



LOUISIANA MOORE RICKER
DIARY

1895



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Tuesday, January 1st, 1895

Cold and snowy. The weather up to Christmas day was unusually mild, suddenly changed to snow the next day and then grew cold and colder, being very cold by Saturday. The boys went out skating in the forenoon and in the afternoon Will made a few New Year's calls.

Mr. Smith returned from his vacation at 4 o'clock.

We have no girl in the kitchen and find it hard to get through with the work when the weather is so cold.

Wednesday, January 2nd, 1895

Weather cold, and uncomfortable for me. I am so hurried with the work that I can scarcely find time to go and see Mother and she is unable to even sit up much of the time. I should like to spend more time with her. We went to prayer meeting in the evening, having the pleasure of Will's company.

The letters from Kirkwood are not very encouraging in regard to father Ricker, he seems to be failing instead of gaining.

Thursday, January 3rd, 1895

Weather still cold.

Will having decided to return tomorrow, to avoid travelling on Sabbath, I have been busy doing a little mending for him and he did a little visiting for himself. May has been having a fine time with the snow. She and Campbell Taylor made a snow man the first of the week which Will finished up afterwards in an artistic way to represent Chauncey Dr. Pew. Margaret made some good cookies. Mrs. Hamilton came to return my call.

Friday, January 4th, 1895

Cold and bright.

This is the birthday of Clara Ricker, Bessie Bower Ricker and Charlotte Bannen. Will made a few last calls this morning then did his packing and left for Ithaca again on the 5 o'clock train. His stay has been short but we have been very glad to have him with us even a few days. His classes resumed work yesterday but he had special leave of absence for a few days beyond the vacation. We shall miss him very much. The Hamilton girls were here to play this afternoon. Mrs. Hamilton called yesterday.

Saturday, January 5th, 1895

This was the last day of the snow as an impending rain threatened to melt it all away and May made the most of her opportunity. She and Cam had constructed a toboggan slide in the back end of the yard which enabled them to coast nearly to the front fence. We will Will greatly today, his visit seeming very short. A rain set in about dark but the children had used all the daylight and were tired enough to stop any way.

Sunday, January 6th, 1895

Weather disagreeable and the attendance at Sabbath school was very small, only 184 I think. I remained to church and sister came home to get the dinner. Her S.S. work is so wearing on her that she often feels unable to remain at church. We all went in the evening. Went over to see Father and Mother in the afternoon as usual.

Week of Prayer

Monday, January 7th, 1895

Wet and disagreeable.

School commenced again today and we had to rise early to get as much done as we could before the girls went to school as I have no help. Jas has not been at all well today but attended the Port meeting and then came home and went to bed.

Elizabeth Greene is fifteen years old today.

Wrote to Will in all my hurry as I do not wish him to miss a single expected letter from me. Had a letter from will saying he was settled again and ready for work this morning.

Tuesday, January 8th, 1895

Weather cold.

Jas was unable to get up this morning but after dinner he arose and went to see Dr. Kline who pronounced his trouble erysipelas on the left side of the face, caused perhaps by the boil in his nose.¹

I have had a very busy day doing the work and looking after the patient.

Think I did not get over home at all.

Mr. Smith heard the bad news that the cousin Wilfred C. Smith who he visited X-mas day was assaulted by tramps in his own back yard and fatally burned, probably the work of the men after assaulting him.

Sallie Reed's wedding cards rec'd.

Julia Tappan was here to tea and went to church with M.

¹ Erysipelas is an acute infection typically with a skin rash, usually on any of the legs and toes, face, arms, and fingers affecting of the upper dermis and superficial lymphatics, usually caused by beta-hemolytic group A Streptococcus bacteria on scratches or otherwise infected areas. Erysipelas is more superficial than cellulitis, and is typically more raised and demarcated.

Wednesday, January 9th, 1895

Snowed again and Jas is really quite sick, his face and nose paining him very much. The cold weather makes it hard on Carl to have extra work and the work I have in the kitchen prevents my being with the sick as much as I should. This is the Week of Prayer but I have missed the meetings so far and will not be likely to get out this week.

Thursday, January 10th, 1895

Weather cold. Jas is better but not able to be up. The days have been so full of ordinary work that I have been unable to do my usual writing or other things which need to be done.

Did not go to prayer-meeting but Margaret did, she has gone each evening and represented the family, we never had so small a number out, the weather makes it hard for anyone to go.

Friday, January 11th, 1895

Weather cold and growing colder. Had to take every precaution tonight to prevent the water freezing in the pipes. James bundled up and went to the cellar to show Carl how to turn it off. Have had a busy day as usual, but went to prayer meeting in the evening, have missed every night this week until tonight. Was over to see Mrs. Miles whose name is on my list for subscriptions to the church improvement fund. Carl spent the evening on the S.S. books.

Saturday, January 12th, 1895

Said to be the coldest day in years. Thermometer several degrees below zero. It has kept us busy doing what was necessary to keep warm and have something to eat. The snow is deep and dry making walking very hard. Mary did an errand for me in all the cold and snow, resulting in the purchase of a warm cloak for Margaret which was an absolute necessity. Got a good one for 12.00 at Anderson's.² She has had nothing but a thin cape until now.

Sunday, January 13th, 1895

Still very cold, so not so cold as yesterday which was very severely cold. Arose very early in order to get all the work done in time to go to Sabbath school. James being unable to go or do anything at home made a great deal for Carl who managed to get through and was very little late. He is taking up the new work of secretary very nicely. Attendance very small, only 138 present at S.S.

² G.W. Anderson & Son, opened at 134 W. Second Street on March 16th, 1892 and sold dress goods, trimmings, and shoes.

Monday, January 14th, 1895

Weather moderating, bright this afternoon and not so cold. I went out a little while after dinner, to do the church visiting assigned me. Called upon Mrs. Emma Behreus, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Jack, and Mrs. McClain.

Upon my return I found a girl awaiting me and after some conversation with her decided to take her and try her for a few days as Amanda will not return for more than a week. Wrote to Will as usual this forenoon, snatching the moments as I could between other duties. James is better but not out.

Tuesday, January 15th, 1895

Very damp and cloudy. Snow about all gone and pavements icy where not exposed to sun.

Barton came to the other house last night and was here this evening. Reports Jennie better than she has been since her marriage. Julia Tappan gave Lizzie her lesson and remained to tea with us as we were going to church and we wanted to save her the long walk. It was raining when we went out. Only Margaret and I represented our family. Mr. and Mrs. Silcox called.

Wednesday, January 16th, 1895

A heavy, wet snow covers everything again this morning. The day was spent about as usual, Jas is better but not able to go out yet. Oella, Julia and Paul came after tea and the girls remained until church time and went with us.

Thursday, January 17th, 1895

Cold and disagreeable. Wrote to will in great haste as I do everything in these days. I remember this day always as the anniversary of the death of Mary Gaylord, a young girl who I knew well and was deeply impressed by her death which occurred many years ago, long before I was married. Went to church this evening.

Friday, January 18th, 1895

Quite cold. The days are all busy and so much alike I can scarcely remember one from another when they are gone. Mary was here, as she is every day and I seldom make a note of it but should miss her visits if I did not have them. We have a great deal to talk about and she helps me greatly in many ways. Went to church in the evening, Carl and I, though we did not go together.

Saturday, January 19th, 1895

Weather cold and windy. Have had an unusually cold windy month so far. Margaret had a splendid long letter from Will today. Had preparatory lecture this afternoon and all went but Carl and Mary. Uncle Sam was here before tea on his way to the dinner party at Uncle Enos' in honor of Mrs. Peebles who leaves Monday with Mrs. P. and Mary for Florida. Oella and Margaret did some errands afterwards, after lecture I should have said. I called to say good-bye to Mrs. Peebles and Mary.

Sunday, January 20th, 1895

Weather cold with signs of rain or snow.

WE all went to Sabbath school and church this forenoon and spent the rest of the day as usual with lessons and reading and visits to Mother. Went again in the evening.

Had Communion service at our church this morning and two persons. Mr. H. Smucker and Mrs. Moothart were received by letter. Jessie Thompson, a S.S. of several years ago, returned this evening.

Monday, January 21st, 1895

Rainy and disagreeably close.³ Della washed and then took the clothes over to the dry room to hang them up. Hope the bride will have a brighter day tomorrow. The Relief Corps met and installed the new officers, Mrs. Richardson being the new President and few changes being made in the other offices.⁴

Mrs. Purcell was here and went with me to the meeting. Jns Smith and I attended Dr. Dorman's lecture on tobacco at our church this P.M.

Mr. and Mrs. Peebles and Mary left for Florida.

Tuesday, January 22nd, 1895

Bright and cold. A sudden change from yesterday. Mr. Hutchins died about 4 o'clock this morning.

The Camans-Reed wedding was the event of this day in social circles. Our family all went to the church but only Margaret and Carl were invited to the reception afterwards. The wedding was one of the most beautiful ever seen in Portsmouth. I think M. wore her white silk which she got for Will and Bess' wedding. Mr. Martin was here to supper, came from the wedding.

³ Close weather: warm and humid or stuffy.

⁴ Woman's Relief Corps, recognized in 1883 as the official women's auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Wednesday, January 23rd, 1895

Cold and growing colder, I felt it very much this evening as I came from church. Have been very busy at home all day, spending only a few minutes with Mother. Wrote to Father Ricker this morning. Went to the church in the afternoon to give my report and money to the Aid Society but was only gone a few minutes.

Julia was here to give Lizzie her lesson and Oella came before she left. M. had gone out to Nell Johnson's to see about her waist.⁵

Thursday, January 24th, 1895

Weather cold again, thermometer down to 16° and the ground frozen hard, but the sun shines brightly. We were much surprised to learn of the marriage today of Hal Pursell and Mary Dunham, they having been so long courting that people generally forgot about them. Wrote to Will and sent him papers containing the accounts of Sallie Reed's wedding. Mr. Smith and some of his young friends are having a gay time upstairs this evening. Mr. Hutchins was buried this afternoon.

Letter from Will. Oella and Julia were here.

Friday, January 25th, 1895

Rained after dinner and as the girls had taken no umbrellas to school, went to take them some, the rain was freezing as it fell and walking was very unsafe. While out I went to see Martha Poffenberger who fell down stairs last week. She seems like a bright, nice girl, and will fit into my S.S. class nicely.

Saturday, January 26th, 1895

Last night was a wild night, wind, rain, sleet and darkness combined to make it terrible to any who were out. Today it froze and was not so dangerous. Mr. Smith entertained some of his young friends here this evening and had a fine time. The Hamilton girls were here in the afternoon and came again in the evening upon his invitation, there were also Lucy and Edith, Moore, Mae Pursell, Grace Filler, and Charlotte Lewis. Marshmallows, bananas, and pop-corn balls were served.

Sunday, January 27th, 1895

Clear, bright and cold. Went to Sabbath School as usual and had two more new pupils added to my class. Martha Poffenberger and Jennie Fritts. The latter visited over class once some time ago. We had five this morning and changed our seat.

Dr. Tappan preached a fine sermon in the morning upon the text "What do ye more than others." Have had a very pleasant day.

⁵ Waist was a common term in the United States for the bodice of a dress or a blouse or woman's shirt from the early 19th century until around 1910.

Monday, January 28th, 1895

Clear and cold, mercury at 18° when we got up. Snow began falling some after breakfast and continued all day, a dry deep snow covered the ground by night. I did not even go over home. Wrote to Will as usual and spent most of the day darning a table cloth. Therza Spry came in for awhile in the after noon, then Martha Poffenberger and later, Oella Tappan came home with Margaret and stayed to tea as they were going to a C.E. meeting in the evening.⁶

Tuesday, January 29th, 1895

Several inches of snow are on the ground but during the day the weather moderated and the snow began melting. Have been busy as usual but was over twice to see Mother. Foreign Mis. Society met here in the afternoon. Mrs. Evans having the topic in charge. Six members and one visitor present. Have spent the evening writing. Have more work inside and outside than I can well attend to.

Wednesday, January 30th, 1895

Cold and growing colder. Was busy at home all day excepting the time spent with Mother. Made five sheets and did a little other sewing. Julia Tappan came before dinner and gave Lizzie her music lesson. L. is progressing nicely considering the time she has for practice. Went to prayer meeting in the evening. Dr. Tappan directed the time to a prayer for Colleges.

Thursday, January 31st, 1895

Mercury down to 2° above zero this morning but the snow and ice melted a little in the sun during the day. Skating good and Margaret and May went after school. I was over home twice today but went no farther. Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Kaps called in the afternoon. Lizzie Peebles was here after tea. Mr. Smith heard more sad news from Newark today, little Laura Smith younger daughter of his cousin whose husband was killed by tramps three weeks ago, died Tuesday and was buried today. Wrote to Will, Father Ricker and Amanda.

Wrote to Bessie Hall in the evening. She is out of school having the whooping cough at Lancaster, Mass.

⁶ The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor is a nondenominational evangelical society founded in Portland, Maine, in 1881 by Francis Edward Clark.

Friday, February 1st, 1895

Mercury at 10° this A.M. Thawed a little in the sun during the day. The girls were out of school in the afternoon and went skating it being Lizzie's first attempt and May's second. Margaret went after school. All had a fine time. M. went to the Qui Vive Club meeting at Sadie Jones' in the evening, upon invitations. Have been very busy sweeping and cleaning all day.

Saturday, February 2nd, 1895

Cold and clear. Thawed some in the sun. The girls have been skating all afternoon and are going again this evening. Was busy at home all forenoon. Went out to see Mrs. Silcox after dinner then came home and made one pair of pillow cases and did a little other sewing.

Had a letter from Aunt Betsey.

The ground hog could see his shadow nearly all day.

Sunday, February 3rd, 1895

Cold and clear. Thawed very little when the sun shone for some time.

We all went to Sabbath School and church as usual. Was over home a while in the afternoon.

Father had a chill today, Mother is about as usual.

Had a most excellent sermon this morning on one of my favorite texts. "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

Had five pupils in my s.s. class and three of Prof. Moothart's.

Monday, February 4th, 1895

Clear and cold, Thermometer only about 3° when we arose. Thawed very little during the day. Della washed and got through early then left as I was expecting Amanda on the evening train but she failed to come. Mrs. Iams and Mrs. Taylor were here during the afternoon.

I wrote to Will and took the letter, with one to Mannie Lampton Sympsin to the office before Della left. I cut out some pillow cases but did not sew any. Oella, Julia and Paul were here on their way home from skating.

Tuesday, February 5th, 1895

Cold and clear. Mercury 2°. Amanda did not come and I have been very busy all day.

J.W. spent most of the day doing jury duty. The girls have been busy with their lessons and matters have moved on as usual. Julia came to give Lizzie her lesson and we visited upon her remaining to supper. Margaret went home with her after tea.

Wednesday, February 6th, 1895

Still very cold. Sewed all afternoon and evening. Was busy as could be all day but went to prayer meeting in the evening, only thirty-one persons present including pastor and sexton.

After church J.W. and I went up to invite Carrie Hadley down to spend the evening tomorrow with my S.S. class and a few others whom I want to entertain.

Thursday, February 7th, 1895

Very cold and growing colder. Have had a very busy day, doing the usual work and making a few preparations for this evening. Early in the evening Ralph, Lucy, and Edith, Oella, Julia and Paul Tappan, Rob Knowles and Thomtin Pratt came, Martha Poffenberger failed to appear. We had the pleasure of Mr. Smith's company besides and with our own family, and Ora Finney a part of the morning filled the room and had a fine time.

Friday, February 8th, 1895

Colder and colder. Mercury 8° below zero at our house. With no girl and so much extra work on account of the fires we are kept busy. We have felt the cold so much we could scarcely do anything.

Oella Tappan came down to stay to tea and go with us to Teachers' Meeting.

The evening was so intensely cold that no meeting was held tho' Margaret and Oella went down to the church, then returned. Dr. Tappan came for her soon after they returned.

Saturday, February 9th, 1895

Mercury about the same as yesterday, 8° below zero. Later in the day it moderated some but the river closed today and people are crossing on the ice. Have been very busy as usual. Was over home twice however, Father being sick again and Mother about as usual. Had a letter from Uncle Drew Ricker saying Grandpa is failing all the time and that Ira and Frank will take turns staying there nights.

Sunday, February 10th, 1895

Cold and clear. Thawed a little in the afternoon and became very cold again at night. All went to Sabbath School but had to hurry to get through breakfast in time. I had four girls present. Attended church service both morning and evening. Was over home in the afternoon.

Monday, February 11th, 1895

Thermometer registered 5° this morning. Snow drifted and river closed with ice. The girls went to skate on the river after school. Amanda returned on the noon train having been gone nearly seven weeks. Wrote to Will as usual. Walked down to the river late in the afternoon with Carl who skated a little and I walked across to Ky with Mrs. Fulton who had gone down from the Bank when we did. The three girls attended a Christian Endeavor social given by Maggie Peebles.

