

Diary of Louisiana Moore Ricker—1881

Transcribed by Taryn Mirabello, 2018

Saturday, January 1, 1881. The glad new year opened clear and cold, though not quite as severely cold as the past two or three days were because no wind is blowing. Bart and Jennie intended going home today but she was not well enough to be up this morning, so Barton took little Bartie and went at noon leaving Jennie and baby to follow Monday. I was over to see her and then came back to get the house and children ready for Sunday. After dinner the two older children went with their father to see the people skating on the Ohio river which is frozen.

Sunday, January 2, 1881. Weather moderating, damp and favorable to colds. I did not get out at all today. The children and their father went to Sabbath School and church, I went over home a few minutes to see Ma and Jennie, they are both better.

Monday, January 3, 1881. Everything is dripping today, the snow which covers everything has begun to melt. Jennie did not get up this morning until just time to go on the noon train. Celia Coleman went with her and intends to stay so she will have the two best members of that family. Ruth Holmes washed for us today but had to dry the clothes in the house. Lizzie and Carl are nearly sick with colds, baby has some also.

Tuesday, January 4, 1881. Weather much warmer but still freezing in the shade. A kind of drizzling rain or sleet fell nearly all day. We are all feeling the effects of the weather in our throats and heads. Ruth ironed all day. I sewed a little but not much. Am missing all the prayer meetings this week as I can't leave home and am not well enough to go out if I had a chance.

Wednesday, January 5, 1881. Cold and disagreeable. Ruth came and finished the ironing this forenoon. This is Mother Ricker's 65th birthday. May she enjoy the return of many more happy birthdays. Mrs. E. B. Greene was here a few minutes to get some milk.

Thursday, January 6, 1881. Dismal and gloomy, slippery, wet and cold. We are nearly all almost sick with cold. Managed to mend a pair of pants for Willie in addition to my usual housework which was about all I could do. The children had company all the afternoon and being shut up in the house were pretty noisy. Letter from Mother Ricker.

Friday, January 7, 1881. Weather has cleared off bright once more. The ice has broken in the river and ruined the Eldorado and several flat boats. Wrote to Mother R. again.

Saturday, January 8, 1881. Still cold though the snow has melted away in places. Willie has been practicing on his skates until he manages to get along very well. Maggie went up to see John Peebles awhile and Ma was over to see me awhile. I've had such a cold this week that I've not been out anywhere since Monday when I went to bid Jennie goodbye.

Sunday, January 9, 1881. Cold with a few flakes of snow straggling down. The children went to Sabbath school and church with their father but I remained within doors all day. We had our usual lessons in the afternoon and Willie went to Church in the evening again with his father.

Monday, January 10, 1881. Several inches of new snow fell during the night, hiding the ugly remains of the last one which is still upon the ground. Amanda came back about 10 ½ AM. At noon today I was much surprised to find Pa at the door with a bundle which proved to be a nice new shawl for me a "10th of January present" he called it. It was very acceptable and the kindness which prompted his action was the most beautiful part of it all.

Tuesday, January 11, 1881. Bright and sunny, but the snow did not seem to be much affected by the sun. Have been at home all day trying to get a cashmere dress made for Lizzie but did not get along very well. Mrs. Prescott called in the afternoon. We are nearly all about sick with cold, Maggie, Willie and Carl however manage to put in considerable time skating and sledding. They have escaped better than the rest of us.

Wednesday, January 12, 1881. Not quite so cold. Snow and ice abound on every side however. We are indulging in plenty of ice cream these days. Milk and cream are plenty and the weather assisted by a little snow and salt will do the freezing. Had a letter from Mother R. and answered it.

Thursday, January 13, 1881. Weather is moderating a little but is very damp under foot. Nearly everybody has a cold and measles are prevalent. Dr. Kline called to see me today and prescribed Cod Liver Oil and Quinine again. Mary was here awhile. Have been working some on Lizzie's dress. Went over home awhile after dinner and came home in the rain. Very icy.

Friday, January 14, 1881. A fresh fall of snow covered the ground to the depth of 3 or 4 inches this morning. It was raining last night when we went to bed. The Bonanza came up today and went back in the evening. Her first trip for some time.

Uncle Sam came after Jimmie's watch to take to the city for repairs. Ma was here awhile this afternoon. I finished off Lizzie's cashmere dress and put it on her.

