all the forenoon and when the mending was all done I sewed on the rags. Lizzie has been busy with Jno's velvet suit today so I did not see much of her until evening, when she came and sewed with me.

We had a call from Will Smith this afternoon and he and Lizzie both stayed to tea with us. May is not well. We did not go to church. Late in the evening Lizzie went with me to see Mrs. Ghrarky a few moments.

## **Thursday, August 13, 1885**

Cloudy with very light sprinkles. Was busy writing nearly all day. Will + Carl went up to the Brick Works with Mrs. Greene and the Greene children. About 4 o'clock Lizzie came over and we sewed carpet rags until supper time. She ate with us and then went to the children. This is Mary Y. Moore's birthday. Ma and sister Mary were here after supper.

## **Friday, August 14, 1885**

Delightfully cool and pleasant. Will was sick this morning, not able to be up. Bartie stayed all night with Carl and then they both went to Mrs. Greene's for the forenoon. I was busy finishing my letter for the paper. Sewed on the carpet rags in the afternoon. Took a short ride in the evening and stopped to speak to Mary Moore and give her a little book for her birthday.

## **Saturday, August 15, 1885**

Was unusually busy all day and was taking more cold all the time. Swept + dusted in the house and worked in the yard pulling weeds and grass. Jas had a lawn mower and cut the grass so the yard looks much better.

Am about sick tonight. Had a letter from Enos this evening. Jno took Lizzie out awhile after tea, the evening was delightful for riding.

## **Sunday, August 16, 1885**

Quite pleasant though a little warmer than it has been for two or three days past. I was not able to go out anywhere today. My cold is very troublesome. J. W. and the boys went to Bigelow in the evening. In the forenoon he, Carl and Lizzie went there and Will went out to the 2<sup>nd</sup> ch.

Had a letter from Mary Warner.

## **Monday, August 17, 1885**

Quite warm again. My cold is a little better but still I am not well. Mary coughs hard but is better than she was. I wrote to Jno this morning then put in the rest of the day on the rags. Have almost 22 lobs sewed and wound. The pieces are so short that it takes a long time to make a ball. Was alone most of the day as Lizzie was having her teeth fixed and could not spend much time here. Bartie and Elizabeth came in the morning and are here yet.

## **Tuesday, August 18, 1885**

The days are all very much alike. A little housework, a little writing and a little sewing fill up the daylight. I began my letter this afternoon but did not get much done until Ma came in so we sewed on the carpet rags together.

## **Wednesday, August 19, 1885**

Spent most of the day on my writing. Find it a pleasant occupation and am improving the opportunity to study up some subjects which I intended doing soon after my return from Europe. I have written five letters now for the paper and though it was not to be known who wrote them, people seem to be finding out and manifest considerable interest in them. Bartie and Elizabeth went up to Mrs. Greene's this evening.

## **Thursday, August 20, 1885**

Have felt badly from my cold and have remained at home all day.

This is Enos' birthday and I intended having a letter reach him today but did not get it written until this morning.

Sewed in the afternoon. The work progresses slowly but faithful application begins to tell in the number of balls in the barrel.

Had a letter from Mrs. Bond.

## **Friday, August 21, 1885**

Pleasant. Have been better of my cold today and worked at the carpet rags most of the time. Ma helped me in the forenoon. In the evening after tea we took a short drive. The first we have had this week as we have all had too much cold to go out. After we came home Dwight came down to tell us he was going to take the children home in the morning. I wrote to Maggie. Letter from Jennie Ricker.

## **Saturday, August 22, 1885**

Have had an unusually busy day with nothing more than ordinary duties but the heat and work together seemed too much for me. After tea I called to see Gussie Halderman then came home and wrote to Maggie Bell. Went to bed not feeling very well.

Willie is twelve years old today.

Dwight took Bartie and Elizabeth home this morning and will bring Maggie home next week.

## **Sunday, August 23, 1885**

Very warm and oppressive. I was very sick all night and unable to be up today. Before noon Jas went after Dr. Kline who came and gave me some medicine.

No one went to church from either house today. My illness and Ruth's absence seemed to upset the whole community. Uncle Jimmie was here to tea. Hard rainstorm in the afternoon.

## **Monday, August 24, 1885**

Warm but pleasant. The late rain refreshed vegetation very much. We have some lovely roses in bloom. I was much better but did not get up until after dinner, the doctor had advised me to lie still all day but I felt enough better to dress. Aunt Mary and Dr. Pratt were in during the afternoon. I sewed a very little on the carpet rags and wrote to Mary Warner, who is now in Boston or the vicinity. Jas went to Louisville this morning on a business trip, will be gone several days. The home folks have been over several times today.

## **Tuesday, August 25, 1885**

Rainy or cloudy all day, delightful for indoor work and I felt just able to write and enjoy it so I wrote my weekly letter for the paper and did some studying. Have now written six. Wrote to J. W. at Louisville.

Dr. Kline called and said I was doing well enough + he should not call again.

## **Wednesday, August 26, 1885**

Cool and pleasant. The papers tell of very cold weather in the north west, 27° and vegetation killed in some places. Have felt much better today and had quite a house cleaning upstairs. Mended a bar for the front room and was just going to dress when Mrs. Connolley and Gussie Haldeman came and made a good long call. Lizzie was over with her work most of the forenoon. Wrote to Mother Ricker. Uncle Jimmie was here before church.

## **Thursday, August 27, 1885**

Quite cool and chilly most of the day. After sweeping and putting the house to rights I dressed and went over to see Gussie Haldeman then out to ask Clara Pursell to call upon Jennie next week. Will was anxious for a flannel bicycle shirt and having found the right kind of material, Mary gave him money to try it and I began late in the afternoon. Had made the pleating for Lizzie's dress (green flannel) after dinner.



## **Friday, August 28, 1885**

Pleasant. Sewed busily on Will's flannel shirt. He watched my progress with great interest and was all ready to put it on as soon as finished. He made a call upon Lord Haldeman and afterwards went to the Rink to ride his bicycle. I was over to Mrs. Connolley's after the shirt was done to return the one I borrowed. In the evening J. W. took me out in the buggy to ask a few friends to call upon Jennie when she comes. Paid Janie 10.00 settling up to Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Saturday, August 29, 1885**

Warmer than it has been lately. Have been busy as usual putting the house in order. Birdie Spry spent the day with Margaret and in the evening they took the children out for a walk. J. W. took Lizzie P. to drive. I had a letter from Jennie Ricker saying she would be here Wed. next. Wrote to Lettie Smith, thanking her for papers.

## **Sunday, August 30, 1885**

Pleasant but quite warm in the middle of the day. I was not well at all and did not go out to church in the morning.