Tuesday, February 12th, 1895

Still very cold. Thermometer was down to 10° at bed time this evening. Snowed nearly all day. I went out this afternoon to make a few calls on the sick and see after my Aid Society collections. Went to Mrs. Arnold's, Mrs. Newton's, Mrs. Jack's and then to see Margaret Ludwig who has quinsy and was too ill to see anyone.⁷

Abraham Lincoln born February 12th, 1809 at a country home in La Rue co. Ky, three miles from Hodginsville.

Wednesday, February 13th, 1895

Very cold, ice and snow every where. Thermometer at zero.

A telegram from Frank Ricker this morning stated that Father Ricker is growing weaker and J.W. had better go to him so he left on the C.P.&V. train after dinner for Kirkwood. Father has never been quite well since Mother Ricker died in August last and he will probably not survive a great while. Went to prayer-meeting. Julia gave Lizzie her lesson and stayed until church time.

Thursday, February 14th, 1895

Not so severely cold and in the afternoon the sun thawed the ice and snow a little. Wrote to Will, also to Clara Ricker. Went to the W.C.T.U. meeting in the afternoon.⁸ Mrs. Silcox was here in the morning. Went to see Mrs. Kline just before supper. Carrie Hadley spent the evening with us, bringing her music. Mr. Smith had two little invited guests beside our girls and had a valentine party.

Friday, February 15th, 1895

Thermometer only about 1° above zero this A.M. Bright and sunny and during the day the ice and snow thawed quite a good deal. Had a letter from Uncle Drew saying Father Ricker is confined to his bed and the Dr. thinks he will never rally.

⁷ Peritonsillar abscess (PTA), also known as a quinsy, is pus due to an infection behind the tonsil. Symptoms include fever, throat pain, trouble opening the mouth, and a change to the voice. Pain is usually worse on one side.

⁸ Woman's Christian Temperance Union: one of the first organizations of women devoted to social reform. Originally organized on December 23, 1873 in Hillsboro, Ohio the group influenced the temperance movement and supported the 18th Amendment.

We are glad J.W. is now with him.
Oella Tappan is here to spend the night.

Saturday, February 16th, 1895

Still very cold.

We had talked of the girls going to Henley today to help celebrate Margaret Peebles tenth birth day which occurred yesterday but we decided that they could not go and Mr. Smith went alone, on the afternoon train. I was busy all day, but did not make the calls Margaret and I had planned because she was sick and had to go to bed.

Sunday, February 17, 1895

Fair and cold.

We all went to Sabbath school and were earlier than usual. Carl came down stairs ready when the first bell rang. in the evening Lizzie had the sick headache and could not go out so I remained at home with her.

Monday, February 18th, 1895

Fair but cold. Wrote letters to Jas. and Grandpa and Will, in the forenoon. Went to Relief Corps meeting in the afternoon then back to mother again. Mary Y. Moore and Grace Colton were her after supper on an errand.

Father had another chill this afternoon.

Tuesday, February 19th, 1895

Still cold, thaws a little in the sun only to freeze again as soon as the sun moves, or rather the shade takes the place of sunlight. Have been sewing a little and spending much time with Mother. Was out awhile this morning on an errand so called to see Mrs. Draper who fell Sabbath and injured her ankle, badly.

Wednesday, February 20th, 1895

Cold but bright and pleasant. Was with Mother all the forenoon and immediately after dinner I began dressing to go to Maggie Peebles little "afternoon". just as I was about ready Mrs. Prather called, after she left I went and enjoyed a pleasant home. Lizzie Peebles came in at noon and was present. Went to prayer meeting in the evening and remained to a called meeting of the aid society. Had a letter from Jas this afternoon, and Carl had one this morning which should have been here yesterday.

Thursday, February 21st, 1895

Raw and cold with indications of snow.⁹ Was with Mother most of the day. Went to Mrs. Kline's at 1 o'clock to meet some ladies and consult about a Good Will social at Dr. Tappan's. Did some errands and then returned to Mother. Wrote to Will as usual, and sent a postal to Kirkwood.

Lydia Lorey and Sallie Knowles came down after supper to help with the list of invitations for the social. High mud last night.

Friday, February 22nd, 1895

Much milder and quite bright. Snow and ice melting but river still closed. Mother was feeling so badly that I spent nearly all my time with her today. was somewhat better in the evening. sewed while there and finished off several pieces of work. Carl stayed at home and worked all day. M. made calls in the afternoon the girls visited with Julia Taylor, went to the Winter Fair in the forenoon and to a little party at Mae Pursells' in the evening. Winnie and Charlie Smith called. had no letters from either of the absent ones.

Saturday, February 23rd, 1894

The snow and ice are fast disappearing and the streets are in bad condition. I was over home much of the day. Margaret went to make calls with Oella Tappan this afternoon, and also stopped at the Winter Fair to see the dogs and poultry. The news from Grandpa is not encouraging, the daily letters from K. say that he grows weaker and weaker each day. Wrote to Will and Jas today.

Sunday, February 24th, 1894

Weather fair, and not very cold. We were all ready in good time for S.S. and remained through Teachers' prayer-meeting and church. Dr. Tappan preached a very excellent sermon on the Popular Amusements and did not spare anyone at the expense of the truth. Had a large congregation. We all went again in the evening.

This is Jennie Ricker's birth day, and also Mrs. Tewksbury's though the latter will have no more of them in this life. Maggie Mitchell died today.

Monday, February 25th, 1895

Weather very fair and pleasant. Spent most of my day over home as usual, wrote to Will and Jas as usual and after tea the girls and I went to Dr. Tappan's to the Good-Will Reception. It proved a wonderful success in every way, the people enjoyed it, the family were delighted and the gifts were substantial, and varied, and must have been numbered in the hundreds.

⁹ Raw: unpleasantly cold and damp weather.

Tuesday, February 26th, 1895

A bright beautiful day and not at all cold. Was over home awhile in the morning then came home and got ready for the Missionary Society this afternoon. Foreign Mis. Soc. met here and re-elected the old officers, this being the seventh time I have been elected President without change.

Had so much business we did not have time for the Topic and Mrs. Pratt who had charge of it was sick and could not be here. Carrie Hadley sang for us and we kept her to spend the evening.

Father came home sick.

Wednesday, February 27th, 1895

Mild and pleasant. Was over home nearly all day. Father and Mother both being sick in bed. Had a long letter from Will. Went to the Aid Society meeting at 4 P.M. to report money received and see what was being done. The repairs have been well begun and prayer meeting was held in the midst of the house-cleaning. Uncle Sam cleaned and he framed my picture of Lady Washington's Reception today.

Thursday, February 28th, 1895

Warm and fair. Some signs of rain. Was over home nearly all day, Mother is not so well as yesterday and Father had fever this evening so we sent for the doctor who said he had a start for pneumonia. Wrote to Will, Lizzie Peebles and Jas. Had a card from him saying Grandpa fails every day. There are some very sick people in town. Went to see Mary Ellen a few minutes on Mis. Business. Missed seeing Mrs. Hamilton who was here to see me on a similar errand.

Friday, March 1st, 1895

Weather bright, fair and not very cold.

There is a great deal of sickness. Father is real sick, we have the doctor for him, and Mother has Dr. V. Tine for herself. Miss Bettie Hall is very low with typhoid fever so that Miss Hall is out of school. Enos was here this evening to sit a little while. I have not seen him in a long while having missed him when he was here last fall. He came this morning.

Saturday, March 2nd, 1895

Weather mild was over home nearly all the time today. Enos left for home this afternoon. Uncle Enos was with Father a good part of the day. He has a light attack of pneumonia with grippe.¹⁰ Mrs. Behreus is sick also and Ruth is helping Macy. Amanda is not well but keeps going. Carl is the busiest boy in town I think and does a wonderful amount of work. Mr. Smith went to Henley again.

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

Sunday, March 3rd, 1895

Beautiful day but quite cool in the morning and evening. Father is about the same and needs constant attention. I was with him until late last night then Mary and sister watched him until I returned in the morning. Then I went to S.S. and church while Uncle Enos stayed with him, returning to him after dinner and remaining until bed time. Did not go to church in the evening. He is very sick.

Monday, March 4th, 1895

Weather bright and windy 30°. This afternoon a telegram from Jas. announced the death of our dear Father Ricker. Earth is poorer when such men leave it. A close friendship of a quarter of a century has deepened the respect and love I have always felt for him, since first I knew him.

I feel very sorry I cannot go to Kirkwood and pay the last possible tribute to the one we loved so well but Father and Mother are too sick for me to leave them. Margaret will go in the morning. Went one home at 3 A.M. Wrote Will and J.W. as usual, also Effie Ellis.

Tuesday, March 5th, 1895

Cold and windy. Ground frozen. I was up before 3 o'clk to make coffee for Margaret before she started on her journey. Carl went across the river with her and it was so early it was quite dark. The ferry boat could not run and they went in a skiff, having to row up on this side as far as Chil st, then the swift current carried them away below the landing on the other side. Coming back the skiff met the ice which had just come down from above and all day the river has been full of it. At 11.30 this morning Mr. Smith received a telegram saying his father died at 8 o'clk this morning. This makes the third death in his family since he was home for the holidays. I spent a delightful day at Mr. Smith's home last summer and have most pleasant recollections of his father who was an unusually interesting old gentleman.

Wednesday, March 6th, 1895

Beautiful day and not very cold. Dear Father Ricker's remains were laid away in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Kirkwood Mo, at 3 o'clock this afternoon. We have lost one of our dearest best friends but he was glad to go and we must not regret that he has realized his heart's desire. He has been like an own father to me. I am sorry I could not have been with Jas. to pay the last tribute to him. Went to prayer-meeting

Thursday, March 7th, 1895

Rainy and gloomy. Have done little except run back and forth between the two houses. Mother is improving, but Father does not change much. Bettie Hall died this afternoon after a long siege of Typhoid Fever. Her life has been despaired of for some time. Wrote to Will as usual, also to Jas.

Friday, March 8th, 1895

Cloudy most of the day. Hard rain in the snow, sleet and wind, thunder and lightning in the evening. Wrote to Jas, to Clara Ricker, to Mr. Smith and sister Jennie today. Have been over home most of the day. Mother better, Father about the same. Mr. Smith's father was buried this afternoon. I had a letter from Mr. S. giving particulars of his death.

Wrote or began a letter to Jennie for her anniversary.

Saturday, March 9th 1895

Snow on the ground again. Windy and raw. Ther 22°

Sun melted snow. Was very busy all day. Mother better, Father about the same.

Amanda scarcely able to be up. May sick tonight.

Wrote to Jas, also a postal to Clara Ricker in Brooklyn. Did a great deal of running about this afternoon. Ruth helped with the house work.

Bettie Hall was buried today. Margaret returned from Kirkwood and Helen and Enos came on the same train, C&O they having come from Grand River, Ky. Our May is not well.

Sunday, March 10th, 1895

Weather mild but very damp. Went to Sabbath School and church in the morning as Helen was with the sick. Macy not well enough to go out. Mrs. Amanda Pursell died this evening about 9.30 o'clock, suddenly. She has been one of the most prominent and useful women of Ports. for many years. Macy gave up with the grippe and sent for the doctor this afternoon, is quite sick. I shall stay all night over home.

Monday, March 11th, 1895

Weather still mild and spring like, very damp and rainy. The sick all a very little better, Mrs. Behreus is able to do the kitchen work again. Amanda is scarcely able to do even that much. Margaret went into school again this morning.

I wrote to Jas and Will.

Lizzie Peebles was in at noon, went home and came back on the night train. Very tired tonight.

Barton and Jennie have been married twenty years today.

Tuesday, March 12th, 1895

Weather fair but very damp. Sick all better but still in bed. Enos and Lizzie Peebles left on morning train for Athens to see John. I have little time for anything aside from looking after the sick. Amanda is barely able to be up, can not stay up a whole day.

Wednesday, March 13th, 1895

Rainy all day. Had a letter from Clara saying she would be here on the B&O evening train so I telegraphed Lizzie Peebles to find her on the train and come down with her, which she did and we were delighted to see them when the train arrived. We all went to prayer-meeting except the two younger girls.

The lecture room is all in order again and looks well.

Thursday, March 14th, 1895

Sleet and rain.

The streets are in bad condition for walking or driving.

Have spent much of the day with the sick. Mother seems better but Father remains about the same. Mary is better but not even about the house yet.

Friday, March 15th, 1895

Icy and cold. The trees are encased in ice. Had a letter from Clara Ricker saying she would be here on the evening train, B&O. Margaret wanted me to telegraph Lizzie Peebles to find her on the train and come down with her. I did so, and at 5.03 they came together from the train. No I have made a mistake it was Bessie who came this evening on the later N&W train. Upon Jenny Gharky's invitation Clara went to the Musical. Mrs. Jones asked Helen and took both.

Saturday, March 16th, 1895

All sorts of weather, a little rain, a little snow, a little blew. Icy.

Was over home most of the day with the sick. Mary is improving so she can go about the house a little.

Bessie has been busy getting ready for work in the High School Monday.

Sunday, March 17th, 1895

Bright and thawing. Went to Sabbath School and church in the morning. Spent the afternoon and evening with Father and Mother. He seems to be about the same. His throat is affected so he can scarcely talk, and he is very weak. Bessie Hall and Clara Ricker went to Sabbath School with us.

The lecture room is finished and looks very cheerful and pretty.

Monday, March 18th, 1895

Beautiful day, pavements in very bad condition from the melting ice. Was over home most of the morning with the sick. In the afternoon went to Relief Corps meeting after which I came home and sat with Clara while before going over home again for the evening. Mabel Russel, Mrs. Jones and Wes Fulton called. Clara Waller was here in the morning. Wrote to J.W. and Will as usual.

Tuesday, March 19, 1895

Weather mild and spring-like. Was over home most of the forenoon, darning in Mother's room and reading and talking. He improves very slowly. Wrote postal to Jas. In the afternoon went to a meeting at the church to make preparations for the coming of Presbety. Clara went driving with Carl in the afternoon. She missed the calls of Margaret Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, and Lena Kline, but saw Maggie Peebles who came early.

Wednesday, March 20th, 1895

Weather pleasant.

Have been most of the time over home.

Wrote to J.W. as usual. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening.

Virginia Greene's birthday.

Thursday, March 21st, 1895

Pleasant. Father seemed better today. I learned that Enos would still be in N.Y. a few days so got his address and that of Charlie Murphy whom Will is going to visit and wrote them each a letter so they could find each other.

Lena Kline, Ed Reed and Dr. Marshall called this morning to see Clara.

Friday, March 22nd, 1895

Pleasant. Father seemed better all day but in the evening he had a hard long chill. Clara went to the Literary Club with Lena Kline. It was at Mrs. G.D. Selby's. Helen came over in the evening and stayed awhile as Oella, Julia, Paul Tappan and Mr. Lauman were here to spend the evening. When Helen went home she found Father with a chill so she came after me and Bessie went after the doctor. I went and stayed all night.

Mr. Bannin and Mrs. Smith called.

Saturday, March 23rd, 1895

A most beautiful day. Margaret and Clara went to Henley on the early train, spent the forenoon there and Carl went out on the afternoon train with a basket of lunch and the girls got on the train and they went to the serpent Mound for the afternoon. Rich went with them. At Peebles they had a fine team of horses and a barouche and the trip proved a delightful one.¹¹ They came back on the later train. Mrs. Lewis called. Hard shower tonight.

Sunday, March 24th, 1895

Weather mild, windy and like rain.

¹¹ Barouche: a four-wheeled horse-drawn carriage with a collapsible hood over the rear half, a seat in front for the driver, and seats facing each other for the passengers, used especially in the 19th century.

Father seemed better again today. Mother about as usual. The three girls, Margaret, Clara and Bessie went up to take tea with the Tappan girls. Wrote to J.W. as usual. Enos and Will met in New York and had a visit, Enos will be home tomorrow, I had a telegram from Will to that effect.

Tuesday, March 26th, 1895

Weather pleasant. Clara went to Ironton on the morning train to stay until tomorrow. Had a letter from Will, now in N.Y. telling of Charley Murphy's great success in his medical studies. He got his degree yesterday. I have been back and forth over home and here all day. Father had a slight chill again at noon, with fever after it. Cora Selby called. Enos came at noon. Missionary Society at the church.

Wednesday, March 27th, 1895

Beautiful day but very windy and dusty. Father and Mother seem better today. I went to the Church Aid Society and made my final report, had collected 22.50 cts for the repairs which are now all completed. After prayer meeting there was a kind of "house warming" or a little social time when the unusually large congregation remained to shake hands, talk a little and look at the improvements in the room which were all lighted up for the occasion. Clara came back from Ironton.