Saturday, January 15, 1881. Cold and disagreeable, because it is damp. Have been at home all day and so have all the children making it very lively. Ma and Lizzie were here awhile in the afternoon, the latter had her sewing. She was over home to dinner. Ma gave Maggie a pair of skates which once belonged to one of us girls and she is greatly pleased with them.

Sunday, January 16, 1881. Damp and cold. Our church is finished at last and service was held in the upper room today for the first time since last summer. I was not well enough to go but Jimmie and Carl went to the hotel and got Maj Boyd to go with them and come to dinner with us which he did. Maggie went with Ma and Enos. Ella Greene Gist died this AM at 6:30 o'clock. She has been sick a long time.

Monday, January 17, 1881. Bright and sunny but quite slippery under foot. Have been working on pants for Willie most of the day. Went over home in the morning but both Ma and Mary were up at Mrs. Greene's so I came back. Mrs. Towne called just before tea.

Tuesday, January 18, 1881. Rainy and gloomy and cold. Went over home this morning to see Bart and Jennie, Harry and Carrie Greene who came to Ella's funeral which took place this afternoon. Ella has been sick for so long that I've not seen much of her during the past few years, much of the time she was away and when at home she did not see company. She is the first one of the Keystone party which she entertained some twelve years ago, who has died.

Wednesday, January 19, 1881. Cold and disagreeable. Bart and Jennie, Harry and Carrie were up to Mr. Greene's today and Ma took little Lizzie Greene up after dinner. Messrs Mendel and Sol Churchill and their wives came to the funeral, also Charlie and Belle and all of the family who did not return to their homes were at Mr. G's today. I've been at home all day, not been quite well enough to go out.

Thursday, January 20, 1881. Rainy most of the day and by evening it rained quite hard. Jennie and her children spent the day with me. Bart had gone with Charlie to visit the Ironton and Ashland Furnaces. We had a pleasant day together, and was sorry Bart was not here too.

Friday, January 21, 1881. Snowy again, that is trying to snow a little, the old snow is not quite all gone yet. We went over home to dinner, Charlie and Belle Greene with their little boy being there. In the evening Jennie and Bart, Mary and Enos, Jimmie and I went up to take tea with Lizzie and Rich.

Saturday, January 22, 1881. Cold and snowy again. Bart, Jennie and the children went up to Mr. Greene's to stay over Sunday. Mina left on the morning train to make a three weeks visit home and I have all I can do, not being able to do much.

Sunday, January 23, 1881. Cold and snowy and again I had to stay at home, not being well enough to go to church. Uncle Jimmie came and dined with us and was here twice after that on errands but did not stay to tea.

Monday, January 24, 1881. Snowy and cold but clear and bright. Went over home this morning to bid the folks good bye but they were not there. About 11 o'clock they came in great haste from Mr. Greene's having waited there for the Dr. to see Bartie who was not very well and then there was a rush to get them ready but they got off in time and it will probably be some time before we see them again.

Tuesday, January 25, 1881. Cold and uncomfortable. We keep fire in all the rooms and hall down stairs and are not always warm enough then. Miss Switzer was here after school to see us. She is one of my faithful friends, comes often regardless of my infrequent visits.

Wednesday, January 26, 1881. Cold. Everything icebound and has been for some time. Have been cutting out some thick panties for Lizzie who needs them. Am always busy and do not accomplish much either. Wrote the usual letter to Mother Ricker but felt too tired to write very much.

Thursday, January 27, 1881. Weather cold and not very clear. Have been sewing a little today on canton flannel under wear for little Lizzie who is so slight and cold not having had any winter panties as yet. Clara Pursell came in this afternoon and made quite a visit which I enjoyed very much. Mrs. Erb, daughter of Dr. Davis died today leaving a young daughter.

Friday, January 28, 1881. Bright clear and cold. Ma came over this morning and suggested that I go to the morning prayer meeting at the 6th Street M. E. church and I did so, well wrapped up and with cough medicine but I kept so cold that it did not do me much good. Am doing a little sewing each day but not much. Can not run the machine long at a time and in Mina's absence have many other things to do.

Saturday, January 29, 1881. Not very cold, in fact the weather is moderating fast so that the river will likely soon be clear of ice. Willie went to take a skate this morning but soon came back and spent the rest of the forenoon reading to me from the last bk of St. Nicholas. After dinner he went to visit Earl Pursell and Maggie went to see Flora Field.