In the evening Ma, Mary, Lizzie, J. W. and I went up to Bigelow to church, a class of over sixty was received into full membership, the result of last winter's revival season. Lizzie was over in the afternoon awhile. The day has been delightful in point of weather. We have not been all at home on Sunday for six months until today.

## **Monday, August 31, 1885**

Pleasant weather, foggy in the morning but colder later. This is Lizzie's anniversary, has been married nine years today and after a stay of more than five months at home R. came this morning and took her and the children home to Henley. Two years ago today, I see they were going out also. Mrs. Connolley and Gussie came to see them off. They are faithful friends of our family. Willie wet to Cin for a little trip before school begins.

## **Tuesday, September 1, 1885**

Cool for the season.

Have been busy all day putting the house in order. Went over to see Gussie a few minutes and say goodbye as she intends leaving on the early train.

Went to speech in the evening and heard the novice, Judge Foraker open the campaign here.

## **Wednesday, September 2, 1885**

Have been busy all day getting ready for Jennie. She came on the late afternoon train and had not laid off her hat until Mrs. Tewksbury, Julia + Margaret called, also the home folks soon after.

We did not go to prayer meeting, Mr. + Mrs. Tewksbury called and spent about an hour with us in the evening.

## **Thursday, September 3, 1885**

Dry but not very warm. Addie Ricker came on the train from Ironton this morning to visit with Jennie. I want to make it as pleasant as I can for them. After dinner Mrs. Prescott + Mrs. Murfin, Jessie Ewing and Aunt Mary Sam called on the girls. No one came in the evening and we had a quiet visit together with our work + conversation. I have written Minnie Gould to join them here. Margaret went to a party at Mr. Wells'

## **Friday, September 4, 1885**

Rainy and cool. Jennie + Addie, J. W. and I took dinner at Mr. Tewksbury's and met Julia + Margaret and their children. Had a very pleasant day. Began a stocking for Lizzie. Miss Anna Connell called upon Addie but missed seeing her. The home folks are very busy house cleaning. It seems very strange not to have more than three in family over home. Mary Ellen called this evening.

## **Saturday, September 5, 1885**

Rainy all day long. Miss Minnie Gould came down from Franklin F'ce on the morning train to spend a day or two with us while Jennie is here. Josie Murfin had invited them all to take dinner at home. Miss Connell called upon Addie again and missed her. In the evening Prof. + Mrs. Lowes called upon the girls who all returned in time to see them. I was at Mrs. Lowes at noon to see Fannie Moore who is staying there a few days. Letter from Mrs. Reynolds. Lizzie stopped in on us very expectantly today and it was a delightful surprise. Wrote to Mother Ricker.

## **Sunday, September 6, 1884**

A delightful day, cool + bright. J. W. Jennie + Addie, Minnie Gould, Margaret + I went to church with Mary at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pres. Rev. Mr. Work brought his bride (third wife) to the church. He has only been pastor there a few weeks. We spent a very quiet, pleasant day, + had lessons as usual. This is Jake Ricker's birthday. We all went to the 2<sup>nd</sup> ch. in the evening again and heard Mr. Work preach on sanctification.

## **Monday, September 7, 1885**

Lovely weather, cool and clear. Twenty two years ago today we moved to Portsmouth. Jennie + Addie Ricker and Minnie Gould went to Ironton on the moving train and I saw them off. After dinner J. W. + I went to Uncle Sam's to call upon Aunt Maria and Grandma Moore, saw the latter. Met Aunt over home later. Came home + swept + dusted. Clara Pursell, Jennie and Nettie Gharky, Mrs. Graham and Kate Crichton called on Jennie who, of course, was gone. The children, Margaret, Will Carl + Lizzie started to school. Our company and ourselves took breakfast over home.

## **Tuesday, September 8, 1885**

My birthday has been celebrated in various ways. Fair weather in the morning was succeeded by a wind storm in the evening. A cyclone which passed us by and struck Washington C. H. very hard. Blew down 300 houses and killed twenty people besides surrounding scores. Fannie Moore was married this evening we decided last minute not to go to the wedding. Called there in the afternoon. A new calf came to help celebrate the day for me. Jennie came back from Ironton before noon.

## **Wednesday, September 9, 1885**

A pleasant day called in the morning at Uncle Enos', the school, Uncle Sam's then went to see the Bonanza. Came home and J. W. took Jennie out to Mr. Bannon's and the cemetery. After dinner we returned the calls of Mrs. Tewksbury, Julia + Margaret Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Josie Murfin we met on the street. Called at Jessie Ewing's, Kate Crichton's, then on to Clara Waller, Clara Pursell, the Misses Gharky, Mrs. Lowes, Mrs. Murphy + the home folks. Lillie + Minnie Johnson called after our return.

## **Thursday, September 10, 1885**

Pleasant in the morning but indications of rain which were fulfilled before night. Jennie + I went up on the morning train to Franklin to spend a day with Minnie Gould. It is a delightful place and we were pleasantly entertained. Mr. Gould took us upon the hill nearby to visit the camp of a surveying party. Mr. Mossman and family being there. They are making a geodetic survey which they cannot hope to finish in their lifetime.

## **Friday, September 11, 1885**

Beautiful day. After breakfast Mr. Gould brought up the express and took Jennie, Minnie and me riding until train time. It was a delightful ride and we reached the station just in time for the train. Thanking them for their kindness we bade them goodbye and were home by 10:30 AM. Jennie dined over home. We saw Grandma again and then she left for Uncle Sam's where she will stay until next weeks. Jennie packed her trunk in the afternoon and left on the 6:45 train for Buffalo. We had a pleasant visit but not so long a one as we wished.

## **Saturday, September 12, 1885**

Warmer than for a few days past. Have felt rather tired out today and did nothing more than the usual Saturday cleaning. J. W. and Will are busy working at the Fair Grounds preparing for the Reunion next week. Wrote to Mother Ricker and sister Lizzie. Mrs. T. N. Johnson and Mrs. E. B. Greene called in the afternoon and the latter brought me a cap she had made for Mother Ricker. It was a kindness I appreciate very highly.

## **Sunday, September 13, 1885**

Pleasant weather. Had a stiff neck and shoulders and did not go out today. J. W. Margaret and Carl went to church in the morning.

## **Monday, September 14, 1885**

After the usual morning work I did some mending for Lizzie and when that was done I cut out a night dress for Margaret, the first garment cut from the new 50 yd bolt of unbleached muslin which J. W. got last week for me. I sewed so industriously that the gown was almost done by tea time and I finished the machine work by lamplight.

## **Tuesday, September 15, 1885**

Pleasant. Sewed some today. Finished one night dress for Margaret and almost made another. Have been out to Camp today to see the Head a letter from Jennie Ricker written from Buffalo when she stopped to make a visit.