Thursday, March 28th, 1895

Beautiful spring like day. Grass green but no buds on trees as yet. Father seemed much better. I wrote the usual letters to J.W. and Will, the latter being in N.Y. on his vacation. After dinner I went with Clara to make calls upon Mrs. George Davis, Mrs. Blanche Selby and sister Oella and Julia Tappan. Miss Gharky, Mrs. Draper, Mrs. Lewis, Miss. Peebles, Mabel Russell. Barton, Jennie and two children came this morning to Father's. Arthur Moore and Mrs. Spry were here this afternoon.

Friday, March 29th, 1895

Weather quite warm. Father seems a little better. Mother about as usual. Clara attended the musical with Mrs. Waller and Helen went with Mrs. Jones. I sat with Father. Margaret, Clara, Bessie, Oella, and Florence Crossley took tea with Maggie Peebles then we just came home early and had callers the rest of the evening. Ed Reed and Lena Kline, Dr. Marshall, Oella and Paul Tappan, Helen and Enos were here.

Saturday, March 30th, 1895

Pleasant day but very warm. Margaret went on the early C&O train to Cin. en route to Kirkwood to help her father break up housekeeping and dispose of the goods. Clara was too sick all day to sit up and could not go to Mrs. Bannon's as she had planned. Bessie was busy at the High School in the forenoon and Lizzie went with her.

Sunday, March 31st, 1895

Beautiful day but very dusty and windy. We all went to Sabbath School excepting Clara and Bessie, then the later went to church but had to leave soon after as she was sick.

Clara was better today and went to church in the evening.

Father has had a quiet day, not seeing many persons. Uncle Enos was with him nearly all day and Uncle Sam came up from Maysville to see him. In the evening he and I sat with Father while the others went to church.

Clara went in the evening.

Monday, April 1st, 1895

Rainy. Election day and the first time when women were permitted to vote, but only on the candidates for school board. Quite a number availed themselves of their privilege.

Clara left on the 3 P.M. train for Wyoming to spend the night with the Hosford family, Carl went with her to Cin. intending to return on the night train. Barton and Jennie and two babies took tea with us. Had a good long letter from Will. He has been to Yale and Smith Colleges visiting.

Tuesday, April 2nd, 1895

Have had a very busy day. Had Hattie White cleaning the two front rooms today, the one upstairs and also the lower one.

The day was fine for it, sprinkled a little. Father and Mother both seem improving though he does not sit up and she does very little of it.

Wednesday, April 3rd, 1895

Weather pleasant and spring-like the birds are coming out fast and a few early flowers are in bloom. Was down street doing some errands and saw Alice Ross, for the last time as it afterwards proved. I had stopped to speak to Maggie Peebles and Emma Jennings at Mrs. Johnson's door and Alice came out, met her again as I came home.

Went to prayer meeting in the evening. Trustees were elected or rather re-elected.

Thursday, April 4th, 1895

Weather pleasant.

Have been washing and pressing goods and getting ready to do some sewing. Father is improving slowly all the time but does not sit up any yet. Wrote to Will as usual and to the Kirkwood folks also.

The tower to the Catholic church is being finished and will be quite an addition to the building when it is done.¹²

Friday, April 5th, 1895

Bright and very warm.

Little Margaret Tappan is one year old today and the girls took up the silver spoon which sister left for her. Helen went to the Literary Club held at Mrs. Murphy's. Was over home with sewing to stay with Father and Mother. Have helped the girls with some skirts the last day or two. Wrote to Jas and Will, the latter being an extra letter as I had already written him twice this week.

Saturday, April 6th, 1895

Pleasant. Have had a busy time all day getting a little house work done. Margaret came home on the train, it was eleven o'clock when she and Carl reached the house. She did not bring Bessie Ricker, she will come later with Jas.

Carl took me for a nice drive this evening.

Went to a S.S. Committee meeting at the Reading Room this evening to help arrange for a Convention to be held in two weeks.¹³

Sunday, April 7th, 1895

A rainy day, at least it began that way and affected the attendance at Sabbath school quite a good deal. I had but two pupils and Mrs. Evans' girls came to sit with us. Spent a part of the after noon over home as usual with Father and Mother. Miss Alice Ross was buried early this morning. She is the last member of her family, has taught seventeen years in the Public schools and all of our children except Margaret went to her.

Monday, April 8th, 1895

Bright with wind and some indications of rain. Have been busy and yet can hardly tell what I have done except to write the usual letters to Jas and Will.

Enos left this afternoon for Grand Rivers, Helen will remain a while longer and do a little visiting since Father is so much better that she can leave him occasionally for visits to friends.

Went to a Com. meeting for the S.S. Convention and finished the work given me to do.

¹² The contract for the brickwork for the new tower was announced in the Portsmouth Daily Times on March 1, 1895. The brick work was contracted to Wilbur Wertz for \$1700 and carpentry, iron work, etc., was awarded to John M. Williams for \$2085. The plans were drawn by Capt. A.B. Alger and indicated a 217-foot tower which would be 50 feet taller than any tower or steeple in the city. It was the intention to put a clock in the tower provided the city would cover maintenance of the clock after it was set into place.

¹³ The Reading room was located at 64 West Second Street, created by Mrs. Rachel Hamilton's will to be set up as a free reading room for the men and boys of the city as long as expenses were provided by the citizens of Portsmouth.

Tuesday, April 9th, 1895

Rained in the night and early this morning.

Presbytery met in the First church this evening. A large congregation was present to hear Dr. Hutchison preach the opening sermon. Father is improving but not yet sitting up. Mother is much better. Lizzie took her lesson over home this evening. Went to the B&O trains to look for delegates from Jackson. Grace Hall came this evening for a visit with Bessie.

Wednesday, April 10th, 1895

Beautiful day though it rained before we were up. I gave the day to the meetings of the Presbyterial Society. Mrs. Watson of Cherry Fork is President and responded to the welcome which I was chosen to give to the guests.

Although I was prepared to entertain delegates, none were sent me, those assigned me, not coming.

The popular meeting was largely attended. Helen and I and Carl went.

Thursday, April 11th, 1895

Bright, warm and pleasant. Did some errands then went to the church and attended the closing meeting of the Presbyterial Society then upstairs to see the ordination of D.L. James of Ironton. Spent a little time saying good bye to the visitors and then came home. Wrote to J.W. and Will and a card to Uncle Sam. Father sat up a little while today for the first time since he was taken sick five weeks ago, last Tuesday.

Friday, April 12th, 1895

Showery and sunny by turns. Have had housecleaning going on all day. Hattie Mute and William Harris being my helpers.

We got the dining room pretty well cleaned and the brussels carpet from Margaret's room put down.¹⁴

Mr. Smith came this evening to spend a few days in gathering up his things to take home.

Saturday, April 13th, 1895

Beautiful day. Had two men cleaning the yard, one cleaning the shed, and Hattie at work in Margaret's room until noon. M. had gone to Kentucky for the day with Mabel Russell after wild flowers.

Was over home several times but did not stay long as there was so much to look after at home. Took out the hall stove and sent it to Cadot's for the summer.¹⁵

¹⁴ Brussels carpet are made with the loops of the pile left uncut and became fashionable in the first half of the 19th century.

¹⁵ C.S. Cadot was a dealer in iron mantels; gas, gasoline, and oil stoves; water coolers; refrigerators; and ice cream freezers located at 118 - 120 West Second, Portsmouth O.

Lizzie's new queen silk was finished.

Sunday, April 14th, 1895

Showery and cloudy so many new spring suits had to be kept for a brighter day. It was cool enough for good fires and warm wraps. Father had a hard chill again this evening. Has not had one for some time until today. I went to Sabbath School but did not get out to church either morning or evening.

We had a little snow, a little hail, a little rain during the day.

Monday, April 15th, 1895

A beautiful day.

Carl is having the side fence rebuilt, it has been eleven years since it was done before. I was over home with some sewing in the forenoon. In the afternoon went to the W.R. C. meeting. Was very tired and retired early this evening.

Tuesday, April 16th, 1895

Fair but cool and raw. A good fire needed. Have been sewing nearly all day on a waist for Lizzie. Grace Hall and I have been visiting and sewing together.

Margaret had a long letter from Will. I wrote to J.W. and a postal to Uncle Sam about father. Grace, Helen, Lizzie and May went to the Temple Marlette Concert at Bigelow Church. Carl went also. Margaret, Bessie and I are busy at home. The side fence was finished.

Wednesday, April 17th, 1895

Fine weather.

Busy as we can be in door sand out. The new fence is done and will be white washed at once. Mr. Smith is busy packing up his things, having decided that he must go home for the present.

Went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Tuesday, April 18th, 1895

Weather pleasant and we are making the best of it for our house cleaning. Ruth came to clean the front room and had to wait until Mr. Smith got all his things out. He left on the 11 A.M. train for his home. We are all sorry to see him go and hope he may return some time. I wrote to will as usual.

Friday, April 19th, 1895

Beautiful day.

Have been busy as could be all day with extra help to get the house and yard all in order before J.W. comes home. Nearly everything is done all out side but cutting the grass, and a great improvement is seen all around. Sat up until the 11 o'clock train came but no one came to our house.

Saturday, April 20th, 1895

A little cool so we needed fire in the evening. Had a busy day and sat up late waiting for the two travelers who came on the eleven o'clock train, J.W. and Bessie Ricker from Kirkwood. We got quiet as soon as possible after they came, having been up late last evening also.

Cut the grass for the first time this season.

Father says he is not going to share any more.

Sunday, April 21st, 1895

Beautiful day. We went to S.S. in full force there being nine of us and Helen, ten altogether. All attended church services both morning and evening. Communion Sabbath. Four united with the church upon profession of their faith and two by letter. The four were Mr. John A. Ives, Miss Mabel Poffenberger, Frank Tappan and Muriel Evans.

Monday, April 22nd, 1895

Cloudy all forenoon but cleared up after and did not rain.

Had a busy day here and there and not doing much of anything which can be remembered. Wrote to Will of course. Bessie has been unpacking her trunk and settling herself for a visit. The S.S. Convention met at Baptist Church and J.W. and I attended it while the others, excepting May and Miss Bessie went to the Bellstedt Concert.¹⁶

Tuesday, April 23rd, 1895

Fine weather. Fruit trees all in bloom and summer at hand.

Soon after dinner Maggie Peebles called to see Bessie and others she had gone, Margaret and little Jean Johnson came. Carl took Bessie for a drive before supper and Margaret had the others out in the carriage. We have a full house and lively times now. Bird Spry and Mr. Whitelaw called this evening. Letter from Will.

¹⁶ Herman Bellstedt was a cornetist from Cincinnati.

Wednesday, April 24th, 1895

Beautiful day. Wrote a note to Will to send in Bessie's letter, also wrote a letter of congratulations to Clinton Kimball. We took Father to the Shop and left him half an hour, the first time he has been there for eight weeks. Mother was out a little while also. The goods from Kirkwood came today, two large loads and it is a puzzle to know what to do with them. Many of them will be very useful to us. Went to prayer meeting Mr. Peebles and Mary were present, returned today from the South.

Thursday, April 25th, 1895

Beautiful day, and quite warm. After the morning work I did a little sewing for Mother then Bessie and I went to Maggie Peebles' to return her call and also to see Mrs. Peebles and Mary after their long absence. We also called upon Margaret Johnson while out. I sewed all the afternoon on Lizzie's black skirt. The others drove. Mother was out a little while. I wrote to Will as usual.

Friday, April 26th, 1895

Weather fine.

Nothing startling or unusual occurred. The young folks ride and walk and play and sing and have good times.

I am busy all the time and can never see what I have done.

Enos came from Grand River and Lizzie from Henley this evening.

Saturday, April 27th, 1895

Weather pleasant.

This is Father Ricker's birthday and had he lived he would have been eighty-two years old.

Our house full of young people seem to be enjoying themselves in various ways. Walks, drives, electric car rides help them to pass the time.

Sunday, April 28th, 1895

Beautiful day.

Went to Sabbath school as usual and also to the other sermons. Spent a while with Mother and Father. Went to church in the evening.

Bessie sang a duet with Florence Hadley this evening.

Monday, April 29th, 1895

Weather pleasant. Wrote to Will and did the usual things for Monday.

The carriage was out in the afternoon and Mother and Father had a ride which they enjoyed though it was short.

Grace Hall, Bessie Ricker and Helen Moore went over on the Kentucky side for a walk this forenoon. Crossed to the upper ferry and returned by the lower one.

Tuesday, April 30th, 1895

Beautiful day. Carl, Bessie Ricker and I went to Ironton on the Telegraph this morning arriving there about 11.30 A.M. Were met by Alec at the wharf and taken to aunt Ad's where we had dinner and spent the afternoon excepting when Helen and I went to call at Cousin Sadie Crossley's.

We came home on the evening train having had a delightful day.

Wednesday, May 1st, 1895

A typical May day, beautiful and pleasant. The young folks went to Dr. Tappan's after church to spend the evening. Had bene invited some days ago to meet Miss Virginia Brown a cousin visiting them Carrie and Florence Hadley called on Bessie this afternoon.

Thursday, May 2nd, 1895

Weather pleasant. I wrote to Will but was so late getting at it that it was a short letter. My days are as full as they can be and I have very little to show for it. Sew a very little and do little or no visiting. Have not been to a Temperance meeting for weeks. The young people drive every evening.

Friday, May 3rd, 1895

Beautiful weather. Helen went to Henley at noon to make Lizzie a visit and date in the afternoon. Carl took Bessie, Grace Hall and sister up to Lucasville in the carriage. They had their supper with them and came home at 10 o'clock when the moon was bright and beautiful as it could be. Blanche Selby, Winnie Smith, and Mrs. E.B. Moore called.

Saturday, May 4th, 1895

Weather very warm. Bessie seems to be enjoying every moment of her visit and we are enjoying it as well. There was a moonlight excursion this evening which Carl had thought some of going on but later the plans were changed and he took Bessie to New Boston instead. The evening proved to be unusually delightful, I was sorry to close my eyes to its beauties when late bed time came. Mary Y. Moore, Lucy and Edith called.

Sunday, May 5th, 1895

Cloudy with some rain. Rained hard while we were in church at night. We all went to S.S. and the regular church services. This is the 55th, anniversary of Father and Mother Ricker's wedding. We had hoped they would live to see it but Mother died August 24th, 94 and Father March 4th of 95 having enjoyed an unusually happy life for more than the allotted time.

Monday, March 6th, 1895

Rained some today, just enough to make it pleasant. Was cloudy much of the time. Was busy one way and another all day.

Oella Tappan and Miss Brown came soon after supper to spend the evening, and later Paul and Julia Tappan and Mr. Lauman came and stayed until eleven o'clock.

I wrote my usual letter to Will.

Tuesday, March 7th, 1895

This has been one of my red letter days. The weather was perfect and added much to the pleasure of our trip. Bessie Ricker, Grace Hall and I went to Henley at 6.05 A.M. Had a nice visit and dinner there then Carl came out on the 2 o'clock train with a lunch basket, we three Rickard and Helen took the train and went to Peebles station then drove out to the Serpent Mound. It was a rare sight and treat in every way.

Wednesday, May 8th, 1895

Weather pleasant but hot in the sun.

Have had a very busy day and was very tired at night but went to prayer-meeting as usual. Dr. and Mrs. Dennis called after prayer-meeting but missed seeing Bessie Ricker as she, Carl and Margaret had gone to New Boston on the electric cars.

Bessie and Grace Hall came in before the callers left. Mother was over home awhile today. She and father are better.

Thursday, May 9th, 1895

Beautiful weather but hot in the sun. Have been busy all day in the house, did not get over home at all. Lizzie, Margaret and Robert came in to stay all night. I wrote to Will as usual, also postals to Helen Ricker and Uncle Sam. Mr. and Mrs. Silcox called after tea. Carl got his new buggy and his father and I had a little drive in it.

Friday, May 10th, 1895

Very warm, shirt waists are both fashionable and comfortable and the stores cannot supply the demand for them. The girls including Bessie Ricker are all trying and wearing them. Bessie and all the family excepting Carl and myself were surprised at the dinner table by the appearance of Will Ricker who was not expected until the late train this evening. This is his first visit to Portsmouth in twenty-two years, having left here when he was four years old. Uncle Sam Moore's birthday.

Saturday, May 11th, 1895

Very warm until noon when a change came and the mercury began falling. By night we opened the fire place and started a fire. It was on Sat, May 19th, last year when just such a sudden change took place and we had to get out winter wraps and covers that had just been put away. We are enjoying Will's visit very much, he and Bessie sing well together.

Sunday, May 12th, 1895

Cold enough to bring out the winter wraps and heavy dresses again. We all attended S.S. and the regular church services. Rev. A.E. Johnson of the 6th st M.E. church preached for us in the morning, Y.M.C.A day was observed in the city there being a general exchange of pulpits in the morning. In the evening a Y.M.C.A. meeting was held at which Allan Cook, Mr. Lauman and Dr. Tappan gave brief talks.