Sunday, January 30, 1881. Very damp and not very cold. Just the kind of weather Dr. McDowell always said was the very worst of taking cold. I had thought of going

to church this morning but followed the advice of all the family and stayed at home. Willie stayed and played with baby while I lay down to rest awhile.

Monday, January 31, 1881. Rainy and gloomy but not very cold. The streets are wet and slippery, made so by the frost coming out of the ground. Have not been at all well today, felt scarcely able to keep up but managed to make some lines to send to Bartie, did not put much work on them but hope they will please him.

Tuesday, February 1, 1881. Cloudy and a little colder than it was yesterday. Ma and Mary were here awhile and Lizzie brought her sewing and spent most of the afternoon with me. This is the day for fasting and prayer in the churches but I can not go out even during the day meetings as I am sure to take more cold while sitting in church. Sent Lizzie Greene's chair to her and a pair of lines to Bartie for his birthday on the 3rd Feb.

Wednesday, February 2, 1881. Weather drier, colder and clearer but a few flakes of snow struggled down throughout the day. Have been at home all day. We were invited to Uncle Enos' to a Club meeting this evening after church but did not go. I've not been out even to church for weeks. Jimmie went to hear Mr. Condit this evening. Ralph Moore brought home a chair he has been reseating and Jimmie's watch which has been to Cin for repairs.

Thursday, February 3, 1881. Cold, snow almost gone. Mary was over this morning and reported a very pleasant meeting last night. The doctor was in also today and said I must wean the baby which is quite a trial to me as she is only 4 ½ months old, but he said it would be necessary and the sooner the better.

Friday, February 4, 1881. Cold and not very pleasant. Ma was here most of the day with her work trying to keep me quiet. Have been sewing some on the machine, trying to finish Lizzie's under clothes. Had a letter from Jennie telling of the safe arrival of the chair and lines. Thyrsa Spry was here awhile after attending the History Club.

Saturday, February 5, 1881. Bright and pretty cold. Was busy in the forenoon mending and getting ready for Sunday, when about half through in the afternoon Ma came over and insisted upon my going up to Lizzie's for a walk, I went but felt more like lying down though I did not say so. Rich is in bed with neuralgia. Jimmie has written to Jim Boal in Cal inquiring about the country, climate and prospects.

Sunday, February 6, 1881. Weather not so cold as it has been. Carl was sick in bed all day but a course of calomel powders¹ given through the day was all he needed.

¹ *Calomel powders*: Medical uses for calomel were common well into the nineteenth century. It acts as a purgative and kills bacteria (and also does irreversible damage to their human hosts). Some treatments are of historical

The rest went to Sabbath School as usual and also to church. It was Communion day but as I was unable to be out, Jimmie did not attend the afternoon service. There were four additions to the church, one by letter.

Monday, February 7, 1881. Bright and pleasant most of the day, Amanda dried clothes in the yard, the first for weeks but it began to rain before night. Mrs. Helfenstein and Mrs. Graham called to collect for the Reading Room. Rich is still laid up and Lizzie is down with a slight bilious attack² so Ma had to be there today. Poor, patient, tireless mother! We children are more trouble to her now than when we were small and all in the same house. Words fail to tell her worth.

Tuesday, February 8, 1881. Weather more moderate, indicating rain, in fact it began to sprinkle before night. I wrote to Jennie this afternoon and sewed a little which was more than I really was able to do and was tired out by night—Being obliged to wean the baby is a real trial to me but after it is done it will doubtless be better for me. Mrs. Prescott was here today if I'm not mistaken.

Wednesday, February 9, 1881. A slow drizzling rain fell all day and at night it rained hard. I at last yielded to Ma's persuasions and went with her to Dr. Brinkenhoff today to be treated for an ailment which has troubled me for years and if the treatment is a success I must certainly improve in my general health. I have not been well for a long time.

Thursday, February 10, 1881. Not very cold nor very clear; yes, it was quite bright this afternoon too. After dinner Miss Emma Bell brought her silk scrap work and spent the afternoon with us. We kept her until after tea. The children and I enjoyed her visit very much, she is a great favorite with them. Mary Ellen called a little while before tea. Mrs. Tewksbury was here.

Friday, February 11, 1881. Rainy and gloomy. Rich, Lizzie and the children are spending the day over home, seem better than they have lately but are not well. Ma very kindly brought her work and sat with me as Mary and Lizzie were company for each other. Mrs. Jas Pursell called to see me and before she left Miss Fanny Switzer came to see about Maggie's piece.