Had a letter from Lizzie who thinks she cannot come in to see the sights. The town is being handsomely decorated in honor of the coming event for which preparation has been underway for months past.

## **Wednesday, September 16, 1885**

Fine weather favored us on this the opening day of the great Reunion of the Army of the West Va. A large trades procession was the feature of the forenoon. In the afternoon we went to camp and heard speeches and fine music by the bands and glee club, I remained at home in the evening and wrote to Mother Ricker. The town is full of strangers it seems and still they come. Lizzie was in but I only saw her a moment.

## **Thursday, September 17, 1885**

Beautiful day. We do not try to accomplish much work this week. J. W. gives all his time to the Reunion, and the town is crowded with strangers so we hurry through the necessary work and watch the crowd. In the afternoon the children and I went to Camp and enjoyed the exercises in the great tent very much. J. W. brought his friend Lieut. Hoover home for tea and in the evening the boys + little girls stayed at home while Ma, Margaret + I attended the meeting. Gen'l Hayes is the presiding officer and the large stage is filled with notable people.

## **Friday, September 18, 1885**

Another beautiful day has cheered the hearts of all interested in the Reunion and those who attended the Ironton Reunion 2 years ago appreciated fully the fine weather we have had. The little girls and I waited until afternoon and then Ma joined us in an ineffectual attempt to get out of the grounds. Lost the whole afternoon as we were locked out of the house + couldn't get to Camp. Six of us went in our single seat buggy at night and enjoyed a pleasant evening. Portsmouth has won golden opinions from the thousands who attended the Reunion. It is a thing of the past now.

## **Saturday, September 19, 1885**

Bright and warmer than a few days past. Was busy all forenoon at hard work and became very tired. J. W. has been engaged at the Camp Ground all day helping clear down Camp fixtures. I went over home and sat awhile with Grandmother Moore who has been there

since yesterday, brought her home with me and wanted her to stay to tea but she wanted to go back so I took her. Jimmie did not get home until late as they tried to get as nearly through as possible.

## **Sunday, September 20, 1885**

Weather still pleasant.

J. W. the boys + I went to church in the morning, I have not been in our seat before for several weeks. In the evening a Union Temperance meeting was held at our church and was well attended. Revs Pratt Jackson + Work took part in the pulpit. Dr. Rickletts, Frank Nichols + M. J. Peebles also participated on the platform. Our Mary is five years old today.

## **Monday, September 21, 1885**

Slight indications of rain but none fell. I went over to Uncle Sam's to say goodbye to Grandmother as Aunt Maria takes her home today. She is now in her 93<sup>rd</sup> year and quite bright and well for her age. When I came home I had a day's work of cleaning before me. In the afternoon Bessie Hall made me quite a nice call. J. W. finished up his work at the Camp Grounds. The affair was such a success that the citizens are trying to secure the Reunion for next year.

## **Tuesday, September 22, 1885**

Pleasant though very dusty. Heavy clouds in the west indicated rain which, however, did not come near us.

In the afternoon I went with Ma and Mary to make calls up Mrs. Wells + her sister + Mr. Wells' mother, Mrs. Ewing + her friends and Mrs. C. L. Work at Mrs. Richardson's.

Wrote to Mrs. Reynolds today.

## **Wednesday, September 23, 1885**

Cold, a decided change from yesterday. It was indicated by the weather signals on the tower, I shivered nearly all day and coming home from Prayer meeting my teeth fairly chattered.

Tried all day to write a letter for the Tribune but did not succeed until after the family had retired so it was late when I went to bed. Mrs. Belle Tracy called in the afternoon.

## **Thursday, September 24, 1885**

Cool enough for fire nearly all day, we have kept one and had a good one at night. Have been planning a calico dress which I want to make over for Margaret, a black + red which May gave her. Wrote to Mother Ricker in the evening. Had a pleasant little drive before supper with the children and J. W. Paid Janie \$10.00 settling up to Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **Friday, September 25, 1885**

Cool enough for a good fire in the morning but warm later in the day. Very dry + dusty. Lizzie came in today and took dinner with us after which Ma + I went down street. She left on the afternoon train taking Maggie with her to stay a couple of days. J. W. took the little girls, Carl and me out riding. Received cards to Emily Jordan's wedding yesterday + would be glad to attend it. Have not done much sewing today.

## **Saturday, September 26, 1885**

Quite pleasant. When doing my usual Saturday cleaning I took out the wire screens from the window and put in the summer front which had been removed to buried fires, the past few days being quite chilly. There was much to be done and I became tired out. I tried to rest after going to bed. Went over home a little while before tea and retired as early as possible after tea.

## **Sunday, September 27, 1885**

Pleasant. I was not at all well today and could not go to church. Slept in the forenoon. Lay upon the bed most of the day but heard the lessons as usual. In the evening J. W. and the boys went out to the 2<sup>nd</sup> ch. Rev. C. L. Work was installed as Pastor there. Dr. Pratt and Prof. Lowes conducting the exercises. Mr. Work is greatly liked by his congregation.

## **Monday, September 28, 1885**

Bright and pleasant. I sewed awhile in the forenoon on Margaret's dress. Wrote letters to Jennie and Lizzie and attended a W. R. C. meeting in the afternoon. It was the first one held since June except a called one in August. Margaret came home from Henley about 11 o'clock this forenoon.

## **Tuesday, September 29, 1885**

Warm and dry. Very dusty. Sewed a little on Margaret's dress but did not accomplish much. Murt Salsbury was here to dinner, being in town on business.

Late in the afternoon I went to call upon Mrs. Dr. Richardson of Athens who is visiting Mrs. Murphy. Birdie Spry came home with Margaret to study and remained to tea. We like very much to have her here and she comes often Carl brought Sam Moore and Lizzie's was followed by Lucy and two other little folks so we had plenty of company.

## **Wednesday, September 30, 1885**

Rather coll. Sewed on Margaret's black + red calico dress it is about done. We went to prayer meeting, were early so I walked down to see the electric light on 2<sup>nd</sup> street. Had letters from Lizzie, Mother Ricker and Maggie Bell.

Wrote to Mother R. after church.

## **Thursday, October 1, 1885**

Dry and dusty but the temperature is pleasant. Wrote Lizzie and sent my calf out to Henley, also the church and some lovely flowers in it. Have sewed a little today. Had a call from Mrs. Reeves, a stranger upon whom I called lately. Took a little drive before tea and while out paid D + Ellis \$1.50 for Lizzie's medicine.

Made a beginning on a letter but did not finish it. Was down street after dinner, bought a few linings, did an errand at Mrs. Miller's and called upon Carl's teacher, Miss Lynn who say he is doing very well.