Monday, May 13th, 1895

Weather still cold and disagreeable, so windy that it was out of the question to go walking or driving for pleasure. We had expected Helen down from Ironton to spend the evening but she could not come. Carl and Will went to the train as her letters to me came late. In the evening Margaret and Ruth Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Prescott came to sit awhile.

Margaret Ricker was sick all day and could not sit up this evening.

Tuesday, May 14th, 1895

Cold enough for good fires Ther 40° this morning and cold all day. Will and Bessie Ricker left on the afternoon train for Cin, intending to spend the night with the Hosford family at Wyoming. It was much such a day as Clara left in March, though it rained then.

I was very tired and went upstairs early. Mrs. Silcox was here in the afternoon. Grace and I entertained ourselves with some Riley poenies.

Wednesday, May 15th 1895

Cold, cloudy, and rainy in the afternoon. Ther 36° this morning.

Have been very busy all day, washing, ironing, and mending. A letter from Will today reports him well and cheerful. We miss our guests very much, but still have Grace Hall for company. Went to prayer meeting as usual and retired as soon as possible after coming home.

Thursday, May 16th, 1895

Weather pleasant. The marked event of this day was my going to the W.C.T.U. meeting as I so seldom get there, it being an inconvenient day for me to go out in the afternoon.

Am busy all the time but what I do makes so little impression that I can not remember it very long. Wrote to Will, that is one thing I manage to do and remember.

Friday, May 17th, 1895

Pleasant but a little cool. Mrs. McClure called this forenoon to ask me to meet Mrs. Foster and herself this evening to talk over work for the fair. I went up after supper and Jas called for me just as we had finished our plans.

Saturday, May 18th, 1895

Pleasant. Mrs. McClure, Mrs. Foster and I began our work for the fair by going to the Opera House today to see what could be done in the way of assigning and arranging booths. From there we went to report to Mrs. Kline and met Mrs. Duduit so spent most of the morning talking matters over. Lizzie Peebles was in and went out at noon. Bessie, Grace and Margaret went with her, returning on the evening train. Lizzie and I called upon Mrs. Selby and Winnie Smith and then at Dr. Tappan's after supper. Julia brought us home.

Sunday, May 19th, 1895

Beautiful day.

Ralph Moore is nineteen years old today.

Attended the usual services today beginning with S.S. and ending with evening service. Was over home to see Father and Mother both of whom are better and able to be out in good weather.

Monday, May 20th, 1895

Cloudy with a little rain. Was busy at home, and over home in the forenoon and spent the afternoon at the Relief Corps meeting. Wrote to Will as usual today. Carl has a little black horse he is keeping a few days while Audy is away and he took his father a lively ride this evening. The horse is afraid of everything and every body but Carl is not afraid of him.

Tuesday, May 21st, 1895

Weather cool but pleasant for those who are well. My cold has made me miserable today. Have not done much today.

Wednesday, May 22nd, 1895

Weather still cool. Fruit and crops generally will suffer from the cold. We are enjoying fine strawberries now and they are not very expensive. Have been making some of the arrangements for the coming fair, am engaged upon the committees.

Went to prayer-meeting this evening, was feeling better of my cold but perhaps would better have stayed at home.

Thursday, May 23rd, 1895

Weather pleasant though rain is indicated, and needed. Have sewed on my dress. Mother spent the afternoon here, was here in the morning also. Is able to come over nearly every day. I wrote to Will this morning as usual, or rather began it then finished it later. Have had a busy day and a bad cold, went to bed early, before dark. Carl took Mary to ride with the little black horse this evening. Will Peebles and Rob Adams called.

Friday, May 24th, 1895

Weather fine. Went early to call upon Oella Tappan and congratulate her upon her birthday. Then to Mrs. Dudit's where Oella and Julia called for me and brought me home. Went again to see Mrs. Snodgrass. This is the anniversary of the organization of our church seventy-eight years ago. It is also Queen Victoria's birthday. In the evening grace, Margaret and I went to the Phonograph Concert at the Y.M.C.A. Gym. Hall. It was the first time I had heard a phonograph and it seemed quite wonderful. Mrs. Kendall died at 5.30 P.M.

Saturday, May 25th, 1895

Beautiful day and a busy one as usual. AT eleven o'clock I heard of the death of Mrs. Kendall and went at once to see her daughter Ella Overturf. Then to see Mrs. Snodgrass to make some arrangements about the funeral as Mrs. K was a member of the Relief Corps. Mrs. S. and Mrs. Whitney were here in the afternoon. My cold has given me much trouble and is sores again tonight. Grace Hall left at noon for Cleveland.

Sunday, May 26th, 1895

Beautiful day until three o'clock when it began to rain and rained quite hard. Went to S.S. and the usual morning services. My cold was better but not nearly well. After dinner I rested half an hour then went to the funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Kendall at her late home. Dr. Tappan conducted the services admirably. From there we of the Relief Corps went to the 6th, st. M.E. church to attend the Memorial services, the sermon being preached by Mrs. Johnson. Went to church in the evening. 78th birthday of church was observed.

Monday, May 27th, 1895

Weather cool enough for a little fire morning and evening. Wrote to Will in the morning. Sewed on my dress but did not finish it. Was out in the morning and did several errands. Mother was here twice. Mrs. McClure was here in the afternoon. The Catholic spire is nearing completion so far as the framework is concerned.

Tuesday, May 28th, 1895

Weather warmer but we had a little fire this morning, tho' it was not needed in the afternoon.

The Foreign Missionary Society met here this afternoon, only six present beside myself. The country was Siam and Laos in charge of Mrs. Tappan. I finished off my skirt after the ladies left.

Wednesday, May 29th, 1895

Warm and dry.

Have been sewing a little, have my black skirt nearly done, can finish it this week. Went to prayer-meeting as usual this evening.

Thursday, May 30th, 1895

A dry, hot day, and a very busy one for me.

Went early to the room on Chillicothe street where the baskets were filled for the G.A.R.¹⁷ We had an abundance of roses and most beautiful laurel. The baskets were never so pretty, I think and we filled 230 of them. In the afternoon Carl provided a horse for us to use and eighteen or twenty ladies were on hand to strew flowers on the graves.¹⁸

Friday, May 31st, 1895

Very warm and dry. Have been sewing a little today but spent considerable time in a vain search for my lost turtle. Amanda and I moved everything which was moveable when the sweeping was done but he could not be found. I wrote to Will this morning because I could not do it yesterday owing to very busy day with the flowers and at the Cemetery.

Stella Weyer sent me an invitation to the commencement at Bradford Mars and I sent my acknowledgement with an invitation to visit us on her way home.

Saturday, June 1st, 1895

Very hot all day.

Spend part of the morning at the Opera house with Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Foster arranging the positions of the various booths for the fair.

¹⁷ Grand Army of the Republic was a fraternal organization composed of veterans who served in the American Civil War for the United States forces. G.A.R. became among the first organized advocacy groups in America, helping to make Memorial Day a national holiday, lobbying the United States Congress to establish regular veterans' pensions, and supporting Republican political candidates.

¹⁸ Decoration Day was an early name for Memorial Day. The holiday was first celebrated nationally on May 30, 1868.

Mother gave me two shirt waists, they are almost universally woven and are the most comfortable thing which can be worn in this hot weather. Bessie Hall's birthday was remembered by several friends today.

Sunday, June 2nd, 1895

Very warm. All went to S.S. as usual and also to the other regular services. Was over home in the afternoon. Carl found my little turtle which strayed away last Thursday it had gone up Fifth st. about one third of a block above Court.

William Peebles is fifteen years old today.

Monday, June 3rd, 1895

Very hot and dry. Mrs. McClure came for me at 8 o'clock, or some after and I went with her to the Opera House and spent most of the forenoon, and most of the afternoon in committee work for the Fair. Wrote to Will as usual in the morning. Called to see Martha Poffenberger who was not at S.S. yesterday, being ill. Took her some roses and found her better.

Tuesday, June 4th, 1895

The weather is warmer and last night we had a hard rain which showed where the leaks in the Opera House roof are. I shall not be able to attend to much aside from the Fair for a couple of weeks. Cannot give much in money so want to do what I can in other ways.

John and Mary's wedding anniversary.

Wednesday, June 5th, 1895

Weather pleasant after the rain. Mrs. McClure and I have been doing all the work in the absence of Mrs. Foster who went to Frankfort to attend the funeral of a friend. She returned this afternoon and resumed her duties so we are all in hands now and busy as we can be. Went to prayer-meeting. It was Mis. Evening.

Thursday, June 6th, 1895

Nothing unusual to mark the day. I wrote to Will, the last letter but one that I shall have to send him as he will soon be coming home. Wanted to go to W.C.T.U. meeting but had no time for it today.

Friday, June 7th, 1895

Weather very warm. Lizzie Peebles came to see me before I was up and wanted me to do some errands for her and to be sure to go out Monday to the great anniversary, an occasion which I shall not want to miss. She comes and goes so quickly that I can scarcely think what to say to her when I see her.

Saturday, June 8th, 1895

This day, like all the days of this week has been spent at the Opera House helping to prepare the place for the coming fair. As I want to go to Henley Monday, I have given all my time to this business this week. Lizzie insisted that I must not disappoint her so I shall go if nothing prevents.

Sunday, June 9th, 1895

Attended the usual Sabbath services beginning with S.S. and ending with the evening sermon. Mr. Smith went to Sab. S. with us. Just after people had gone home from church and we had gone to bed, the fire alarm sounded and it was found the 2nd Pres. church was burning.¹⁹ It was badly burned, little but the walls being left of the older part.

Monday, June 10th, 1895

Beautiful day, a red letter day which deserves more space than I have here. Mr. and Mrs. John G. Peebles celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at Henley today and I enjoyed the privilege of being present and helping all day. Went out on the early train with Father and Jas. And came in late with the crowd. About sixty people were there, nearly all family connections. Mr. Smith went out with us but remained there when we left. I was also present when the 55th, anniversary was celebrated there five years ago.

Tuesday, June 11th, 1895

Warm. The Woman's Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. Fair opened in the old Opera House today noon and promises to be a success but it has required a great deal of work. Carl has charge of the chick room, and I am busy on what is called the Com. of Decision with Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Foster and our duties are numerous and varied it seems. We all have season tickets and go frequently and stay late.

Wednesday, June 12th, 1895

Weather warm and times busy. The Fair absorbs all my time and most of my attention just now.

Went to prayer-meeting this evening after which we all went again to the Fair, it being so near that we can go back and forth very often.

Thursday, June 13th, 1895

Warm and bright. Fannie Moore Griger's birthday.

¹⁹ The fire was discovered around 10 o'clock by a couple walking by. Mr. Wells A. Hutchins sounded the alarm, but there was an error in the alarm system which directed the fire department to a different alarm location. Once the East End department arrived, retrieved the water plug, and got the hose connected, the hose burst causing another delay in putting the fire out. The fire consumed almost all of the wood work and materials in the church proper according to the Portsmouth Daily Times on June 10th, 1895.

A busy day at the Fair, a pleasant feature of which is being with Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Foster who have proved to be most agreeable companions upon a committee which had many perplexing duties. There was a large crowd present this evening. Went to P.H.S. this A.M. to hear Ralph Moore's graduating essay.

Friday, June 14th, 1895

Cloudy with a slight rain in the evening. Was at the fair all day and evening. The attendance was good and indications are that much has been made financially while golden opinions have been more because of the way in which it has been managed all through. I was very tired and did not wait until the house was closed. The chick room in Carl's hands did very well having made 5.30 with no expenses.

Saturday, June 15th, 1895

A beautiful day. Carl is nineteen years old today. He had several small gifts as tokens of remembrance of the day. A silver key tag from me, a similarly designed nail file from Miss Bessie who also gave him a beautiful forget-me-not scarf pin to replace the wishbone which he lost last winter.

Will came from Ithaca via of Athens where he made John quite a visit, reaching there Thursday and home this morning at 5 P.M.

Was busy at the Opera House all day.

Sunday, June 16th, 1895

Went to Sabbath School as usual and then, with the school went up stairs to Children's Day exercises. A patriotic program was given, a recitation by some boys, appropriate music and excellent remarks by Dr. Tappan from the short text Jehovah-nissi, "The Lord our banner," was interesting and instructive.²⁰ Usual services in the evening.

Monday, June 17th, 1895

Warm but pleasant. A busy day with little done for myself. A Relief Corps meeting at 2.30 P.M. followed by a Woman's Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. to make final reports on the Fair work. It was found impeccable to close it all up even now but enough has been reported to assure us that the net receipts will be nearly one thousand dollars. A flag display was had at Dr. Kline's this evening with speeches at the Y.M.C.A. later. Mr. Smith came from Henley tonight.

Tuesday, June 18th, 1895

Warm and dry.

Sister Lizzie's birthday.

Teacher and pupils are busy with the closing work of school.

²⁰ According to the Book of Exodus in the Bible, Jehovah-Nissi is the name given by Moses to the altar which he built to celebrate the defeat of the Amalekites at Rephidim.

Mr. Smith left for Cleveland this afternoon apparently much disappointed that the girls could not go with him to Zanesville as he had asked them to do. Took a drive in the evening.

Wednesday, June 19th, 1895

Weather very warm. Nothing specifically exciting occurred. I helped May a little with some sewing which she has undertaken for herself. Mrs. McClure and I still have a little settling up to do and I have the favor of a call from her to see about some little matter. Went to prayer-meeting this evening, as usual. Heard excellent reports from Grace Cotton and Lizzie Neill who were S.S. delegates to Cleveland convention.

Thursday, June 20th, 1895

A warm, dry day. The anniversary of Will and Bessie Ricker's marriage, two years ago. Was busy as usual until 2.30 P.M. when I stopped and went to W.C.T.U. meeting. Dr. Weyer was in town and I started out to find and invite him to tea with Father but he was on his way to the house so I met him there. He was coming here but no one was at home except May so he went to the Shop to see Father. Went to Commencement at the Opera House and heard Dr. Briggsly talk about Rugby.

Friday, June 21st, 1895

The longest day of the year and a very warm one. Amanda went to the country for a short visit. This being Alumni evening Will, Bessie and I were going when Rick Peebles came to go with us. The entertainment was at the Elk Parlor and was very pleasant. J.W. had not felt well today, neither had Margaret so they did not go. It was 11.30 when we came home.

Saturday, June 22nd, 1895

Had a warm, busy day in the Kitchen.
Took a drive in the evening, over on the West side.
Oella Tappan was here in the afternoon while Margaret was out.

Sunday, June 23rd, 1895

Very warm and dry. Went to S.S. and the usual morning services.
Amanda did not return until late in the afternoon so we had a busy time in the morning. Was over home in the afternoon so we had a busy time in the morning.
Was over home in the afternoon and in all went to church again in the evening.

Monday, June 24th, 1895

Very warm but a thunder storm and rain cooled the air. Miss O'Connor came to sew for a couple of weeks. Had a letter from Stella Weyer who is coming to Ports. To visit on her way home from school at Bradford, Mass.

Mother has been over two or three times, she is much better.
Vacation has begun in earnest and the girls are all at home. Will was offered a job at the Bengus Mill today and accepted the offer.

Tuesday, June 25th, 1895

Very warm.

Will went to work at the Lower Mill this A.M. Has to take his dinner with him. Is glad to have employment but it will be rather hard and heavy for him.

The Foreign Mis. Society met here this afternoon Africa being the topic and Mrs. Foster the reader. Rained hard tonight.

Wednesday, June 26th, 1895

Weather warm. Rained today, several times. Has been a good day for sewing and I have been busy at it all day.

Went to prayer meeting this evening as usual.

Miss Emma Bell read the final report of the Aid Society for the work done to the work done to the lecture room, or rather basement of the church. It was an excellent one and showed a balance of more than 25.00 after the work was completed.

Thursday, June 27th, 1895

Pleasant day. Rained. Have sewed all day except when obliged to stop for other work or errands.

Received the wedding announcement of Dr. Ricketts and Dollie Pursell.

Took a drive after supper and called for Mrs. D.D. Jones who went with us and enjoyed the drive very much.

Friday, June 28th, 1895

Beautiful day, not so hot as it has been. It has been eleven years today since Enos and I left New York for Europe and had such a delightful trip. I wrote today to Mrs. Bond who was my room mate on the Austral going over.

Have been sewing busily all day. Was over home awhile. Father was up a little while but not long. Mother is able to come and go every day. Had a pleasant drive this evening.

Saturday, June 29th, 1895

Weather pleasant for the season. Have been sewing busily trying to accomplish as much as possible before Amanda leaves. She has made her arrangements to go to Mrs. Silcox next Monday.

Is not able to do as much of our work as should be done and we intend trying to do with out a cook this summer.

Sunday, June 30th, 1895

The last day of June and quite warm. Nothing unusual to mark the day. All went to S.S. excepting Will who insists upon remaining at home for fear he may have to teach a class.