Saturday, February 12, 1881. Weather bright but cold and rather windy. After the usual Saturday baths and preparation for Sabbath, I played valentine store with the

interest. The three physicians attending Gen. Washington's final hours administered calomel to the dying President. Lewis and Clark carried it on their expedition and used it to treat their men's STD's. Louisa May Alcott (author of Little Women) suffered from its effects. Even in the present decade several cases of mercury poisoning have been attributed to facial cremes containing calomel. Such cremes are banned in the United States because mercury is readily absorbed through the skin. (Source: Loyola University, Chicago)

² *Bilious attack*: in British. pathology obsolete. a group of symptoms consisting of headache, abdominal pain, and constipation.

children, the stock being home made and seemingly quite satisfactory. We do not approve of the style of comic valentines which fill the stores now days. Most of them ought to be suppressed by law.

Sunday, February 13, 1881. Cold, sunny in the morning but rather cloudy and disagreeable in the afternoon. Was at home all day. Lizzie P. and Edith Moore are sick so Ma and Mary was up to see them this afternoon. Carl went to Sabbath School and church again today with the others. There was to have been baptism at our church this afternoon but the weather was not suitable. Ma was up at Lizzie's all night.

Monday, February 14, 1881. Rather cloudy and quite cold. Mina came back this morning for which I am glad. Thyrza Spry made me a nice long visit this afternoon and got some patterns of me for some charity work. The doctor was in this morning to see how Lizzie and Mary were doing, the latter seems to do very well on her bottle diet. Lizzie has a very bad cold which may terminate in whooping cough.

Tuesday, February 15, 1881. Bright, clear and quite cold but the snow has about all disappeared. Went over home with my work this forenoon and after dinner went to Mr. Brodbeck's to buy some goods, then to Messrs Fr H's to get Lizzie's picture, walked up Front street to look at the high water, called at Mrs. Jones' and came home with a fresh cold which grew worse rapidly. Went to bed early. Mrs. Emmanuel Willis called.

Wednesday, February 16, 1881. Bright and lovely looking outside but the wind makes things rattle and doubtless cuts like a razor. The boat goes out again today but her trips for weeks past have been few and far between. Dr. Pratt called this afternoon. I did not write my usual letter to Mother Ricker but wrote up my book for about two weeks past.

Thursday, February 17, 1881. Mild and bright, feels like rain. This afternoon I went over home with my work but was sent for to come and see the doctor, after he left, Mollie and Mary L. Murray, and Fannie Moore came. Ella and Linn Murray and Sallie Peebles had been here before he came and Ma was here several times.

Friday, February 18, 1881. Gloomy and dreary as it can be, a slow rain fell all day which became a hard rain by evening.

Saturday, February 19, 1881. Quite bright and pleasant. This afternoon Mame Hudson called to see me and after she left I went over home a little while. Aunt Mary S. G. Moore was there just intending to come over here so we went up stairs and visited there.

Sunday, February 20, 1881. Weather not very cold but damp and rather gloomy. Baby is not well and I am not so I did not go out until late in the afternoon when I went to see Pa but just as I got upstairs, Maggie came to say that Uncle Enos and Aunt Mary Ellen were over at our house so I came home.

Monday, February 21, 1881. Weather not freezing cold but so damp that clothes would not dry very well out of doors. Baby has been sick all day with cold and fever and this evening I had the doctor come to see what was wrong with her. Miss Fannie Switzer heard of it and came around to see her.

Tuesday, February 22, 1881. Washington's birthday passed very quietly here, the only demonstration I saw was the parade of a small company of soldiers preceded by a fife³ and drum. There was no holiday in the schools as they had the day after Thanksgiving in place of this one. The baby is still sick but not dangerously so. Arthur Ricker was here this afternoon.

Wednesday, February 23, 1881. Weather very pleasant looking but rather raw and unpleasant in reality. Mary was over awhile and the doctor came in to see the children. After he was gone, a rash resembling measles came out on the baby. Lizzie and her family all are sick and are coming down to stay a few days over home. Wrote to Mother Ricker as usual.

Thursday, February 24, 1881. Rather cloudy as though we might have rain soon. Baby has the measles I think though the doctor has not been in since the eruption appeared yesterday. Mary Murphy and Mrs. Kaps came to see me this afternoon. Just before tea Uncle Drew came satchel in hand. He brought a little dress which Mother R. has had made for Lizzie. It is not darned with linen and will be lovely, the ribbons and all were with it. Jennie Ricker is 18 years old today.