## **Friday, October 2, 1885**

No rain yet and the dust is deep. My principal employment for the day has been writing a London Letter for the paper. Various interruption kept me at home all day.

Had a nice letter from Lizzie. She is well and very happy has plenty of good help and will now be able to keep well. We had some clouds but no rain today. Have taken out the last of the screens.

## **Saturday, October 3, 1885**

A good rainfall in the afternoon and there is a prospect for more. Have tried to take things more moderately today and am not so tired as usual. Finished some mending, did the usual sweeping, churned and put out about a dozen rose slips. Those I put out last year have done very well.

Sent a lovely little bouquet and a note in the box with Lizzie's wrapper which Ma finished and sent out this morning. This is Will + Ella Bonsall's Anniversary. Wrote regrets to Emily Jordan who will be married next week.

## **Sunday, October 4, 1885**

Rained in the night and was cloudy today with a few light showers. Margaret who has been away from S. S. for several weeks began again today in a new class, Miss Leila Newton's. Her Aunt Mary has been out of S. S. since last winter when Lizzie was sick. Will goes regularly but Carl does not go at all. We attended church twice today, Dr. Pratte being home again.

## **Monday, October 5, 1885**

Cloudy but only a sprinkle of rain. The wind blew quite a good deal. Was busy most of the day finishing of the sacque (?) to Margaret's calico dress. Went over to Aunt Mary Moore's and also to see a woman about knitting some mittens for Will. Bought the yarn and sent it to her. Will is not well and has been out of school all day. Weather is quite cool and we have fire. Lizzie was in to get medicine for Elizabeth, who is sick. We only had a few minutes with her but were glad to have a peep.

## **Tuesday, October 6, 1885**

Bright and cloudy by turns. This is the day of Emily Jordan's wedding, she is to marry Henry B. Folger of Brorkley and Jennie Ricker is to be one of her bridesmaids.

I cut out half a dozen pillow slips and made them this evening.

Birdie was here and I helped and Margaret a little with her lessons. The Latin and Algebra I like to review and am glad to help the girls. Lengthened a dress for M. and made new sleeves for it. Mrs. Murphy + Mrs. Richardson called.

### **Wednesday, October 7, 1885**

Quite cool, foggy in the morning and the river is very low. Had letter from Mother Ricker and answered it before dark. Went to prayer meeting after which I wrote about an hour on a letter for T. Had mending to do so as usual when putting away the clothes.

Ma was over with her work.

### **Thursday, October 8, 1885**

Sunny and pleasant.

Spent all my spare time in the forenoon, and part of the afternoon on my letter. The subject, the "Towns of London" is a very interesting one. This is father's birthday, he is seventy years old. I was over home to see him a few minutes before tea.

Little Elizabeth is still sick and we hear from her every day, has fever of some kind. Carrie Stearnes called. Will's mittens were brought home.

### **Friday, October 9, 1885**

Bright and pleasant but cool enough for fire. I wrote nearly all the forenoon after doing the morning work. Sent a letter to Perry Mason + Co. Boston. In the afternoon I cut out a couple of garments for myself and almost made them after supper of course they are not elaborate.

Made button holes in Will's blue flannel shirt after dinner, took the work over home + visited while I sewed. Saw Kate Newman + Mrs. Reeves who were calling there, also Bessie Hall.

### **Saturday, October 10, 1885**

Weather perfectly delightful. Did the usual Saturday work, sewed some, finished off what was begun yesterday and then went to preparatory lecture in the afternoon. Margaret and Will went with me. J. W. is staying at Mr. Will's and could not go. Wrote to Lizzie, heard that Elizabeth is better. Had a note from Mary Barr inviting us to their wedding Nov 5<sup>th</sup> we would be glad to go but do not expect to have the pleasure.

### **Sunday, October 11, 1885**

Pleasant. Went to church in the morning, Communion in the afternoon and to the Methodist church in the evening. Had lessons as usual. Uncle Jimmie was here before tea but did not remain long.

Letter from Mary Warner Moore.



## **Monday, October 12, 1885**

Cloudy. Went over to see Uncle Sam about a machine fixture and soon after my return a rain set in, and continued all day and evening.

I ripped up and washed a couple of little dresses, to make over for Mary.

Ma had letter from Lizzie who says Elizabeth has typhoid fever but is doing very well, the case is not violent but tedious. Had

## **Tuesday, October 13, 1885**

Still rainy all day. Ma went out to Henley to see Elizabeth, found her better and returned on the afternoon train. I sent L. a box of flowers which I gathered up from our two yards. I had a delightful letter from Lizzie.

This is election day and Libbie Field's anniversary as well. Mollie Murray, Belle Haud of Cin and Flora Wambaugh of Ripley and myself were bridesmaids on the occasion of her marriage.

## **Wednesday, October 14, 1885**

Cloudy + clear by turns, and colder than yesterday.

Have been sewing on a little dress all day. Went to PM in the evening. Birdie Spry came home from school with Margaret and they had a little candy pulling after tea. Election returns today show a Republican victory in the country, some majorities being very large.

## **Thursday, October 15, 1885**

Pleasant day but rather cool. I sewed on Mary's dress all I could but the letter for the paper had to be finished so very few stitches were put in. It took all my spare time for the letter which must be ready for the proof reader each Friday. Before supper I went to do some errands and walked from home to 6<sup>th</sup> + Chil then to 2<sup>nd</sup> and Market without getting a thing I wanted.

## **Friday, October 16, 1885**

Beautiful weather.

I went over home about 9 o'clock to help Ma tach a comfort but we hadn't the proper material and I made two trips before getting the kind we wanted so it was late when we were started with the work. We spent the afternoon in it and were tired when night came.

## **Saturday, October 17, 1885**

Beautiful day. After my usual Saturday morning work I went over to help Ma on the pink comfort which Lizzie is having made for Enos. Ma had taken an early start and made good headway. We got it out by noon.

After dinner I washed the little girls and when Lizzie was dressed she went with Uncle Jimmie to call upon Mrs. McCabe.

## **Sunday, October 18, 1885**

A bright and pleasant day though we had fire in the sitting room. We went to church morning and evening as usual.

## **Monday, October 19, 1885**

Beautiful bright day.

Sewed or rather tached on Enos blue comfort all day except when Ma and I made a short call upon Mrs. Tracy + Purs to say goodbye to them as they left for Boston. Late in the afternoon J. W. wanted me to take a little ride and I went with him. The hills are perfectly beautiful in their changing foliage. Wrote to Mary W. Moore in the evening. We finished off the comfort after tea.

## **Tuesday, October 20, 1885**

Chilly and a little windy. I went this morning to see Mrs. Alex Warner who returned Saturday night from her trip. The dear little woman bears her loss bravely and talked of Agnes quite calmly. Nothing but Christian grace sustains one so under trial. In the afternoon, have made over Mary's wine col'd flannel for a best dress. J. W. + I called at Prof. Lowes to see Mr. Hawks.