Monday, July 1st, 1895

Warm, and pleasant for me. Began again on the sewing while the girls took up the kitchen work. Amanda just packed to leave when she was taken sick and had to go to bed, I gave her what remedies I could and divided my time and attention between her, the sewing, and the house work. Lizzie went to call upon Mama Crossley and Bessie Marting at Mr. Peebles' and to invite them to tea here tomorrow.

Tuesday, July 2nd, 1895

Warm. Amanda no better. Sewing going on as best it can with little help from me. Sister does most of the cooking, takes her own meals over home with Macy who wants her to eat and sleep there while Mrs. Behreus is away. The girls, Mame and Bessie came to tea and we had quite a tableful, seven of ourselves, Maggie O'Connor and the guests.

Wednesday, July 3rd, 1895

Bright and warm. The girls came around to call this forenoon, Mame having had such a headache last evening that she could not stay long. I sewed a little and did many other things. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening. Bessie took a sudden notion and went to Scioto Furnace this afternoon to see Blanche Williams.

Thursday, July 4th, 1895

An ideal day, cloudy enough to be pleasant but not rainy. Enos surprised us by coming at noon for a day, took lunch with us. Just as he came Carl and Sister were driving out of sight on their way to Scioto F'ce for the after noon and evening. We were most of us home all day. May spent the day helping Cam and Burr Taylor with their crackers and fireworks. Will was home nearly all day. Amanda is no better.

Friday, July 5th, 1895

Warm. Amanda has bene so sick all day that I sent for her sister but the letter will not get off until tomorrow. Have the doctor again and must sit up with her tonight. Bessie returned from Scioto Furnace this evening. Enos left on the early train for Boston. Father went to Cin yesterday and returned on the late train.

Saturday, July 6th, 1895

Another warm day.

Slept very little last night so took a nap this forenoon. Amanda's brother-in-law came this evening but he can do very little except to see her need for some of the family. Dr. Van Tine is giving her his best attention.

Have not been able to do much towards helping with the sewing this week.

Mrs. Weyer and Stella came to visit. Mrs. Dennis and I went to see them for a few moments this evening.

Sunday, July 7th, 1895

Warm, very warm. We arose early and managed to get through the work in time to get to S.S. as usual. Amanda seems a little better and her brother sat with her while we were at S.S. I did not come home until after morning service as Margaret came to get the dinner.

Went to the Bible Society meeting at Bigelow in the evening as the girls all stayed at home.

Monday, July 8th, 1895

Warm. This is the anniversary of the death of Emma Spry who died when our Margaret was a baby less than two years old.

Isabel Murray was married to Mr. Geo T. Sellow at her home in Grand Rapids, Mich. today, the cards for the 16th, having been recalled. Her Aunt Mollie can only live a few days and she wanted them married before she died. Both Sallie Peebles and Mrs. Tewksbury died on the 7th of July, Sallie in 18__ and Mrs. T. in 1894.²¹

Maggie O'Connor finished her two weeks here today. Amanda's sister Mrs. Lewis came from Oak Hill today to take care of her.

Tuesday, July 9th, 1895

Delightful.

Margaret took Mrs. Weyer, Mrs. Dennis and Stella for a drive this forenoon. We invited them to take tea with us Thursday, they will be very busy seeing their friends here. I went to see them this evening but Stella was not there, having gone to Mary Richardson's to tea. Amanda is slowly improving and I am greatly relieved to have Mrs. Lewis with her.

Wednesday, July 10th, 1895

Weather quite pleasant. Have been busy all day. We expect to entertain Mrs. Weyer and her son and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. Dennis and our home folks tomorrow and have had some preparation to make today. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening as usual.

Therza Spry was here when we started to prayer-meeting. Ethel Cotton was here also.

²¹ Louisiana left blank the latter half of the year when Sallie died.

Thursday, July 11th, 1895

Pleasant. Had a busy day preparing for the company this evening. Dr. and Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. Weyer, Ed and Stella, Father, Mother and Mary were invited, also Carrie Hadley, all were her but Mother did not sit at the table. The young folks, Ed, Stella and Will left about 8.30 but the others all stayed and spent the evening. Mrs. Weyer enjoys Portsmouth greatly and it is a real pleasure to entertain her.

Friday, July 12th, 1895

A fine day. Margaret went to Henley at noon with Mrs. Weyer and Stella, Mrs. Dennis and the Dr. Though a misunderstanding they were unexpected and found Lizzie sick in bed but managed to get along very nicely after all. Mother went also and all returned in the evening. I went to the Concert given at Mrs. C.P. Lloyd's for the benefit of the Home for Aged Women. Heard Mary McDowell Kreider's daughter sing.

Saturday, July 13th, 1895

Warmer, and clear. Amanda and her sister Mrs. Lewis left on the train this morning, both expressed gratitude for the attentions given them during Amanda's illness. She is better but should not attempt to work until much stronger than she has been for months. Attended preparatory lecture in the afternoon. Margaret took Mrs. Taylor and Miss Cook to make a few calls.

Sunday, July 14th, 1895

Warm. Rose early and by hurrying got ready in time for S.S. so make of us were late. Remained to morning service, it being communion day. There were eleven persons rec'd into the church, all adults, one being Miss Sallie Sauson who was not present, owing to illness. Mrs. Wm Folsom and her sister Laura Wells Copeland with her husband and several others were of the numbers.

Mary J. Murray died this afternoon at Grand Rapids, Mich. She has many friends here.

Monday, July 15th, 1895

Very hot and close. Rained some.

J.W. is fifty-four years old today. I spent part of the after noon at the Relief Corps meeting. Small attendance. Was very busy, and very tired, went to ride a little while but was too tired to enjoy it much. Rained hard after we had gone to bed.

Tuesday, July 16th, 1895

Delightful after the rain. Mollie Murray's remains were brought here at noon on C.P.&V. and taken direct to the cemetery, a large number of friends were waiting to go with the family to the cemetery. Isabel and her husband, Mr. Sellow Livin and his wife, Jas. N. Murray and Maggie Coles came from G.R. This was the day set for Isabel's marriage but the cards were recalled and the wedding took place last Monday (8th) that her Aunt might witness it before her death which was near at hand. She died of cancer. Mollie has finished the work left here by Ella, has cards for the two children, left and seen them both married.

Wednesday, July 17th, 1895

Warm. We have had a hard busy day, taking everything out of the fruit room and making it ready for the carpenter and later on the paper hangers. Bessie is to occupy it the coming year and will buy new furniture and furnish it like a sitting room. Went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Thursday, July 18th, 1895

Very warm. Was hard at work all day scraping paper off the wall in the front room. The men have been busy making a closet under the front stairs, opening into the front room. In the evening I dressed and went to Mrs. Pursell's to make a call hoping to see Mary Kreider who was to be there. Bessie went with me but we did not see her, she was late getting there and we left.

Friday, July 19th, 1895

Hot. Father had another hard chill today at the office. Worked at the paper until the room was ready for the paper. Lizzie Peebles was in and made us a little visit. Mary Kreider waived all ceremony and called to see me this afternoon. Father had three chills before the day was over.

Saturday, July 20th, 1895

Hot, with indications of rain which came later in the afternoon but did not last long. In the after noon Margaret and I went to see Mary Kreider and her daughter, the latter was still not well and we did not see her after all.

On our return home M. went to see Mary Cotton who took her out driving and while M. was holding the horse for Mary on 9th st. he suddenly took a notion to back and backed onto the St. car track, the buggy being badly broken by the car and M. thrown out but not seriously injured though it was a narrow escape from a serious, if not fatal accident.

Sunday, July 21st, 1895

Warm. We all went to Sabbath School as usual and I came home before church to attend an errand. Returned and spent the rest of the day as usual. Went to church in the evening.

Monday, July 22nd, 1895

Somewhat cloudy but fine for working. Tom Porter came and put down the carpet in the front room., I had considerable sewing to do on it as I wanted to turn it around. Was busy with it most of the day, finishing the tacking after Tom left. Mr. Smith went to Cin. on the early train and did not return as he had intended, it being late when he was ready to come in, he went to the hotel. Rained awhile today.

Tuesday, July 23rd, 1895

Cloudy and delightful. the girls went to a picnic with Mr. Smith, one he had planned. he took Mae and Henry Purcell, Willie Moore, Anna and Bessie Hamilton, Courtney Moore, (their cousin), and Charlotte Lewis to Brush Creek in a 'bus and they had a fine time.²² We went for a little drive after supper and met them coming home.

Wednesday, July 24th, 1895

A delightfully cool, cloudy day with light rain. Just the kind of weather for work of our kind. I have enjoyed it thoroughly. Maggie Peebles was here yesterday Mrs. Smith went to Henley this afternoon and came back tonight. We went to prayer meeting as usual and had an unusually good attendance and meeting though I was almost too tired to get the good of it.

Thursday, July 25th, 1895

Very warm but pleasant for our work. We have the house in disorder nearly all over in an attempt to do some cleaning and change the furniture all around. Had Mrs. Minard most of the day cleaning the back rooms upstairs and getting them ready to paper and varnish. Think we will occupy the entire upstairs while we have no girl and are putting it in nice order. Mr. Smith left on the early train. Had carpet in parlor scrubbed today.

²² Bus is a clipped form of the Latin word omnibus. She may have been referring to a large, enclosed and sprung horse-drawn vehicle used for passenger transport.

Friday, July 26th, 1895

Warm but pleasant. Have had a busy day, Jas and I took up the matting in the front room upstairs and then he put the first coat of white paint on the wood work while Margaret and I hung paper in the back rooms, we did not finish, as we were late beginning. This evening the girls have gone to drive and I am writing up my book which gets so sadly in arrears when I am so busy. Bessie has been here getting her things settled in the front room down stairs.

Saturday, July 27th, 1895

Bright and warm.

Margaret and I finished the walls of the back room today, though as we did it on the sly it took more time than it otherwise would have done. About 4 o'clock she was called to take Mother driving but fortunately her father came just in time to go in her place so we finished.

Sunday, July 28th, 1895

Warm as usual.

Nothing of note occurred today. We attended the usual services. in the evening we had some special music from the choir as we have had the last Sabbath of the month for two or three months.

Monday, July 29th, 1895

Weather seasonable.

This is our Lizzie's birthday and we should have been glad to celebrate it by doing something nice for her but could not do as we liked. We gave her as a memento of the occasion one of the two gold after dinner coffee spoons which Mr. and Mrs. Mernead gave Father and Mother Ricker upon their Golden Wedding Anniversary. This is also the birthday of sister Jennie, Ira Ricker and Lavinia Smith.

M. and I papered the ceiling of the back room.

Tuesday, July 30th, 1895

Cloudy this morning but very little rain fell.

The county Fair, or rather races began today, or would have done so had there been anything to begin. The Barracks Band from Columbus gave a Concert at the Fair Grounds and as Will invited me to go with him to hear the music I went. Enjoyed the music and my escort very much. The fire-works were very pretty.

Wednesday, July 31st, 1895

Weather hot and dry.

Margaret began jelly today with a quantity of crab apples and red plums. At noon a letter from Enos came to Macy containing 10.00 and a request that Margaret go to G.R. at once so we hastily decided all the points in the matter and she left on the City of Bedford this evening for Cin. intending to go as far as Louisville by river. We went to the boat with her and remained until the boat pushed out. Had gone to church but left when the boat whistled.

Thursday, August 1st, 1895

Bright and hot. Mother took a sudden notice to go to Henley and went alone, I taking her to the train in the carriage and seeing her safely in care of Maggie Marting who chanced to be in town and going home at noon.

Will gave the girls money to attend the Fair but I did not wish them to go so they remained at home and finished up the jelly and housework. Have forty-six glasses of jelly, beautiful in appearance.

Friday, August 2nd, 1895

Warm and dry.

The County Fair closed today and while I saw nothing of it except the Concert, I am glad it is over. Amanda, a friend and niece came down from Oak Hill to see the sights and she and the little girl stayed all night here. Our house is still in a kind of kaleidoscopic state, few of the belongings being where they belong at present. Had all the bedding washed and helped with it. The front room upstairs was newly papered.

Saturday, August 3rd, 1895

Weather warm and dry.

Amanda and her little niece went home on the morning train, no, on the afternoon train as she changed her mind about it.

There is little to make a note of aside from the regular routine. Margaret is probably in grand Rivers and we are glad she is having a visit and a much needed rest.

Mother came home from Henley with another trip planned for the near future. I put down the matting in M.'s room.

Sunday, August 4th, 1895

Warm. All went to S.S. as usual, I having two classes with my own which is small at present. The school is small, many being away from the city. The Catholics dedicated the tower of their church this afternoon with great ceremony it being about the 25th anniversary of the completion of the church edifice.²³ Crowds of people were present but I did not see the procession even as it passed the house, being busy with the dinner dishes.

Monday, August 5th, 1895

Weather warm and bright. Lucy Moore's birthday. Have been busy all day and am very tired tonight.

Will went to Henley to make a long promised visit. John came in tonight to get Father's gun for Will and stayed all night at our house. Heard from Margaret who reached G.R. about midnight Friday.

Lizzie will try baking bread tomorrow for the first time.

Tuesday, August 6th, 1895

Hot all day and quite stormy looking in the evening. It rained just after we got home. Oella and Paul were here just as we were starting out so they did not come in. Margaret spends most of her birth days away from home and this year is no exception. She is in Grand Rivers, Ky and writes that she is having a very quiet restful visit. Bessie's book case came and she got her books all in today. rained hard early this A.M.

The bread was a fine success.

Wednesday, August 7th, 1895

Warm. Bessie went to Cin. this afternoon for a ten day's visit. Margaret being in Ky and Will at Henley leaves us rather reduced in numbers.

Went to prayer-meeting as usual and were agreeably surprised to find Dr. Tappan still here. Supposed he had gone on his vacation.

Thursday, August 8th, 1895

Beautiful weather but quite warm. Will missed a Lawn Party at Mr. Yorks by being out at Henley this evening.

Mrs. Wlm Folsom and Mrs. Copeland returned my call with quite a sociable visit.

²³ The "Golden Jubilee" of St. Mary's Church was reported in the August 5, 1895 edition of the Portsmouth Daily Times. More than 500 people attended the procession that was three squares long. The corner stone of St. Mary's Church was laid May 9, 1869 and the church was finished and dedicated on July 3, 1870. The brick work was completed by William Newman and carpentry by Archibald Foster. Father Karge was the first priest and he was succeeded by Father Noonan a year later. The new tower had just been completed before the 25-year celebration with plans to add a chime of three bells and a town clock.

Have been busy as usual all day and was out a little while in the evening driving.

Friday, August 9th, 1895

Hot. Story all around us this evening but no rain came to us while we were out driving expecting a down pour every moment but we got here before it came. Lucy and Edith Moore returned from Zanesville this after noon and were much pleased with their visit. Mary is progressing nicely with her new pink lawn dress and I am helping her some with it. It will be ready for Sunday.
Will returned from Henley.

Saturday, August 10th, 1895

Very warm with some indications of rain, in fact it was stormy all around and looked very threatening while we were out but no rain fell here.
This is Uncle Drew Ricker's birthday.
We have had a busy day, so busy that I did not get a chance to write to Margaret. the above weather report is incorrect, this was a fair evening and Carl drove to Lucasville with Prof. Cappa and others.
Will went to Cin.

Sunday, August 11th, 1895

Very warm. Father and Mother have been married forty-eight years today. Both have been very sick several times with in the last few years but both seem better than usual now. We went to S.S. as usual but had no other service this at our church so I stayed home and got dinner but went to Bigelow in the evening with J.W. and heard Mr. McElroy.

Monday, August 12th, 1895

Very warm. Sewed on Lizzie's white swiss waist and wrote to Margaret this morning.²⁴
At noon Lizzie Peebles and her family with Bessie Martin came in, she Mother, Margaret and Richard expect to go to Athens and Zanesville on a visit leaving Elizabeth and Robert with us, and Bessie Marting will be here also. Had three letters from Margaret to different members of the family.

²⁴ A Swiss waist is a boned, pointed underbust garment worn over skirts and blouses or dresses.

Tuesday, August 13th, 1895

Warm and dry. was up a little earlier than usual. Mother, Lizzy and two of her children, Margaret and Richard left on the morning train for Athens to spend the day with John, then go on tomorrow to Zanesville to see Jennie. It has been about seven years since Mother saw John and the occasion will be one of deep interest and I hope great pleasure to both of them. Am glad she went. We have Elizabeth and Robert Peebles and Bessie Martin with us.

Wednesday, August 14th, 1895

Weather pleasant.

Have been busy as usual all day, the girls are enjoying their visit together, reading, playing and working.

We all went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Looked for Bessie Hall who wrote she would pass through today on her way to Haverhill but she did not come to the house.

Thursday, August 15th, 1895

The four girls and Robert went to Uncle Enos' to dinner today and did not return home until about 4 o'clock.

Robert then went back to tea, being very much interested in Willie.