Friday, February 25, 1881. Bright and lovely. After Uncle Drew had gone down street with Jimmie, Mary Y. Moore came to ask if Maggie might go to Cin. with her and Ralph to see the Whale on exhibition there and I let her go. Uncle Drew, Arthur, Mary and Enos took tea with us.

Saturday, February 26, 1881. This has been a beautiful day but I did not venture out very far. Went over home before noon and visited awhile, Lizzie and her children are there. After 5 o'clock I went again and saw Aunt Maria McCall and Miss Varner. Dr. Kline was also there to see Lizzie. Uncle Drew and Arthur went to Ironton to spend tomorrow.

³ *Fife*: is a small, high-pitched, transverse aerophone, that is similar to the piccolo, but louder and shriller due to its narrower bore. The fife originated in medieval Europe and is often used in military and marching bands. Someone who plays the fife is called a fifer.

Sunday, February 27, 1881. I had hoped to go to church today but it began to rain about breakfast time and of course I could not go. It cleared up awhile in the afternoon, but the wind blew hard again at night. Uncle Jimmie was here to tea. Maggie came home this morning having seen the wonderful whale.

Monday, February 28, 1881. Very damp, blustering and disagreeable. Snow has been falling and melting all forenoon with a few stray gleams of sunshine trying to light up the dismal day. Aunt Maria came in to see me and the little folks. Uncle D. came back from Ironton and was here to dinner with us. Took tea at Mr. Tewksbury's and then stayed all night here. Made a tucked pillow case.

Tuesday, March 1, 1881. Weather a little fairer than yesterday but still raw and chilly. We had an early dinner and Uncle Drew left for home on the noon train. We miss him though he was only here a short time. Sewed a good deal on the machine today, made a ruffled pillow and began a dress for Mary, made a ruffle for the bottom of it.

Wednesday, March 2, 1881. Brighter. Am feeling much better and have been sewing all this week have about finished Mary's dress except sewing on the lace edge. Wrote a long letter to Mother Ricker. Jimmie has quite a notion of going to Cal. And has written to Jim Boal and had an answer from him.

Thursday, March 3, 1881. Rainy and gloomy. Ma came over and sat awhile this morning. Told of the report that Roby McCall was married last night which afterward proved a hoax. Mary Ellen came at noon to invite me to take tea at her house Saturday evening with Mrs. French and other ladies, no gentlemen. Jimmie rec'd an invitation to dine with Jas Peebles tomorrow his birthday, 33rd.

Friday, March 4, 1881. Very muddy but bright overhead. There is some snow on the ground, there has been an unprecedented snow storm in the west which covered fences in some places and put a stop to all business and travel in many more. Jimmie went to the dinner party with eight or ten other gentlemen and had a fine time.

Saturday, March 5, 1881. Bright a part of the day but too windy to be pleasant. Ma stopped here on the way up to see Bartie and while she was there Jimmie came walking in there with her baby, she couldn't stand it any longer without her boy so she came after him. She was here a few minutes. Mary and I went to the tea party and enjoyed it very much, but I should have preferred having Jas there.

Sunday, March 6, 1881. Weather very fair but streets very muddy. I went to church this morning, the first time since Dec 19th. It was my first glimpse of the church since it was newly furnished and I like it very much. The seats and pulpit of black walnut are new also the carpet and windows and the organ is moved down into the N. W.

corner of the church. Dr. Pratt preached from Phillipians 3rd, 13, 14. Arthur Ricker was here to dinner and spent awhile in the afternoon over home in the library then went to church with Jimmie and the children in the evening coming back here awhile after service.

Monday, March 7, 1881. Beautiful and pleasant except under foot where it is very muddy. I went over home twice today, once on my way up to the shoe store and again in the afternoon with my work for awhile. I have cut out seven little white aprons for Mary and am trying to get the trimming ready for them. Mrs. Peebles called to see me.

Tuesday, March 8, 1881. Rainy again and dismal as the weather can make it. While we were at dinner, Ma brought Mollie York over to see the baby. She is fond of little folks and they all like her. Jennie and her children came over this afternoon to make us a visit. Our children and hers get along nicely and enjoy being together.