## **Wednesday, October 21, 1884**

Beautiful day but rather cool. Have been trying to make over a flannel dress for Mary but made slow progress.

Mrs. Dr. Kline and Mrs. Dr. Dennis called this afternoon.

We went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Wrote to Mary Barr saying we had no hope of going to her wedding much as we would enjoy doing so.

## **Thursday, October 22, 1885**

Lovely weather. Went to see Mrs. Warner a few minutes this evening, then went to Therza Spry's on an errand, afterwards to Brenner's + then home. Did a little sewing but not much.

After dinner J. W. wanted me to go with him to Gilbert Stewart's on business and I had a pleasant call with the family while the business was being transacted.

## **Friday, October 23, 1885**

Beautiful day, not as cold. Ma went to Winova this evening to see Jennie. The new girl had come so Mary is released from the kitchen after nearly eight months of a siege.

Nattie Wood called and we kept her to tea. Had a letter from Lizzie say the baby seemed to have symptoms of typhoid fever from which Elizabeth has not yet recovered. Had a letter from Mother R. and wrote her. Mrs. Kline was here on an errand.

## **Saturday, October 24, 1885**

Bright and pleasant.

Tillie left on the morning train with her intended expecting to be married on the way home. I went to the church with James and Willie and Mary. Margaret and Lizzie remained at home to get the dinner.

In the evening three of us went, the three girls staying home.

Lovely weather. Went to church as usual and had lessons in the afternoon. Uncle Jimmie was here to tea. I think this is Geo + Maggie Bell's anniversary. Had a letter from Enos which was given me just at bed time.

## **Sunday, October 25, 1885**

Beautiful weather. J. W. took all the children to the woods for the afternoon. Mary Moore went to see Lizzie.

## **Monday, October 26, 1885**

Weather delightful. The forenoon passed in housework as usual and after dinner I went to the W. R. C. meeting. After returning from there I went to see Mrs. Warner a few minutes on an errand for Mary. Have had no word from the absent ones today.

I brought in a magnificent La France rose bud today, the largest I ever saw, it looks like a catalogue picture.

## **Sunday, October 27, 1885**

We took on an early start and drove out to Henley today. Took May who was delighted to see the boys once more and their pleasure was quite equal to hers. The day was lovely and we enjoyed every moment of it. Surprised Lizzie who seemed delighted to see us. The little girls are doing as well as could be expected but the baby still has fever. We reached home about dark and found all well except that Will had had a bump which almost lamed him for a while.

## **Wednesday, October 28, 1885**

Cloudy in the morning and after dinner it began to rain. I was busy all day washing, pressing and mending things. The day was suitable for such work as there were no interruptions. Went to prayer meeting and could scarcely keep awake. Came home and then went to see if Bart was there as Carl said he was in town. He was and came home in the morning.

## **Thursday, October 29, 1885**

Rainy all day. Have been busy writing all day, wrote my last London Letter for the paper. Dr. Pratt brought us an invitation from Mrs. Pratt to take tea with them this evening. We decided that we could not go. Lizzie and the children came in and went to Mr. P's. She came to see us a few minutes before tea. Wrote to Mother Ricker and Jennie G. after supper. Had written Lizzie in the morning.

## **Friday, October 30, 1885**

Quite pleasant but too cool for my comforts. I wrote to Enos after doing my morning work. After dinner I began on a shirt for John Peebles, having promised to make him a pair of white flannel ones.

Sent in my letter to the Tribune, having filed my contract for a dozen.

## **Saturday, October 31, 1885**

Beautiful day. Was busy all forenoon with usual Saturday work about the house and yard. This is Jno Peebles' birthday, being eight years old, Lizzie brought the boys down from Mr. Peebles' to have a little visit and as they have not been here since our little girls had the whooping cough in the summer, it was a great occasion with all of them. Judge + Mrs. Toune having returned from W's. I called to see them this afternoon. Had a letter from Ma.

## **Sunday, November 1, 1885**

Weather mild and pleasant though it turned colder towards evening. Went to church twice as usual, had lessons as usual but did not go over home as I generally do some time during the day. Uncle Jimmie came down and brought a letter to Lizzie which pleased her very much. Mrs. Boyle had written on bright red paper and sent it in an envelope to match.

## **Monday, November 2, 1885**

Rainy and disagreeable all day. I was working on the white shirts when I had time to sew. Mary was making candy to send to John for his birthday and Clara Waller helped her all the afternoon. Lizzie came down from Mr. Peebles' today with her children. Elizabeth is improving slowly but the baby is no better as yet.

## **Tuesday, November 3, 1885**

Pleasant. This is our fifteenth anniversary and after breakfast I concluded to get up a little informal service for J. W. Mary + Lizzie helped me and it proved to be a complete surprise and perfect success. Mr. Ewing, Drs. Kline and Dennis, Prof Lowes and Judge Towne with their wives, Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Dr. Finch who had been taking tea with Mrs. Kline, came with her. Will + Clara Pursell could not come. We had some pretty presents sent in which surprised me. The children always remember us on all occasions and this was no exception.

## **Wednesday, November 4, 1885**

Pleasant. Wrote a birthday letter to brother John and then to Ma who is at Jennie's. Made button holes in the afternoon while visiting over home. Went out to thank Clara Pursell for the pretty glass dish she + Will sent us yesterday but she was not at home.

Went to prayer meeting in the evening and wrote to Mother Ricker after coming home.

## **Thursday, November 5, 1885**

Mild and pleasant though not clear, slight rain in the morning. Started to the tailor's with a cloak to be made over and went over home where I sat down and ripped it up taking me until noon. After dinner I took button holes over and worked until I had finished off the two white shirts for John. Lizzie + her boy and my two girls went down street before tea. Letter from Maggie Bell. Jake Ricker and Mary Barr are to be married tonight at Kirkwood. No letter from Jno.

## **Friday, November 6, 1885**

We prepared to the arrival of Jennie and her children on the evening train, she and Ma with four children came and Jennie will stay with us. Lizzie spent the afternoon with me and May, made them out of odds and ends but they will be prettier than any to be seen in the stores.

## **Saturday, November 7, 1885**

Pleasant. Our home is like a swarming hive and the little folks who are gathered within our walls are having a grand good time. Bartie spent last night at Mrs. Greene's because there was more room for him and tonight went home with Ma but I think would have preferred staying with the crowd. Mrs. Greene and Fred were here this evening and Lizzie made one for Elizabeth.