Friday, August 16th, 1895

A fine day though it looked very stormy in the evening before the girls got home from their picnic. Our girls, Lucy and Edith, Julia Pritchard, Carrie, Irene Hadley, Anna and Ben Vakjean, David Tappan, the Hamilton girls and some others went over on the hills at the upper ferry, going right after dinner and returning after supper.

Saturday, August 17th, 1895

Very hot and rained hard late in the after noon. The girls tried to return their calls but Lizzie wanted to help me finish up the Saturday work and so Macy went with Bessie and Elizabeth but did not go as far as they had planned, a hard rain came up and hindered them.

Miss Bessie returned from Haverhill this morning to be ready for the examination on Monday next.

Sunday, August 18th, 1895

Weather very warm. We all managed to get to Sabbath school then I came home to get dinner and the others went to different churches. in the evening Jas. and I went out to the 2nd Pres church and found it very hot and uncomfortable but liked Mr. Francis' sermon very well. Lucy Collins was at S.S. this morning.

Monday, August 19th, 1895

Rained this afternoon. was very hot.

Bessie Martin went home on the afternoon train having been here a week, the girls having enjoyed her visit very much. Our family changes very frequently, we seem to be always expecting, or seeing some one off.

Attended W.R.C. meeting this after noon.

Tuesday, August 20th, 1895

Weather warm and dry.

This is Enos' birthday and I did not have time for the letter I had thought of writing.

Sent my good wishes in a letter to Margaret. Mother, Lizzie Peebles, Margaret and

Richard came back from Zanesville this afternoon and our girls began packing at once to go to Henley with Lizzie for their visit.

Wednesday, August 21st, 1895

Beautiful day.

Had just dressed after dinner and came down stairs when Mrs. Caden called, a few

moments later Miss Emma Bell and Lucy Collins called then Maggie Martin came to

make a brief call. She and her husband leave this evening with the Knights Templar for

Boston, an excursion planned via Niagara, St. Lawrence River and other points of

interest. Lizzie and May went home with Elizabeth and the others on the early train.

Thursday, August 22nd, 1895

Warm. Will is twenty-two years old today, is a strong young man, about entering upon his last year at college and has a fair prospect of making a good and useful man. The twenty-two years have slipped by very quickly as we look back upon it and the coming ones will go faster.

Friday, August 23rd, 1895

Warm and dry.

Tried to finish a letter to Clara which I began the day I received hers but did not succeed.

One year ago today Mother Ricker was taken sick about 9.30 P.M. with an attack of heart trouble. She rallied from that but a second one the following day proved fatal. I think of her very, very often with the most tender recollections for she was very loving and lovely to me.

Saturday, August 24th, 1895

Beautiful day but very warm. One year ago today I went to Kirkwood for the last time in all probability, Mother Ricker died at 4 P.M. after we had started so we did not hear of it until J.W. and I reached the St L. depot the following morning. I have thought much about her today. Wrote, or rather finished a letter to Clara Ricker today in reply to hers.

Sunday, August 25th, 1895

Beautiful day.

Went to Sabbath School as usual. Had no service so I did not go to church until evening when Will, J.W. and I went to Bigelow.

A remarkable boy soprano singer was drawing crowds at All Saints in the A.M. and the Baptist church in the evening but I did not go hear him either time.

Monday, August 26th, 1895

Weather very warm. There is little variety in the days. I have so much to occupy my time that I seldom go out except to ride in the evening.

Bessie went to a C.E. meeting and did not return until after I had gone to bed. Mr. Lowman and Oella Tappan came with her and remained a few minutes.

Tuesday, August 27th, 1895

A bright pleasant day. The event of the day being the Foreign Mis. Meeting which met here as usual. Only a few were present and the Sec'y being absent, the society asked Bessie Hall to act as Sec'y, which she did and read a letter from her Japanese friend and schoolmate Jose Kajiro.

Wednesday, August 28th, 1895

Very warm.

Worked all day and went to church in the evening. Dr. Tappan was away but we had a very good meeting led by Fred Schmitt, the first time any of the younger members has been asked to lead the prayer meeting. Bessie had gone up to Mr. Titus' and did not get back to church.

Thursday, August 29th, 1895

A beautiful day.

Have been very busy all day getting the house in nice order. Margaret did not come home on the evening train, C.P. & V. ~~very tired~~ as we expected from her hard trip. The little girls will not be home before Monday.

Margaret's room looks pretty with the new paper violets and maiden hair fern in white ground, white paint and light furniture. Will went to a party given by Mrs. West for Mattie Peebles. We took him out then went to the train for M. but she did not come.

Friday, August 30th, 1895

Pleasant. It seems good to have Margaret home after her month's visit in Grand Rivers. We have worked and talked and visited all day. We talk as we go. Barton has offered to take John Moore into the office with himself and give him employment for the present, he has accepted the offer and will go to Zanesville Monday. No, M. did not come until this evening on the C.P.V.

Saturday, August 31st, 1895

Pleasant though warm. Richard and Lizzie Peebles have married 19 years today and this is Edward Greene's birthday.

Lizzie Peebles was in a few minutes at noon today but I missed my visit with her in trying to catch the buggy for her as Mother was just starting for a drive. Oella was here in the afternoon to see Margaret. We have been working in her room today making the sash curtains and putting away her things.

Sunday, September 1st, 1895

Cooler than it has been, but very pleasant. J.W., Margaret and Will, Carl and I and Bessie went to S.S. and all but M. were at church in the evening. Mother went for the first time in many months, and sat with me.

I was very glad to hear Dr. Tappan again. Had a long visit with Father in his library.

Monday, September 2nd, 1895

Delightful day, cool enough for work or play and this being Labor Day the general public rested or in other words made a holiday of it in some way. Lizzie and May came home from Henley at noon, Carl went with a small party to the Serpent Mound in the afternoon. The bicycle races attracted a crowd but Margaret and I papered her closet to match her room and hung some pictures.²⁵ John was to have gone to Zanesville today, I hope he did.

Tuesday, September 3rd, 1895

Beautiful day.

School opened again and our family are all home and at work again. Margaret teaching in her old room at 4th St. Bldg., Lizzie a member of the Senior class in the P.H.S., May in the C, or Sophomore year, and Miss Bessie Hall Scientific teacher in the P.H.S. Send the note to Frank and May telling them of the wedding present which we have ordered them, ten volumes of Household Edition of standard authors.

²⁵ The bicycle races were put on by the Portsmouth Cycling club and included races and exhibitions with a crowd of over 2,500 people according to the September 3, 1895 issue of the Portsmouth Daily Times.

Wednesday, September 4th, 1895

Beautiful day. Girls all in school and work begun regularly.

Mr. Mark B. Wells died in Columbus, Spt 2nd and was buried here today from our church. Services being held at noon. Margaret went to the church until time to go back to school then I left my work and went to the cemetery with J.W. The family cousins of Mrs. Wells, Ed, Laura, Mark, Myrna, Winnie, Edith and Mildred. They went back to Col. this evening.

Thursday, September 5th, 1895

Rained last night and was showery today.

Frank Ricker and May Evans are to be married this evening at her house in Kirkwood, Mo. None of us could go, though we had urgent invitations to be there.

Will Moore is thirteen years old today, and is a nice boy. Went with Mother to see the Lotus flowers at Mrs. Fulton'.

Friday, September 6th, 1895

Beautiful day and very pleasant after the rain of last night. Went to take Mother for a drive after breakfast, came home and have been busy ever since.

This is Jake Ricker's birthday.

The first week of school is ended and every thing moves along as though there had been no vacation.

Saturday, September 7th, 1895

Warm. Rained in the after noon. was very busy here all day, but took Mother for her drive after breakfast. Was both up town and down. Found Dr. Weyer at the P.F. and M. office, just here for a brief business trip, took him up to Dr. Kline's, Dr. K. being sick, Dr. W. wanted to see him. Had a letter from Helen telling of her father's serious trouble and illness, answered it at once, returning the letter from her mother.

Sunday, September 8th, 1895

Went to S.S. and church as usual, spent the day as I always do when circumstance are as they are now. Sister came home and got driven, I washed the dishes and the girls dried them, I read a little and went over home awhile. Am forty-seven years old today. Miss Bessie remembered the date and gave me two pretty handkerchiefs.

Dr. Weyer was here.

Monday, September 9th, 1895

Very warm. A hard rain began just after dinner and almost kept the girls from school, or kept them so late starting they feared they should be late. I took Mother for a drive this morning and then came back to my work. Mary had a letter from John at Zanesville, he has been there a week and finds the work pretty hard. Mrs. Hadley and Irene was here this evening.

Tuesday, September 10th, 1895

Was up at 4 o'clock this morning and had breakfast for Jas. before he started for Louisville. Kept going all day and was tired enough when night came. Mother left on the 6 o'clock train this morning, instead of yesterday afternoon as she had planned, the rain having come just in time to stop her from going to the train. Went to inquire after Will Hadley who was reported killed, by telegram instead of ill as he was. Called to ask after Dr. Kline who is sick.

Wednesday, September 11th, 1895

Very warm. Nothing of note occurred that I remember. The girls were all at school, the boys at work. After a busy day I went to prayer meeting, and Will came in after doing an errand. We were the only representations of the family. Lizzie and May had to study and Sister started but failed to reach the church. Dr. Tappan has gone to Wooster with Paul who starts school there, as does Flint Kline also.

Thursday, September 12th, 1895

Very hot and oppressive. About 10 o'clock this evening quite a storm came up which brought a heavy rain. I was glad the boys were both in before the worst of it came. Was at home all day and busy as I could be. Was very tired and went to bed early, missed the Annual Meeting of the W.C.T.U. which was held at Allen Chapel this P.M.

Friday, September 13th, 1895

Delightful after the rain but not as much cooler as we expected, however the dust is settled and we swept and dusted with a reasonable hope of being clean for a day or two. J.W. returned this afternoon, late from Louisville where he has been attending the national Encampment of the G.A.R.

Mrs. Dennis called but I did not hear the bell and so missed seeing her.

Saturday September 14th, 1895

Cooler and delightful. Have improved the time and the house is in very good order. Mother returned from Henley at noon. She is much better than I expected to see her. Father is out again today.

This is Enos' and Helen's anniversary, have been married eight years today.

Sunday, September 15th, 1895

Very warm.

Went to S.S. and the usual church services. Mother's and Mary's birthday.

Ralph Moore was here to say good-bye, he leaves tomorrow for Ithaca to take the examinations for entrance into Cornell University.

Monday, September 16th, 1895

Cloudy with a little rain. In the afternoon I went to the W.R.C. meeting then came directly home and did a little mending before time to get supper.

This is Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary Moore's wedding anniversary. I was very tired and went to bed early.

Tuesday, September 17th, 1895

Weather very warm. Was busy until late in the afternoon when I went to do some errands on W.R.C. business then went to Mr. Peebles' to call upon Sadie Crossly who was not in. She came around to see us after supper and we walked home with her.

Wednesday, September 18th, 1895

Hot and close. Have been busy all day. Made three calls after supper on Missionary business. Mrs. Helfenstein not being at home I sat with Mrs. Spry until the last bell rang for prayer-meeting. J.W. did not get to church at all, being late with his work and detained by other things so he went to the reunion of the 53rd and 56th Rgts for a little while.

Thursday, September 19th, 1895

Hot and dry and dusty. Had a letter from sister Jennie today, also a note sent me by Mrs. Boyle, though she did not write anything in it, the note was from Miss Cleland enclosing a dime. I wrote to Jennie sending the letter with one to Elizabeth from our Lizzie. Went to see Uncle Sam who has been sick.

Friday, September 20th, 1895

Very hot and sultry.

Mary is fifteen years old today. Have been at home all day and busy as usual. We got the cards to Oella Tappan's wedding today. She and Mr. Lawman are to be married Oct 3rd.

Wrote to Cousin Eliza Boyle.

Mrs. Tayler was here.

Saturday, September 21st, 1895

Weather very warm. Have been busy as usual all day.

Will did not work today, there being nothing special for him to do at the shop, has been doing a few little things which he wanted to do before going. Mother is not very well but she still expects to go to Henley, Cin. and Rushville, Ind next week.

Sunday, September 22nd, 1895

Fine day.

Went to Sabbath School and morning services as usual. Margaret got dinner. Was over home twice in the afternoon the last time went with Will.

had just gotten well seated in the church in the evening when Mrs. Behreus came after me then went after the Dr. for Mother. I hurried home and had to sit up with her. I loaned Will my watch to take with him this year.

Monday, September 23rd, 1895

Weather turned a little cooler tonight. Will left on the early N. & W. for Ithaca, going to Cleveland, from there to Buffalo by steamer. This is his fourth and last year. I trust it may be a successful one. Mother was very sick all the first part of the night, I was up with her until two o'clock when I left her sleeping quietly. I did not wake until Jas. came after me to get the trunk strap and see Will off. Carl took me out for a drive this even.

Tuesday, September 24th, 1895

A beautiful day, rather warm. Was busy all the forenoon preparing for the Missionary Society which met here in the afternoon. We had an unusual attendance, twenty-one being present. Mrs. John E. Miller had the topic in charge. Florence and Carrie Hadley sang for us. We took the names of six new members, four of whom were present.

Wednesday, September 25th, 1895

Dry, dusty and warm. Have been busy all day and managed to sit with Mother an hour in the afternoon and cut out some napkins. Did not go to prayer meeting as May had to stay at home so I stayed with her and went to bed very early. Oella and the girls who are to stand up with her met here after church to talk over the arrangements. Oella stayed all night.

Thursday, September 26th, 1895

A little cooler, the falling leaves and smoky atmosphere indicate the end of summer. Wrote to Will the ~~third~~ second time for this week. have had a very busy day. Oella Tappan stayed all night with sister last night and did not go home this morning until about 10 o'clock. It is about her last visit with us as she is to be married one week from this evening.

Friday, September 27th, 1895

Somewhat cooler but very dry and dusty still. Had the first letter from Will since he returned to Ithaca where he found Ralph well and hopeful of entering the college. Lizzie Peebles came in today noon bringing Eleanor Wright for a brief call. L. went home on the train but Eleanor is to visit Mrs. Draper for a day or two.

Saturday, September 28th, 1895

Dry and dusty. Have been busy as usual, could not find time to go and see Eleanor Wright as I wished. This was pay day for the teachers, the first they have had since June. I bought a silver sugar spoon for Oella and left it to be marked.

Sunday, September 29th, 1895

Weather somewhat cooler. Went to S.S. as usual then remained to Teachers' meeting and morning service. Spent the entire day in the usual way. Had fine music in the evening and an excellent sermon is the rule.

Monday, September 30th, 1895

Weather cooler than it has been, so cool that we fear the tin dresses for the bridesmaids will not be comfortable. The regular week takes about all my time. was out this evening. Lizzie took her usual music lesson. Julia goes to Cin. Tuesdays for an organ lesson. She is making rapid improvement in her playing.

Tuesday, October 1st, 1895

Delightful weather. Was out in the carriage a little while this afternoon. Went to see Oella a few minutes and took her the sugar spoon which I bought for her. it was a small gift but much love goes with it. Ella Wright was here this evening just before tea, she was to have gone to Henley but Lizzie is sick and she will wait a day or two hoping L. will be better.

Wednesday, October 2nd, 1895

Weather beautiful and pleasant. Have been busy with Margaret's dress between times today. It had to have the skirt lengthened and will do nicely for the occasion, a new dotted swiss which has never been worn. White satin stock collar and belt, white satin ribbon to tie the roses and, also upon the white silk fan will complete her costume. Went to prayer meeting, Henry Padan was buried from our church this afternoon.

Thursday, October 3rd, 1895

Beautiful day. Auspicious for the wedding. Margaret, Julia, Miss C. Lawman, Miss Georgia Brown, Grace Cotton and Mame Knowles were brides maids, Mr. Lawman's best man was Mr. Spellman of Springfield., Messrs. State, Brown, Paul Tappan were ushers.²⁶

Dr. Tappan's marriage service was beautiful. Oella was lovely in white silk and the girls wore thin white dresses. the church was beautifully decorated. The wedding supper was only for the bridal party and family. Margaret gave the girls ½ doz after dinner coffee spoons to give Oella and Carl gave her a solid silver button knife.

Friday, October 4th, 1895

Still pleasant. Was busy at home all day, Margaret went up to Dr. Tappan's this afternoon, their guests all left today, the wedding is over and now they will begin to realize that Oella is gone from them, or will be as soon as she gets settled in her new home.

Eleanor Wright went to Henley, was not well herself today.

Saturday, October 5th, 1895

Warm and bright. Had a busy day and before we were through with the afternoon work Dr. Tappan and Julia came to return some vases and trays which had been used at Oella's wedding. I sent her a broom this afternoon, with a cord tied to it with white ribbon, sent in with J.W.'s compliments.

Sunday, October 6th, 1895

Beautiful weather only dusty and dry. River very low. All went to S.S. as usual. Missed Oella who is away on her brief wedding trip. Was over home as usual in the afternoon.