Wednesday, March 9, 1881. Still gloomy and dismal but not actually raining. Jennie and I spent most of the day very pleasantly together but in the afternoon she and I went to the hotel where Ma and Lizzie were already waiting to see Dr. Brinkenhoff. After I came home I intended writing and she was to go up to Mr. G's or rather they came for her while we were out, so we just sewed all the rest of the day.

Thursday, March 10, 1881. More pleasant. Jennie intended going home today but Bart wrote that he was going to Aurora so she decided to stay longer then about noon the baby got sick and we sent for the doctor. I was not at all well and Ma insisted upon their going over home to stay, so they went.

Friday, March 11, 1881. Weather more pleasant. Lizzie who has been over home for two weeks, with her family, went up home today again, being somewhat better than she was. This is Bart and Jennie's anniversary. They have only spent one anniversary together since they were married. Our little Mary is not at all well neither am I. Spent this whole day in bed.

Saturday, March 12, 1881. It is 16 years today since sister Annie died and had she lived, she would have been over eighteen years old, I am not feeling much better but have been up all day. Bart came on the Telegraph. Their baby is still sick. It rained hard all the morning but cleared off awhile in the afternoon.

Sunday, March 13, 1881. Damp and rainy and gloomy. I was not out of course anywhere but the rest all went as usual. Uncle Jimmie was here to tea and went from here to the little prayer meeting he has attended for years. Just now there is considerable hard feeling among members about that prayer meeting, a queer thing to quarrel about surely but the faithful few who have sustained it for years have been

literally turned out of their room to give place to an elder who wants the room for a prayer meeting to be led by himself. Our church is in a lamentable state as regards piety and good feeling. Grandma Moore is still sick and Aunt Maria is with her. Jimmie went to see her today. Lizzie learned to button her shoes with the button hook.

Monday, March 14, 1881. A beautiful, sunshiny day, one that cheers our hearts after so many dark ones. Jennie's baby is still quite sick and she can not go home. Ma has a busy time among us with little time for anything more than going from one to another to advise and comfort.

Tuesday, March 15, 1881. Very bright and pleasant. Ma made me a long visit this forenoon and before she left Jennie sent for her. She had been to Lizzie's and yesterday Uncle Jimmie levied upon her for a little advice and comfort. I went over home a few minutes this afternoon but saw only Jennie as there was company in the parlor and I did not go in there.

Wednesday, March 16, 1881. Rain again, quite hard a part of the day and through it all my faithful and valued old friend Mrs. Jones, Maggie's mother, came to see me. She had been to Mrs. Hick's funeral. I have had an unusually hard day, my back ached so I could not rest either sitting up or lying down. Wrote to Mother Ricker. Charley Nichols and Ella Mumper were married today.

Thursday, March 17, 1881. More rain and gloom and mud. I feel a little better this morning. We were agreeably surprised by a call from Capt Meredith and Maggie this evening, had just been talking of them but did not know that they were in town. They, like ourselves, are agitating the subject of a change of location with a strong inclination in favor of California.

Friday, March 18, 1881. Rainy and disagreeable. Julia Pratt was here this morning to ask about Maggie for a music pupil but we do not care to have her begin the study of music now for several reasons. We feel quite unsettled as to our future movements for one thing and the practice would be confining for her anyway, this spring.

Saturday, March 19, 1881. Weather damp with a few stray gleams of sunshine. We went through the usual Saturday routine with little variation. I went over to see Jennie a few minutes as she is sick in bed. Jimmie and I were invited up to Ella Murray's to tea this evening but were not able to go.

Sunday, March 20, 1881. Weather damp and uncomfortable. I was not away from the house at all today. The rest of the family went to the morning services as usual but did not go at night as Jimmie has a bad cold. Arthur Ricker was here in the evening.

Monday, March 21, 1881. Bright and pleasant though rather cold. Jennie and her baby went home today noon and I went over to see them before they left. Took more cold of course and felt badly at night. Ma was here awhile this afternoon. Jennie Corson was here this morning and again in the evening to see about getting milk for her baby.

Tuesday, March 22, 1881. Weather wintry and unpleasant. Have been doing handwork on Mary's white aprons and had Ma for company most of the afternoon. Fannie Moore brought Miss Roseborough to see me concerning lessons for Maggie in Elocution. The lady is young, rather pretty, very pleasant and a good teacher I should think. Aunt Mary Sam was here. Jas had letter from Dr. Babb.