## **Sunday, November 8, 1885**

A bright pretty day. Margaret has a bad cold and did not go out today, stayed at home and took care of the little ones who could not go to church. Jennie, Elizabeth + Bartie, J. W., Will Lizzie, Carl, Mary + I occupied the corner, an unusually large delegation. Uncle Jimmie was here to tea. This is Jno Moore's birthday. A birthday letter was the only offering I had for the occasion.

## **Monday, November 9, 1885**

Cloudy but no rain to interfere with Monday's work and nearly sick with cold. Jno and Wm spend the afternoon with us and we had all the little cousins except Elizabeth P. and Margaret the baby. They are better but not able to be out. Mrs. Lowes called in the afternoon to see Jennie. Letter from Mother Ricker.

## **Tuesday, November 10, 1885**

A little cloudy but no rain. Jimmie and Lizzie were out most of the forenoon and I kept the children then after dinner I went with Lizzie to visit Carl's and Lizzie's schools taking Elizabeth, John and Mary with us. Mrs. Alex Warner called to see Jennie in the afternoon. I had a letter from Mother Ricker, the second for this week as none came last. My cold seems to grow worse rather than better and I am almost sick with it.

## **Wednesday, November 11, 1885**

Bright, beautiful day. Jennie with Bartie, Elizabeth + Carl, Lizzie P. with Jno + Wm arose early and went to Henley on the 5 o'clock train to spend half a day. Jennie came home at the appointed time but all the rest remained until the 10 PM train and came back almost asleep on their feet and so tired they did not know what to do. My cold was so severe that I did not go to church.

## **Thursday, November 12, 1885**

Pleasant. Jennie and Mary went to dine at Mrs. Lowes'. I kept all the children. Received a beautiful little letter register from Jennie Ricker in the evening. Lizzie and Rich were here on their way to a tea party at Mr. Peebles'.

## **Friday, November 13, 1885**

Pleasant, or would be were it not for a chilly wind. Lizzie and the two boys spent most of the day with us, were here to dinner. After dinner she went with Jennie to get the children's pictures. Ma and I went to meet some ladies of the Relief Corp at the Welsh church. The G. A. R. talk of buying the building. Called ay Mrs. Lowes' wrote to Enos this evening. Lizzie's baby does not seem so well. Rec'd a box of Mary Barr's wedding cake.

## **Saturday, November 14, 1885**

Clear and colder. Was busy all the forenoon house cleaning. Soon after dinner the fire alarm rang and it proved to be Uncle Enos was angry of course so was Pa and Jimmie did what he could for the folks. Paid Janie \$6.00.

## **Sunday, November 15, 1885**

I was not well enough to go to church today. Jennie had promised to go with the others to the 2<sup>nd</sup> church so J. W. and the children, all except May, went.

Jennie and her little folks spent most of the afternoon over home. Lizzie's baby seems much better today. She has had a long siege of fever, it lasted three weeks.

## **Monday, November 16, 1885**

Very pleasant for the season. The signal flags, however, indicate a variety of weather. Jennie and the home folks went to call upon Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary this morning and upon their return she and the children went up to Mrs. Greene's to make a visit of a few days. The Salvation Army, or a branch of it, made its first appearance in Portsmouth Saturday and is advertised to open up the work at once.

Mr. + Mrs. Joe G. Reed's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **Tuesday, November 17, 1885**

Cloudy and warm for the season.

Lizzie and her boys were over to spend a part of the afternoon and help me sew carpet rags. I now have three dozen pounds sewed. In the evening Carl + his father went to 6<sup>th</sup> st. M. E. ch. I wrote four letters, one to Mary B. Ricker, Mrs. Stevens, the Cin. Gazette and St. L. Globe Den.

Mary Y. Moore was here just before tea. Mr. + Mrs. Wells.

## **Wednesday, November 18, 1885**

Rainy and disagreeable.

I was sick this morning and barely able to be up but a sudden call to go to Ma who was quite sick stiffened me up with excitement. By noon she was better and quite easy so I did not have to stay there all the time, but went back and forth with my knitting. Jennie came down in the forenoon and said her baby was all broken out with chicken-pox. They always get something when they come to Ports.

## **Thursday, November 19, 1885**

Rainy and disagreeable.

I was not well enough to eat a bite of breakfast and just settled myself by the fire when Anna came in great haste to call me to Ma who was very sick. I found Lizzie working with her and soon after Dr. Kline came in and in a couple of hours she was much better. When she has a severe attack of any kind it throws us all in a state of excitement. Letter from Mother R. (The above all belongs to Wed.)

We are all better but not well. Damp and cloudy.

## **Friday, November 20, 1885**

Rather damp and cloudy. Sewing carpet rags is my chief employment just now as I am so anxious to get enough ready for the weaver. I have been sewing over home for the past two or three days, since Ma was sick. Lizzie came over after supper to sew awhile on her own work, underwear for William. Ma surprised us by walking in but she did not stay long. Jennie's horse from Winova came tonight for Ma to use awhile.

## **Saturday, November 21, 1885**

Bright and pleasant.

I was busy all the forenoon sweeping, dusting and getting the house in order. Before I was through Jennie and Bartie came to make a call. He came on the late train last night and Jennie will go home with him Monday. After dinner I took a little ride with Jimmie but it was almost too cool for my comfort. Lizzie and May went with us.

## **Sunday, November 22, 1885**

Rained and was rather dismal all day. I was not well enough to be out and so did not even go over home. Barton and Jennie took dinner over there and after dinner Ma, Mary and Jennie came over to see us. We had our usual lessons.

## **Monday, November 23, 1885**

Rainy disagreeable day.

Jennie and her little folks went home with Barton this forenoon but as they started from Mrs. Greene's and I was not well enough to go out in the dampness, I did not see them today. Ma, Mary and Lizzie went up but the latter was too late to see the folks as she had to turn back after a forgotten package.

Lizzie Ricker had an illustrated letter from her uncle John.

## **Tuesday, November 24, 1885**

Bright and clear in the forenoon but cloudy and colder in the afternoon.

Lizzie and her little folks went up to Mr. Peebles' to stay until after Thanksgiving.

Letter from Mother Ricker. Sewed a little on carpet rags but the change in the weather caused me to lay aside the rags and get out the winter flannels and put some of them in order for immediate use.

I spent the forenoon over home with my knitting as Lizzie was going away soon.

## **Wednesday, November 25, 1885**

Cold and damp.

After dinner Mrs. Stevens came and got my forty balls of rags which she is to weave into carpet for me. I began on it in the summer with Lizzie and Ma to help and have taken pains to have the rags nicely cut + sewed hoping to have a pretty carpet. Was over home with my knitting after dinner.