Monday, October 7th, 1895

Weather still fair.

Mother left this afternoon for Henley where she will remain tonight, then Lizzie will go with her to Lexington, or rather Newport where she will visit Aunt Sallie Young then John Peebles will go on to Rushville, Ind. with her to make the visit she has long wanted to make with the family of Mr. Geo Puntteney. I took her to the train in the carriage as Jennie hadn't time.

²⁶ Messrs: used as a title to refer formally to more than one man simultaneously, or in names of companies.

Tuesday, October 8th, 1895

Father's birthday and a pleasant one in point of weather. I dined with him in honor of the occasion. I borrowed Miss Bessie's Dictionary stand to see how it would suit him for a present. He seems to like it so I shall buy one for him and never tell him that it was only on trial. He is 80 years old today and quite well and cheerful. Bessie went to take supper with him but he had gone to [illegible] and did not return until late.

Wednesday, October 9th, 1895

Weather still mild which is fortunate for us as none of our stoves are up yet, except the one Bessie got for the front room. I got the goods today, to finish Lizzie's cape and now both the girls will have good warm ones, while Margaret's will be good when I put the braid on it which I will do soon. We all went to prayer-meeting as usual this evening.

Thursday, October 10th, 1895

Weather dry and dusty. Some indications of rain. Arose at 4.30 and got breakfast in order that Jas. could have his before leaving on the early train for Shawnee where he expects to be in the employ of the Ohio Iron Co. The rest of the family had breakfast later and it was as late as usual when I was finally through. I had a girl engaged to come today, if Ruth is not coming but she did not come so I sent again for Ruth who will come later in the week.

Friday, October 11th, 1895

Rained and blew hard all the evening, was quite like November. Mary had invited the Hadley girls, Mrs. Clo Lowman, Prof Cappa and ourselves to spend this evening with her. We all went and had such a pleasant time that it was 11.30 when we came home. The rain had ceased then. WE asked the same party to spend next Friday evening with us.

Mrs. Mary R. Johnson died.

Saturday, October 12th, 1895

Pleasant. Had a busy day and the work was all done except getting supper when Ruth came to relieve us from that department for a while. She has come to stay for the winter if all goes well. I had to leave everything and go up to see Mrs. McCall this morning in regard to Mrs. Mary R. Johnson's death, she being a member of the Relief Corps. Anna brought me home. After dinner, Mrs. McC and I went and ordered the flowers for Mrs. Johnson's funeral.

Sunday, October 13th, 1895

Beautiful day.

It is Libbie Lloyd Field's anniversary, I always think of her on Oct 13th, it being an occasion I will remember, having been one of her four bridesmaids. We all went to S.S. and the usual Sabbath services and I enjoyed the privilege of having Ruth in the kitchen leaving me free to enjoy the services.

Monday, October 14th, 1895

Began the day by writing to J.W. and Will. Mrs. O'Connor came to sew, I having exchanged time with Clara Pursell on account of the death of Mrs. Johnson whose funeral took place this forenoon from her late residence. Mr. Tracy had come to spend a couple of weeks and Clara did not want to sew. I attended the funeral then came home to help with the work.

~~Brought a sugar spoon to~~

Tuesday, October 15th, 1895

Weather still fair. To our surprise this morning we learned that Mother came home last night from Rushville without stopping at Henley as she planned. She seems quite well. I took her out this afternoon and we called for Mrs. Dennis and her sisters but they were out driving so we took Mrs. Jones, it was late so we did not go far. I was out to Dr. Marshall's this morning again and found that Margaret's glasses which she has laid aside are just what I need for frequent use.

Wednesday, October 16th, 1895

Stanley Prichard repaired our front door so the spring works all right and it is in better order than for years. It has been nearly forty dollars worth of trouble and was made good for 40 cts.

Sent Jennie a box of things, three of May's outgrown dresses which she can use for Virginia.

Went to prayer-meeting in the evening.

Had a number of errands to do today.

Thursday, October 17th, 1895

Bright and pleasant except for the dist. Went up street to the P.O. and also to the drug store where I got some ether to take the paint off my satin skirt which I want to use in making a waist. Got it very well cleaned.

Mrs. Taylor was here for a little while. The prevalence of diphtheria makes her very uneasy.

Friday, October 18th, 1895

Weather bright and fair. Mattie Peebles' birthday. Bought some nice peaches today. Had some young folks to spend the evening, the Hadley girls, Oella and Mrs. Clo Lowman, Julia Tappan and before the evening was spent Prof Cappa came to express his regrets that he could not come but we would not excuse him and he had to come in as he was to finish the evening. Carl helped serve the refreshments then went to sleep in his chair in the dining room.

Saturday, October 19th, 1895

Dry and dusty with some signs of rain. Miss Lehman finished the dress for Lizzie this evening and it is very nice and becoming. Miss Maggie has been sewing all week without much help from me, I have so many interruptions. Has made a plaid waist for May, two nightdresses for Margaret and a waist for me, made over from an old one. Wore it to preparatory lecture at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Carl went to Camp with Ed.

Sunday, October 20th, 1895

A beautiful day. Went to S.S. as usual remained at Teachers prayer meeting and to Communion service in the morning. Fifteen, I think, were received into our church. The 2nd Pres. congregation accepted an invitation to unite with us in the service and it was very impressive. The bells, three I think, for the Catholic church just below us were blessed by the priest in a special service today and will soon be ready for use now.

Monday, October 21st, 1895

No rain yet. Miss O'C here to sew and I had to spend the afternoon at Relief Corps meeting then go to Miss Bell's and make out reports until dark, then write up minutes and work on reports until 11.30 this evening. Mrs. McCall was elected to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Richardson. Wrote J.W. and Will as usual this morning. Bought a sugar spoon to send to Amanthus Buckner and Clint K.

Tuesday, October 22nd, 1895

Dry and dusty. All signs of rain fail and water is very scarce in some places. Diphtheria is alarmingly prevalent. Have been trying to sew some but do not make much progress, there are so many other things to be done.

Hear from J.W. almost every day. He seems to be hopeful of the prospect. Mother was over and wants Maggie to sew for her tomorrow so I shall let her go and try to be ready for her when she returns. Went to Dr. Marshall again. Glasses are satisfactory.

Wednesday, October 23rd, 1895

Brought but very windy and quite cool. Mother's cousin Sarepta Cochran came today and I was to take them out driving but she was too tired when I went over, so Mary went with me over on the West Side first, after which I took them, then went to the Aid Society meeting and later to prayer meeting. Fear I have started a cold. The Range Barton sent from Zanesville came today. Miss Maggie sewed for Ma.

Thursday, October 24th, 1895

If the weather in Kirkwood, Mo is anything is like it is here, Clinton Kimball and Amanthus Buckner will have a beautiful wedding day. Wrote Will. I was out driving for Mother and her cousin this afternoon. Have been taking cold but hoped it would be no worse for being out. It is too late in the day for them when Margaret gets out of school.

Mother gave me the material for a wrap, one she bought abroad and it is ready to be made over with plain satin. Is handsome.

Friday, October 25th, 1895

Dry and dusty, also somewhat windy. I went to the doctor to get medicine for my cold this morning. After dinner I took Mother and Mrs. Cochran out to the train then came home and found the men had not come to set up the rang as they had promised so I drove down to see why they did not. Came home and helped Miss O'Connor a little but I can not do much sewing. Made a night shirt for Will.

Saturday, October 26th, 1895

Beautiful day but very dusty. Margaret, Lizzie and May, Oella and Julia, Miss Lowman, Florence, Carrie and Irene Hadley, Margaret Ludwig and Julia Prichard went to Henley on the early train, Carl took nearly all of them out in two loads in the carriage. Bessie, Mary and I went in the afternoon, Mother and Mrs. Cochran went out yesterday and after a most delightful day we all came home on the evening train. Mrs. Maria Newton died today noon.

Sunday, October 27th, 1895

Rained in the afternoon and evening. we all went to S.S. as usual and also to church, but my cold was so bad I did not go out again. Tried to sleep in the afternoon but could not sleep long. Wanted to go out to Miss Newton's but was not able. Went to bed early. Lizzie came home from the C.E. meeting and went to bed also. The new bells on the Catholic church rang for the first time today.

Monday, October 28th, 1895

Fair again but very windy and unpleasant. Have a very bad cold. Was obliged to go out and attend to several errands. Went twice to the doctor's before seeing him. Was also at Connolley's and Miss Newton's in the morning. After dinner went to Miss Bell's Mrs. Peebles' Dr. Van Tine's, Mrs. Young's and Mary Ellen's. The range from Zanesville was put in place today and Ruth got supper on it. The old one served us twenty-two years last May. The girls all went to the Concert at Bigelow this evening. Carl, Sister and Bessie have two tickets each.

Tuesday, October 29th, 1895

Quite cool. Have been sewing every minute I could, want to get Will's shirts ready to send him. Little Tom Jewell Whitney died last night very unexpectedly, had been sick about three weeks and it was doubtful about the disease, was probably the prevailing diphtheria. Mrs. Whitman has had him since he was there in four days old and will miss him greatly. He was six years old.

Wednesday, October 30th, 1895

Cool enough for a good fire. The new double heater stove was put up in the dining room, Mr. Baker did not leave until nearly one o'clock and left it in full blast. Came after church with Mrs. Baker and Floyd Knowles to see how it was doing. Have had a great many callers in various errands today. peddlers and politicians, and stone men and all sorts of calls.

Thursday, October 31st, 1895

Rather cold.

John Peebles is eighteen years old today, was here to spend the evening. I sewed all evening on Will's shirts which I finished all but button holes before I laid them aside. John went over home for the night.

Went to bed very tired.

Wrote to Will as usual.

Friday, November 1st, 1895

Have fires in the stoves but it is not very cold. Have been sewing a little, trying to finish an outing-flannel shirt for J.W. sent two to Will this morning, took them to the express office.²⁷ Want to do something in the way of celebrating our 25th, Anniversary but do not know just what to do.

²⁷ Outing flannel: a type of flannelette with a short nap on both sides.

Saturday, November 2nd, 1895

Beautiful weather. Have had a busy day as usual. Went out to see Constance Brice at Mrs. Greene's this afternoon but she and Adah were out calling so I missed seeing her. Did a number of errands for Monday, inviting guests and so on. Margaret drove and I walked home from Mrs. Greene's.

Jas. came home from Shawnee on the late train, to spend a few days.

Sunday, November 3rd, 1895

Beautiful day. We have enjoyed our anniversary very much, only regretting that Will was not here to enjoy it with us. Miss Bessie gave us each a beautiful silver spoon as a souvenir of the day. One marked for each member of the family and one for herself. Went to church in the evening and enjoyed beautiful music and a good sermon. This morning a collection was taken instead of a sermon. Our 300.00 was subscribed.

Monday, November 4th, 1895

Beautiful day. Had a busy day getting ready for the evening. Had Father and Mother, Uncles E.B. and Sam, Dr. Tappan, Prof Lewis, Richard and their wives, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Cochran and our own family with John and Wm P. to supper there at 8 o'clock a different set came in for the evening. Dell Ramsey brought me a pretty little perfumery stand. About forty persons were here and we had a pleasant time. Did not retire until everything was in order for morning.

Carl was promoted to Wes Fulton's place.

Ara Finney put in Carl's place.

Tuesday, November 5th, 1895

Weather delightful. Election day passed off quietly and resulted in a sweeping victory for the Republicans. J.W. served as clerk in the 2nd ward and was busy all day. Lizzie Peebles and little Richard did not go out until the afternoon train, I took her in the carriage to do her errands in the forenoon and then to the train after dinner.

Wednesday, November 6th, 1895

Beautiful day.

Was out in the carriage with Mother and her cousin, making the most of the pretty weather.

Jas. returned to Shawnee on the 10.28 A.M. train, I went out with him and afterwards drove

Thursday, November 7th, 1895

Beautiful day after all. Drove most of the day. Took Mother and Mrs. Cochran to Dr. Van Tine's then went to Mrs. Greene's after Constance Bierce who is to make us a little visit. Lizzie was in at noon and I took her to the train then took Mother, Mrs. C. and Constance for a drive on the West Side which took us until after 5 o'clock.

Wrote to Will as usual.

Friday, November 8th, 1895

Slight sprinkle in the morning, and about noon it rained quite hard for a little time. Constance went to school with Bessie and I wrote a birthday letter to John and answered Mrs. Bierce's letter. Met C. at the High School and we went to the Star Shoe Factory where Arthur Titus showed us the entire process of making shoes. In the afternoon C. went with Julia T. to the Musical and I went to see Mrs. Whitney who feels the loss of little Tom Jewell very deeply. I then went to see Gussie H. at the Biggs House.

Saturday, November 9th, 1895

Rained all day. The girls had intended driving up to Lucasville today, but the rain changed their plans. The foot-ball game was played in the rain and Portsmouth Y.M.C.A. team won 14 to 0. William Peebles spent the evening here and had a fine time with the girls.

Sunday, November 10th, 1895

Cold and cloudy, quite like Nov. All went to Sabbath School as usual, Dr. Dennis being at Atlanta and Jas away from home, Dr. Tappan was acting superintendent. Constance was with me in S.S. she sang a solo in the morning and a duet with Prof. Cappa in the evening. Norma was here all afternoon and Florence was here with her to dinner. Carl went with me to ch. in the evening. Had a good sermon to young men.

Monday, November 11th, 1895

Raw and cold. Seems like snow. Wrote to J.W. and Will in the forenoon. After dinner Lizzie and Elizabeth Peebles came in and I took her out to the train, then did some other errands then took Mrs. Cochran to the dress maker, after which I went to see Beatrice Hales and her baby, then brought Julia down to give Lizzie her lesson. Constance went out to Mrs. Greene's for a part of the afternoon. Clo Lowman and Florence Hadley called before tea. Bbl of apples came from Adams Mills.²⁸

Arthur Titus, Prof Poppen and Jas. Peebles spent the evening here.

²⁸ Bbl: abbreviation for barrel.

Tuesday, November 12th, 1895

Weather more pleasant. we were up late last evening and again this evening. Prof. Cappa and Constance sang until midnight and we all enjoyed it. This evening Dr. Marshall called, then Prof Smith and John Peebles came in from Henley and we had a delightful evening. Carl enjoyed the music very much. I took Constance, Mrs. Green and Adah to make some calls, left them to finish on second st.

Wednesday, November 13th, 1895

Weather pleasant. Have been driving out with Mother and her guest, entertaining Constance and doing a little something towards preparations for the S.S. Convention which meets here tomorrow. Went to the Aid Society at 4 o'clk and called at Mrs. Spry's later to see Mary Cook but she was out. Went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Thursday, November 14th, 1895

Pleasant. Was out in the carriage this A.m. with Mother and her guest and Constance. wrote to Will. Went to S.S. Convention at 2nd Pres. Ch. in the afternoon and in the evening the meeting was held at sixth st. ch. it rained in the evening but there was a good attendance. The diphtheria continues to spread and several grown persons have had it. Hetty Mitchell died of it this week.

Friday, November 15th, 1895

Beautiful day. I attended the convention all day. Marion Lawrence was as good as ever and very helpful in his talk. Col. Carden was ill and we were greatly disappointed that he failed to be here. Mrs. Porter was to have been here to talk to Primary Teachers but both she and her husband are ill so she could not come and her place was filled by Mrs. Cook hill of Cleveland. Barton was here to supper.

Saturday, November 16th 1895

Rather a pleasant day. I expected Mary Cook of Cin. and Thyrza Spry to take tea with us this evening but she was sick and could not come, so Thyrza came to tell me about it. The girls went to drive this afternoon and it rained before they came home. They seemed to enjoy it however and came home in fine spirits.

Sunday, November 17th, 1895

Bright morning. Had a fine class in S.S. this morning. Wish it could always be so. Think the convention had an indirect effect upon it. Attended the usual services and had the pleasure of Carl's company in the evening.

Monday, November 18th, 1895

A beautiful day, as pleasant as it can be. Was busy at home and in driving for Mother this morning, then went to the Relief Corps meeting in the afternoon. It was the day for inspection and two ladies from Ironton, Mrs. Kemp and Mrs. Henry were here. Wrote to J.W. and Will as usual.

Tuesday, November 19th, 1895

Had been mild and threatening rain until the afternoon when it began while I was out driving with Mother and Mrs. Cochran. We went after Mother's new quilt and were caught in a hard rain. Took the cows out of pasture this evening, the weather is so unpleasant and pasture all gone.

Wednesday, November 20th, 1895

Raw and cold. was busy as usual all day and went to prayer-meeting in the evening, no one but sister and I went.

Julia Tappan was here to give Lizzie her lesson and remained until church time. We enjoy her visits very much. Mary Ellen was here to see whether we had heard from Will, Ralph's usual letter was behind time and they had not yet heard. Was out in the carriage this A.N.

Mary Cook and Therza Spry called.