Wednesday, March 23, 1881. Bright in the morning but rather cloudy after dinner with a few flakes of snow falling. Miss Roseborough came this afternoon and gave Maggie her first lesson in Elocution. I've not felt at all well today, probably because I sewed some on the machine this forenoon. Wrote to Mother Ricker. Paper from Jas Boal of Cal.

Thursday, March 24, 1881. Weather rather mild. Maggie went to the hotel this evening to see the class in Elocution and she did not want to wear her cloak but of course, I had her do so. I wrote to Mattie Boal this forenoon. Have been sewing a little every day on Mary's aprons but they are not nearly all done yet.

Friday, March 25, 1881. Rather April-like, sunshine and showers succeeded each other several times. I went over home in the afternoon to get Ma to go down street with me but it began to rain so she went alone, afterwards it cleared up and we went together to look at hall paper, oil cloth ect. We will be obliged to do something to our hall this spring. Maggie had another lesson in Elocution.

Saturday, March 26, 1881. Weather rather bright and pleasant looking but a little windy. I intended going out after dinner for a little while but Ma came over and advised me not to go. I had also promised the little ones that they might have a walk but it sprinkled and they had to give it up. Maggie and Carl went to see John and Willie went to see Arthur Ricker but Lizzie stayed with me.

Sunday, March 27, 1881. Weather very fair. I was not at all well and did not leave the house during the day. The rest went to the usual services. Arthur Ricker was here to dinner and soon after Ma came over and spent most of the afternoon.

Monday, March 28, 1881. A bright sunny day which I have spent in the house however. Late in the afternoon it clouded over and began to rain. Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. Tewksbury were here. The latter told me that she had just received notice of the death of Aunt Augusta Jordan she was the youngest of Grandpa's sisters, and a great favorite with all her friends.

Tuesday, March 29, 1881. Dreary and gloomy and rainy. The spring examinations in both Maggie's and Willie's rooms took place today but I was not well enough to attend. I also missed the wedding reception of Mr. Jennings and Emma Johnson at the Biggs House this evening. Ma and Mary went with Rich and Lizzie. It was sleeting at dark. Miss Roseborough gave Maggie another lesson.

Wednesday, March 30, 1881. By 10 o'clock this morning the snow lay four or five inches deep on a level but the wind drifted it badly in places. Everything has the appearance of mid winter. I had a letter from Mother Ricker written yesterday saying that neither she nor Father Ricker would be here to attend Aunt Augusta's funeral but that Aunt Betsey and Uncle Drew would leave home this evening for Portsmouth.

Thursday, March 31, 1881. Wet and disagreeable. Mrs. Hall came over this morning to inquire what news we had in regard to the Jordan family, she was a neighbor and friend of Aunt Augusta's while she lived here. The folks missed the connection at Cin and did not stop here, but went up on the Fleetwood. Jimmie went up with Mr. J and Mary, and Mr. and Mrs. T. tonight to Ironton.

Friday, April 1, 1881. Weather very damp and disagreeable with light snow. Aunt Augusta was buried at Ironton today and Jimmie came down on the late boat. There was no school this afternoon as the teachers all attended the High School Examinations so the children's vacation began today really. Miss Roseborough gave Maggie her lesson.

Saturday, April 2, 1881. More snow and discomfort. Fires quite as necessary as any time this winter. This afternoon Maggie went up to Mr. McCall's to see the class in Elocution. Dr. and Mrs. Kline were here to see me. We did not hear whether the folks came from Ironton.

Sunday, April 3, 1881. More snow, not a heavy fall but quite continuous. I was not out but the rest attended the usual services and Maggie went in the afternoon. It was Communion day and quite a number united with the church, Mary Y. Moore and Lettie Smith, my cousins, among the rest. After church Mr. Jordan and Mary with Uncle Drew came around to see us.

Monday, April 4, 1881. More snow, not much but still cold and unpleasant. Mr. J and Mary went on the early train. Aunt Betsey and Uncle Drew took dinner with us. Ma and Mary were here most of the day. Mrs. Hall called to see Aunt Betsey and then sent her Japanese silk quilt for us to see. Baby Mary's first tooth came through. Lizzie was here.

Tuesday, April 5, 1881. About noon we had quite a little snow storm making the fifth day in succession in April that the "beautiful" has fallen. Aunt Betsey came

down from Mrs. T's to spend the day with us and Ma invited us over home to dinner. I enjoyed mine very much. We came back about 3 o'clock and had Uncle D. and Aunt B. to tea with us. Uncle Jimmie came afterwards. Fannie Moore was here in the AM and F. Switzer and Miss Mumper in PM.