## **Thursday, November 26, 1885**

Thanksgiving day has been cloudy and rather gloomy as regards weather and a lonely day, we are all well and ate our dinner with no guest but Uncle Jimmie. The children are all at home. Lizzie and her family are spending a few days at Mr. Peebles'. I saw her and Rich a few minutes late in the afternoon. Did not go out to church for several reasons. J. W., Margaret, will and May went.

## **Friday, November 27, 1885**

Weather cloudy but not very cold. I took my dark green flannel dress over home to work on and spent most of the day there. Ma wanted to help me with it and I was glad enough to be helped. Fannie and Mary called there and promised to come tomorrow and take tea with us. This is Fannie's first visit home since her marriage in Sept. Mrs. J. B. Nichols and Mary L. Murray called to see me.



## **Saturday, November 28, 1885**

Was busy until noon with my sweeping and dusting. The day has been lovely. Fannie Geiger and Mary Moore were here to tea and spent a part of the evening. The home folks went to Dr. Dennis' to tea.

## **Sunday, November 29, 1885**

Bright and pleasant.

Spent the day as usual. The children went to S. S. after which all of us except Willie went to church. The Thanksgiving decorations were still in place about the pulpit and made quite a display. I did not go out in the evening.

## **Monday, November 30, 1885**

Bright and pleasant day.

Sewed all the forenoon and after dinner Ma and I went to the W. R. C. meeting. Did a few errands afterwards and then made a short call at Uncle Enos' but it was so near dark we did not stay long.

After tea I went over home to see Lizzie and the children who came from Mr. P's to stay until Wednesday when they expect to go home.

## **Tuesday, December 1, 1885**

Somewhat cloudy all day with light sprinkling. I took my green flannel to the dyers as I could not match it in town. Spent part of the afternoon over home as Lizzie expects to be home tomorrow. Fannie Geiger and Mary Moore were there spending the day. Lizzie gave me a black rough cloak polonaise which almost fits me. Rec'd an invitation to Mrs. McCall's afternoon reception Thursday. Wrote to Maggie Bell.

## **Wednesday, December 2, 1885**

Pleasant. Was busy all day ripping, washing and making over a black rough cloth polonaise which Lizzie gave me. Spent the afternoon over home as Ma fitted the waist all over for me. Did not go out in the evening. Wrote to Mother Ricker in an answer to her usual weekly letter which came tonight. Lizzie and her children went home today now and Fannie + Mary Moore went with her to stay until tomorrow.

## **Thursday, December 3, 1885**

Beautiful day, so warm that many were out without wraps. Mrs. O. C. McCall gave an afternoon reception for her daughter which Ma, Mary + I attended and found the house crowded. Everybody seemed to be there. I finished my black polonaise before going but did not wear it after all. Spent the evening sewing carpet rags and made some progress.

## **Friday, December 4, 1885**

Still bright but very windy and clouds of dust filled the air/ After dinner I went out to make calls not anticipating so much wind. Called upon Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. Newman (C. B.) Mrs. Chris Young, Carrie Stearnes, Mrs. H. E. Greene, Mrs. E. B. Greene, Mrs. McCall + Aurin, Mrs. Dr. King (Lou Robison) and Mrs. Charles Lloyd.

Had a letter from Lizzie which I will answer. Brought in a beautiful half blown red rose from the yard this evening, the last for this season certainly.

## **Saturday, December 5, 1885**

Colder and quite windy.

Was busy with Saturday work all the forenoon and in the afternoon I had some mending to do for Margaret. Mrs. Chris Young and Addie called just before tea time. The change in the weather has been rather sudden and took place on Friday a day which I have observed has been marked as remarkable for sudden + severe changes. Letter from Jennie.

## **Sunday, December 6, 1885**

Very cold, at least compared with any weather we have had this winter.

The children were at S. S. as usual after which we all, except Margaret, went to church. I was over home a little while, had lessons as usual and in the evening J. W., Will + I went again to church.

## **Monday, December 7, 1885**

Ther 6° at 7 AM but no wind stirring fortunately. Clear, dry + cold.

Mary went to Cin on the Bonanza as Fannie Geiger was going down on her way home. I ripped up a cloak which Jennie had given me for Margaret and by turning it inside out I can make a nice new cloak of it. After tea I made an under waist for her. J. W. went to G. A. R. meeting. I had a letter from Lizzie.

## **Tuesday, December 8, 1885**

Rainy and disagreeable.

Mary has a bad day for her short visit in Cin. I have been working busily on the cloak all day. Sewed up the seams and pressed them. Turning the material wrong side out makes a great deal of work. Even the button holes must be made all over.

## **Wednesday, December 9, 1885**

Clear again. Mary was home early in the morning and brought Margaret three pretty hats. Will answered an ad in the Tribune today and got the position of janitor at the Business College and will receive tuition in some branch as pay for his services. He wants to take short hand. We went to prayer meeting this evening and an alarm of fire on Market st almost broke up the meeting. It turned cold rapidly tonight. My new rag carpet was brought home.

## **Thursday, December 10, 1885**

Weather quite chilly. I have spent most of this week on Margaret's cloak which well replays me for my time and trouble, it fits nicely, is warm and looks well.

I expected to make up the new carpet as soon as it came but there seems to be more imperative need of some things for our present use. The underwear needs altering, the cloaks must be fixed and then it will be so near Xmas that the carpet must wait.

## **Friday, December 11, 1885**

Bright beautiful day.

After finishing up what I had on hands for the day I took the summer trimming off my black straw hat and put on the velvet again. Went both up and down street trying to find something suitable to make up with Margaret's school dress but found nothing.

## **Saturday, December 12, 1885**

Weather mild and pleasant. After getting through with morning work I got out my winter cloak and took it over home to rip and alter a little. It kept me busy all the rest of the day. I changed it to tight fitting made the sleeves smaller and improved it somewhat. Margaret washed and dressed the little girls for me which was a great help.

## **Sunday, December 13, 1885**

Rainy. I went to Sabbath School to teach Maggie Peebles' class at her request. Have had the class several times before. Neither Margaret nor Lizzie were well enough to be out in the rain so Will + I represented the family. Carl + his father joined us at church in the morning and only three of us went at night.

## **Monday, December 14, 1885**

Weather mild. Was busy all day with Margaret's brown dress. It will look about as well as it ever did when I get it done. Had my work over home awhile. Much of my time is taken up just now with the children's lessons as they all need help while preparing for examinations.

## **Tuesday, December 15, 1885**

Pleasant. Have been busy all day with Margaret's brown basque which she likes so well that she is unwilling to part with it even when it is outgrown. In the evening we went to hear Mr. Wishard the Synodical Missionary of Ky and were very much interested in what he had to say.