Thursday, November 21st, 1895

Weather pleasant in the morning. Not so pleasant later. I went with Mrs. Cochran to return calls at Mrs. Peebles' and Mrs. Dennis' after which I went to the Temperance meeting. Had not been in a long while until today, something always seemed to present.

Wrote to Will as usual and sent a card to J.W. this time, sent him something every day. Carl had a letter from Will.

Friday, November 22nd, 1895

Beautiful day. Was busy all day cleaning and arranging the back rooms where the extra bedding and clothes are stored. Had Mrs. Minard to help me, while Ruth swept and dusted the front part of the house. Went over to see Mrs. Cochran at supper time, and in the evening Margaret and I attended the annual meeting of the Portsmouth Magazine Club at Mrs. Coltons's.

Saturday, November 23rd, 1895

A damp rainy day. Mrs. Cochran intended going home this morning but did not get off. I was out after dinner to do an errand or two and then Margaret took Lizzie Peebles to the train after which she and the two girls and Miss Lowman drove out to see the football game which was played in the mud. Miss Lowman was here to tea and spent a part of the evening. Wrote to Jas. Little Frank Behreus died at 3 o'clock this morning and was buried this afternoon.

Mrs. Behreus went home and will have to stay for some time.

Sunday, November 24th, 1895

Cloudy and rainy most of the day. We all went to Sabbath School and the usual church services. Little Flossie Myers died and was buried at 9 o'clock this morning. It has only been a few weeks since their baby died and was buried at 9 o'clock on Sunday morning. The spread of the disease is alarming.

Monday, November 25th, 1895

Rainy and gloomy, sun shone just a little while. Mrs. Minard helped wash today. Wrote to Jas. and Will as usual. Went up to see Maggie Peebles about Miriam who has diphtheria. Seven new cases reported today and two deaths. The disease is worse than it has been at any time. Both Charlie Behreus and his mother are said to have it. Mrs. Sarepta Cochran left for home. Fannie Cochran was here to see Margaret, she and her mother leave soon for California. The annual Thanksgiving dinner at Mr. Peebles has been given up.

Tuesday, November 26th, 1895

A fairly pleasant day. Was busy all forenoon getting ready for the Missionary Meeting which was here in the afternoon. Only Maggie and Mary Peebles, Mrs. Caden, Miss Commins and I were present.

In the evening, I went to assist in serving supper at G.A.R. Hall for the Home for Aged Women. A great crowd was present and something must have been made but it was hard work.

Wednesday, November 27th, 1895

Colder and still damp. Wrote to Will and J.W. and did several errands in the forenoon. John and Jennie came at 4 o'clock to spend Thanksgiving with us. He has not been home since July 1888 I think and we are greatly rejoiced to have him with us once more and so well as he is. Jennie came without any children on account of the scourge of diphtheria which is prevailing here. Went to church in the evening. Carlotta, the calf was sent to Constance Bierce today.

Thursday, November 28th, 1895

Beautiful day and milder than it has been though a white frost covered the roofs when we got up. Carl went early to take a long drive with Ed Reed, Ora Finney and Ben Johnson, returning in time for dinner. Jennie and I, Margaret and May went to church, also Bessie, then we all assembled over home for dinner. We missed Jimmie and Will, Barton was with the children and Lizzie and Rich came in while we were at the table and Mother Jennie and John went home with them on the afternoon train to stay until evening. At the dinner table were Father and Mother, Jennie and John, Carl and Mr. Cappa, Lizzie and Macy, Bessie and myself. After dinner Carl and Carrie went driving, the girls went to the football game and I stayed with Macy, as the others had gone to Henley. Mother and John came back on the evening train and Carl met them with the carriage. Jennie remained.

Friday, November 29th, 1895

Weather pleasant.

Was busy sweeping and dusting all the forenoon. Jennie came back from Henley at noon and was over here awhile in the afternoon. Went to Mrs. Lewis to tea and we all spent the evening over home. Macy had invited the Hadley girls and Prof Cappa to be there, John and William came in and we had quite a room full and a very pleasant time. Rained in the evening.

Saturday, November 30th, 1895

Cloudy and unpleasant. Was busy again all day. John left for Athens at 7.20 and will remain there over Sunday. Lizzie, May and I got up in time to spend nearly an hour with him before he left.

Macy invited Prof and Mrs. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor to tea this evening and I assisted her with the supper, (they still have no help) and after tea remained until after the guests had all gone.

Sunday, December 1st, 1895

Damp and unpleasant early, but it cleared up later. Carl had to go after the Doctor for Mary Moore early this morning. He came and left medicine for Ruth and myself also as we both have colds. Before night Margaret went after Dr. Mary Colten to give Mary electricity. Our congregation united with the second Pres. this morning in a service re-dedicating their church which has been almost entirely rebuilt and refurnished after the fire of last spring. Jennie was here to tea with us.

Monday, December 2nd, 1895

Damp and cloudy. Mary has not been at all well today and has had to call in Mary Cotton for a regular course of treatment. She had planned to have company both to dinner and tea tomorrow but had to give it up. I sent the man after a girl Ruth told us about and she said she would come tomorrow morning. Am glad Jennie is there with the folks, they all seem so helpless when anything is the matter. Wrote my usual letters today.

Tuesday, December 3rd, 1895

Quite cold today.

Elizabeth Peebles is thirteen years old today and very larger of her age.

I was busy all the forenoon at home, then went to Dr. Van Tine's after medicine for my cold and Ruth's and then went to the Reading Room to see Venitia Ramsey who had gone to the Thank offering meeting so I went on and got my new shoes exchanged for a pair which fits me better. Then stopped and left my envelope at the meeting and came home.

Wednesday, December 4th, 1895

Cold. We were awakened early by the fire alarm and some after the general call was sounded. Carl went out at once and found that Nichols Furniture store was burning.²⁹ It was so cold that few people were out. Carl went to awaken the Nichols brothers who knew nothing of it. Jennie went home on the 10.28 train and I went with her to the station. Went to prayer meeting in the evening and then went over home to stay all night.

Thursday, December 5th, 1895

Still pretty cold.

Wrote to Will as usual, also to Jas. Hear from the latter nearly every day. He likes his work and is very busy, only wishes he could be at home. In the afternoon I went to the W.C.T.U. meeting, it being the day for business. I do not get there very often. The days are very full and I can not see what I have done when they are gone. Margaret went over home to stay tonight.

Friday, December 6th, 1895

Has a busy day with house work.

In the evening the girls all went to hear Dr. Spry at Bigelow church. I went over home to stay with Macy who does not need me but wants me every night, and I will stay until Mrs. Behreus returns which I hope will be soon.

²⁹ Nichols furniture store was located in the back of the Vincent building on West Second St (near Gay Street). According to the Portsmouth Times report on December 7, 1895, the fire was discovered around 4:30 and the origin of the fire remained a mystery. Damages were estimated to be around \$2000.

Saturday, December 7th, 1895

Cloudy but did not rain. Was busy sweeping and dusting most of the day. Did not get to sew at all. Mr. Smith was in between trains, but his call was brief.

Sunday, December 8th, 1895

Cloudy. All went to S.S. as usual and I remained to teacher's prayer meeting and church. Nothing unusual occurred, I was over home a little while. Went over home to stay all night with Mary after going to church with Carl, who did not come home with me.

Sleeted early this morning.

Monday, December 9th, 1895

Fair. Have been busy all day. Wrote to Jas and Will, took letters to the office. Washed breakfast and dinner dishes. Sewed awhile. The men finished putting in the new water pipes to the bath room. In the evening the three girls, Miss Bessie and I went to the Opera House to the Concert by the Schubert Symphony Club, for the benefit of the Y.M.C.A. After three numbers, Lizzie and I left, she had such a sick headache she couldn't stay.

Tuesday, December 10th, 1895

Weather fair and not so cold as it has been. Wrote postal and sent papers to Jas. Sewed a part of the day. Wrote to Amanthus Kimball after the postman brought my glasses. After it became too late to sew, I went to see Grace Prather who is sick. Went over home to stay all night with Mary who is better but not well. Lizzie Peebles was in and said Will has chicken-pox very badly, all but John have now had it.

Wednesday, December 11th, 1895

Weather raw and cold with a little sunshine in the afternoon. Pipes in the bathroom were finished today and we are now ready for cold weather. Sewed part of the day, got Lizzie's outing flannel night-dresses done. Went to the Aid Society Meeting. Wrote to Jas.

Went over home to sleep.

Mrs. Silcox was here. Lizzie Peebles children have all had chicken pox except John who may have it year before they are through.

Thursday, December 12th, 1895

Weather cold and raw. Was busy all day as usual. Wrote to will, did a little planning and late in the evening went to the store to try to match the material for May's night-dresses and Carlo's shirts.

Mr. Jackson put in the piece of foundation which was taken out to fix the water pipes. Went over home to sleep.

Friday, December 13th, 1895

Fair and rather cold. Was busy planning and cutting work all the forenoon, then after dinner I made May an outing flannel night-dress. Mrs. Taylor was here. Carl had a letter from his father and a long one from Will who is planning to come home for X'mas. Margaret and Bessie went to hear Prof Myers lecture on History at our church to the Woman's Literacy Club and their invited guests.

Saturday, December 14th, 1895

Cold enough for skating in the forenoon., Lizzie went right after breakfast with Ben and Anna Valjean. It thawed soon after noon. I sewed enough today to make a second night-dress for May. Did not get through until night because I did so many other things. Mrs. Dennis called on me. Mrs. Clough was here to see Margaret and Bessie and Laura Richardson to see Bessie. Mary's pet bird "Joe" died and she feels badly about losing him.

Sunday, December 15th, 1895

Pleasant. We all went to Sabbath school as usual, and remained to the other services. Had only four girls, Lucy, Lizzie, Alice Myers, and Margaret Ludwig who has given up her class and returned to the class. Did not go to see the home folks until after church when I went and stayed all night. Norma Hadley came home from church with Carl and remained with Miss Bessie when we went to church in the evening.

Monday, December 16th, 1895

Pleasant though a little windy. Wrote to J.W. and Will as usual. Did enough housework to keep me busy until noon then got ready to go to the Relief Corps meeting at 2.30. Mr. Smith was here, will go in the morning to his house for the holidays and John Peebles expects to go with him to Zanesville. Norma went home when I went down street. The Relief Corps elected Mrs. Johnson President and made few changes in the other officers. Father went to Pittsburg.

Tuesday, December 17th, 1895

Bright and pleasant. Busied myself with various duties in the forenoon. Late in the afternoon I went to return a book to Maggie Peebles, do an errand at Mr. Zoellner's, call at Mrs. Frank Johnson's and upon Mrs. Myers and her daughters, two of whom have been in my S.S. class. Went over home to tea, when I went to Dr. and Mrs. Dennis and Dr. and Mrs. Van Tine. Slept at home the first night for more than a week.

Wednesday, December 18th, 1895

Very warm, the fires make the heat in the house quite oppressive. Have been busy with regular work and errands most of the day. Washed and ironed a great many handkerchiefs. Had letter from Will saying he could not leave Ithaca before Sat, noon, but hoped to reach Shawnee early Sunday morning. Went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Thursday, December 19th, 1895

Weather so warm that we need no fire in the sitting room. No sunshine and no rain. was busy writing a part of the morning. Wrote to J.W., to Will, Mrs. Miller of the W.F.M.S. and Mrs. Boardman. After dinner I washed windows until after 2 o'clk, then went with Mother for a drive after which I washed windows again. Almost finished with the fourteen on the first floor, inside and outside. Prof. Cappa called and spent an hour or more with us. He leaves soon for a month in Chicago.

Friday, December 20th, 1895

Very warm. Washed windows again, upstairs this time, until Ruth accidentally broke a fish globe on the piano and flooded the inside with water. I took out the keyboard and dried and cleaned the piano better than it has been in years. Went to Margaret's closing exercises at school and helped her distribute the candy packages from the tree. they were tied up in tissue paper and were very pretty. Wrote and sent papers to J.W.

Saturday, December 21st, 1895

Not very pleasant. Mr. Smith came in on the train last evening after I had gone up stairs. Mary put up the lace curtains last night to surprise me and I was so busy all day I did not notice them until I closed the shutters at night. The girls sent a good part of the day cleaning the silver and they made it shine beautifully. They can do well when they undertake. Cracking nuts for the candy was the work of the evening.

Sunday, December 22nd, 1895

Weather warm and rather damp. Went to Sabbath Schools as usual and the other Sabbath services. Nothing unusual marked the day, except the music at church. The choir prepared special Christmas music which was rendered this evening and the house was filled, even the vestibule stairs being well filled with those who could not find seats inside. Mother went with me in the evening.

Monday, December 23rd, 1895

Weather warm and damp, not at all good for the chief business in hand, candy-making. Margaret and the girls worked over home all forenoon on the candy, as Ruth was washing in our kitchen. She had very good success and got a nice lot done, some of which will be used to fill boxes to be sent away to friends. Mr. Smith left on the early train for Henley.

Tuesday, December 24th, 1895

Warm enough to have a window inside open all night in the bed room. Very unlike Christmas.

was busy all day getting the home in order then late in the evening we put up the tree in the sitting room. Will and his father came on the train from Columbus about 9 o'clock, or rather Will came from Zanesville by Circleville and the met on the train. It will be pleasant for us to all be home together. May was busy until she got the candy bags on the tree then she went to bed.

Wednesday, December 25th, 1895

Weather mild as spring. I closed up the fire place yesterday in the sitting room before putting up the Christmas tree and had the windows open when sweeping. Today does not seem at all like Christmas. We did not rise early as we did when the children were small, they like ourselves enjoy an extra nap and can wait for the surprises until a reasonable hour. Margaret sat up late last night and put what presents she could find on the tree, after Mary had decorated it. The tree was an unusually large one which Miss Bowman had used in her school and given to us. After breakfast we gathered about the tree and found that every one had been well remembered. I had some beautiful writing paper from Miss Bessie, a beautiful handkerchief from Jennie and one from Clara Ricker made by herself, I think. Carl had ordered a patent burner for the gas, but it had not come.

Carl gave each of the three girls a silver bracelet, he and Margaret worked and planned together and bought several things together. WE were all at home to dinner which we enjoyed very much. It being Wednesday there was prayer-meeting but I was not feeling well enough to go which I regretted as Jas. is so seldom here to go with us now. He and the girls went without me.

Altogether we had a very pleasant day.

Thursday, December 26th, 1895

A rainy day from morning until night.

Jas was not well enough to be up today, but managed to keep going or rather to sit up until supper time and then went to bed sick. Miss Bessie got back and went after Miss La Croix who is here from Ashland, visiting Mrs. Duduit. She is to spend a day or two with Bessie.

Friday, December 27th, 1895

Weather mild.

Jas was not able to be up today, has a bad cold and a bilious attack which spoils his visit home but it is well he is here at this time.³⁰ The girls were out all the forenoon, went to visit the Star Shoe Factory and did not return until dinner time. I spent the evening upstairs with Jas.

Saturday, December 28th, 1895

Weather still very moderate for the season. Jas. Did not get up until nearly noon and then after dinner he went out to pay some bills and settle up some matters of long standing. The money he got from the 1st Nat'l Bank enabled him to do this and we are very glad to have it done.

Miss La Croix returned to Mrs. Duduit's this morning. We enjoyed her visit very much.

Sunday, December 29th, 1895

Damp and not very pleasant. We went to Sabbath School as usual, all but Will and his father the latter not being well, saved him self for church in the morning but did not go out again.

We sat in a back pew which we have been trying for a few Sabbaths with a view to getting me where we could all sit together. I went in the evening with Will.

Monday, December 30th, 1895

Cold and rainy all day. Jas was not at all well but felt obliged to return to Shawnee this forenoon so Will took him to the train in time for the 10.28 and afterwards took me to see Mrs. McCall with some papers which had to be signed.

In the forenoon Will was home and I visited with him and did various little things.

Tuesday, December 31st, 1895

Fair but rather colder.

Was busy all forenoon sweeping and putting the house in order. In the afternoon the Foreign Missionary Society met here as it usually does the last Tuesday of each month. There were present Mrs. Peebles, Maggie and Mary Peebles, Adele Ramsey, Mrs. Beatty, Mrs. Tappan, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Dennis and myself. In addition to the regular program we talked a little about the coming meeting of the Board of Missionaries next spring. Will spent the entire evening at home and we enjoyed it very much.

³⁰ Bilious attack: a group of symptoms consisting of headache, abdominal pain, and constipation.

This closes the record for this year. All in all it has been a happy one for us, we have had many blessings some which we count very great. The health of our own family has been good, we have been spared the sorrows which have come to so many and have had the pleasure of a delightful visit from brother John who has been away from us for so long. Our greatest loss was in losing Father Ricker but since he was so anxious to follow dear Grandma we could not wish to keep him when life had lost its chief charm for him.

A remarkable occurrence for 1895 is the fact that December has two full moons, said to be very unusual.