## **Wednesday, December 16, 1885**

Beautiful day. Was busy all forenoon finishing Margaret's dress. After dinner I went to hear Mrs. Newell from Utah and Mrs. McFarland from Alaska talk about their mission fields. In the evening we went to hear Mr. Newell and Dr. Roberts the Sec'y of the Board of Home

Missionaries. I could have listened much longer though I was very tired all day. Saw Minnie Gould after service was over.

### **Thursday, December 17, 1885**

Weather bright and pleasant for the season. I was over home with my work both before and after dinner. Saw Rich a few minutes as he was in after some things for the store and for Lizzie. Saw a letter from Mary with a note from John. Had letter from Mother Ricker and answered it.

### **Friday, December 18, 1885**

Weather mild for the season. Frost coming out of the ground making it very muddy. Was over home in the forenoon with my work. Mary and Ma are making up a black silk which Mary has had on hands a long time. Lizzie did not go to school this afternoon, having earache. I made her a white flannel skirt.

### **Saturday, December 19, 1885**

The usual Saturday sweeping and dusting with a little extra window washing for Christmas, kept me busy all the forenoon. The air is quite sharp, as I found while washing the windows.

### **Sunday, December 20, 1885**

Rather cold. Was up early in order to be ready for S. S. as I had promised Maggie Peebles to teach two Sabbaths for her. Went to church as usual and completed arrangements for Carl's entering Mr. Warner's class in S. S. I did so once last summer but found afterwards that he had as large a class as he cared for so kept Carl at home and waited for another opening. Now that some of his scholars are gone Carl will begin.

### **Monday, December 21, 1885**

The weather is very unlike Christmas weather and nothing around indicates the nearness of the season usually so full of joy and animation. I busied myself with necessary sewing all day and in the evening while J. W. was at his Post meeting I wrote letters to go with Christmas greetings. Nearly all my spare minutes, and many which are not to spare, are spent in drilling the children for the school examinations.

### **Tuesday, December 22, 1885**

Weather damp.

Have been trying to find something with which to fill Christmas boxes for Jennie and Mother Ricker. Money is scarce and our stock is low so love must take the place of many things which we would like to send. I sent a small book to my young friend Jas B. Reynolds of North Haven and is studying for the ministry. I wrote his mother a Christmas letter. I have also sent Mary W. a long letter as I had nothing else.

## **Wednesday, December 23, 1885**

Weather mild. Had the mending on hands and was busy all day. Did not go to church in the evening, it was chilly and I was not feeling well. Rich was on today and I saw him a few moments. Made two new underwaists, one for Margaret and one for myself.

Wrote to Mother Ricker. Spent all the forenoon over home helping Ma on Mary's new black silk dress.

## **Thursday, December 24, 1885**

Weather mild for the season. Lizzie and her children came in today to spend Christmas. The tree and her large trunk were sent to our house before noon and the children were in a high state of excitement over the prospect.

The box from Kirkwood came today but of course was not opened until tonight when the tree was being filled. Jimmie set up the tree upstairs and it is a beauty. I have been trying to make some red flannel skirts for the little girls. I bought the goods today.

## **Friday, December 25, 1885**

The weather is very unlike Christmas though a few flakes of snow straggled down today and melted almost as soon as dawn. The usual Christmas tree was enjoyed by the little folks at our house. Rich sent in the handsomest tree for the purpose that I ever saw and though we had bought no gift ourselves it was found enough well laden this evening when we went upstairs to see it. I helped awhile last night with the popcorn and candy bags and was then shut out by the Com. which consisted this year of Lizzie Peebles, Margaret and Will. The reason of my exclusion was obvious, so many of the presents were for me. There was tin ware in abundance, dry goods for the children and fancy articles beside. Jennie had sent a box containing something for each one, she did a great deal of work and she and Lizzie had the satisfaction of providing nearly all the happiness that was found on or around the tree. Mother Ricker had sent a box of pretty and useful things which added to the stock. Will made a number of articles with his school saw and after all the discouragements we had a very happy time. Mary W. sent to each of us girls a photo of herself taken in the wedding dress which we were delighted to get. Uncle Jimmie Wood, Ralph Moore, John, William, Elizabeth + Margaret Peebles dined with our family of seven so we had quite a dinner party. The children had a happy time all day. In the evening the two older children went to All Saints S. S. Xmas exercises. Our own were held this morning. I wrote a long letter to Jennie in the evening.

## **Saturday, December 26, 1885**

Very pleasant. Lizzie and her children went home today now and she took with her Margaret, Will and Carl, Vina Smith and Emma Ellis, quite a troop and she will have no girls as Ruth stays in for a holiday visit and Mrs. Behrens will not go out for a week yet. Ma is sick and sent for the doctor this morning, she was not up yesterday but had hoped to get well without the doctor. I had a letter from Mary W. Moore saying she was going to send me one of her fans for Christmas.

## **Sunday, December 27, 1885**

Pleasant. The two little girls represented the family at S. S. it was only the second time that Mary has attended. The three older children being away we have had a quiet day and missed them very much, I had a letter from Jennie today acknowledging the receipt of our little Xmas box. We both took the little girls to church at night and they considered it quite a treat.

## **Monday, December 28, 1885**

Damp and threatening to rain every moment. I sewed a little on Margaret's aprons but having to attend the W. R. C. meeting in the afternoon spoiled my day. J. W. took me in the buggy to call upon Mrs. Chas Greene before the hour of the meeting in the afternoon. Barton, Bartie and Elizabeth came down on the evening train and will spend a couple of days here. Charlie + family are in route to Florida. Mary Warner Moore sent me a beautiful fan for Xmas.

## **Tuesday, December 29, 1885**

Rained in the night and has been cloudy and gloomy all day. Barton went up to his mother's this morning but the children chose to stay here. I went out to Mrs. T. J. Pursell's to pay my W. R. C. dress and then came home to sew. Finished two of Maggie's white aprons for her Aunt L. gave her and then cut out the gingham ones for Lizzie, they also came off the Christmas tree. Ma is better today but still unable to be up.

## **Wednesday, December 30, 1885**

Damp and cheerless excepting an hour or two in the forenoon. Barton and the children went up to see his mother today. I began work on my green flannel dress again and must try to get it in wearing order. Mrs. Lodwick came to engage milk for Jennie Corsen's baby. A telegram came today stating that Jas M. Jones had shot himself, probably fatal. I am very sorry to hear of it. Jim has been one of our most faithful friends never failing to call and see us when in town. He has long been the pride and joy of his family and his dead good mother can ill bear such a stroke.

## **Thursday, December 31, 1885**

Weather mild and damp.

I had a letter from John today and answered it. Went to see Mrs. Jones this morning and again after dinner with Mary. Our sympathies are deeply stirred by the affliction which has come upon the family. There seems to be no hope of John's recovery and the fact of his having committed suicide when he had such advantages and opportunities is sad.