Wednesday, April 6, 1881. A very pleasant day for the folks to start on their homeward journey. Uncle Drew came around to say goodbye but I did not see Betsey again. They went on the noon train and Mr. and Mrs. T. went to Cin to buy carpets and furniture. Ma, Lizzie and I went to the hotel to see the doctor again. Maggie was sick and did not take her lesson when Miss R. came.

Thursday, April 7, 1881. Wrote to Mother Ricker as I did not do it last night. Maggie took medicine last night and is some better today. The doctor came in to see me and took a look at her also.

Friday, April 8, 1881. A rainy gloomy day but Ma went to Cin with Lizzie who took her baby and nurse on a visit to Ella Wright. Mary E. went down to do some spring shopping and buy a carpet. Maggie took her lesson this afternoon as she seems quite well again.

Saturday, April 9, 1881. Rained very hard most of the day and Mina who intended going home was disappointed. Maggie wanted to go to the Elocution class this evening too but couldn't on account of the rain, I made button holes and mended today.

Sunday, April 10, 1881. Weather bright but I was not out not feeling well enough to go. The rest all went as usual. Pa is sick in bed and I went over to see him a few minutes but did not stay very long. Ma came home from Cin this morning.

Monday, April 11, 1881. Bright all the forenoon and until about 4 P.M. Mina went home on the 3 o'clock train because it was pleasant but it rained hard in about an hour after. Carl said at noon that Ma was sick in bed so I went over and found her in bed with headache and sore throat. Mary and I went this morning to see Maggie Mason and Emma Jones who is to be married Wednesday to Wm Williams.

Tuesday, April 12, 1881. Rainy all day but I went over to see Ma who is still in bed though I was not really well enough to be up myself and Mina being away made additional work for me at home. Miss Roseborough came and gave Maggie her lesson and it rained all the while she was here.

Wednesday, April 13, 1881. It has not rained much today but is very cloudy and damp. I spent most of the day with Ma who does not seem to get any better but Dr. Kline came down in the afternoon and left medicine which he thought would keep her. I left her late and hoped to find her better in the morning but at 11.30 Enos

came for me to go and stay she had grown so much worse. Emma Jones and Mr. Williams were married today.

Thursday, April 14, 1881. Weather clear once more. About 11:30 AM Jimmie came home and went to bed sick. I was up most of the night before with Ma and had just come home to try to get a little rest when I found a new case on my hands. Ma was very sick last night and as Dr. Kline is sick, he called Dr. Gibson who stayed with us three hours doing all he could to relieve her.

Friday, April 15, 1881. Decidedly April-like weather, wind, rain and sunshine in quick succession. The doctor pronounced both Ma and Jimmie better this morning still neither is able to sit up. Lizzie came home from Cin this morning all right which we are glad to see as so many have been sick.

Saturday, April 16, 1881. Delightful day, I divided my time between the sick folks this forenoon and after dinner Maggie Mason brought her work and sat most of the afternoon. Jimmie got up about 11 o'clk and stayed up the rest of the day. Ma is better but still very weak and her throat improves very slowly.

Sunday, April 17, 1881. Weather quite pleasant. Jimmie did not feel able to go out today though he was up consequently the three children went to S. S. and then Maggie and Carl went to church. Maggie and Willie went to prayer meeting in the evening and then came home.

Monday, April 18, 1881. Weather bright and pleasant though rather windy. Carl and I found it so when we went to the drug store and up to see Maggie Mason this forenoon. Was over home both morning and afternoon and feel quite encouraged about Ma even though her improvement is slow, I trust she will never have another such an attack of sore throat.

Tuesday, April 19, 1881. Weather warm and pleasant with indications of rain. Spent most of the day over home with Ma who is much better but not up yet. She can not talk much and we try to keep her from making the effort which irritates her throat. Miss Roseborough came and gave Maggie a part of her lesson but did not finish.

Wednesday, April 20, 1881. Weather as lovely as could be desired after the hard thunder and rain storm of last night. Baby is seven months old today and had her first buggy ride out of doors. I have been busy most of the day fixing up summer under clothes. Went over home to see Ma twice. Wrote to Mother Ricker.

Thursday, April 21, 1881. Weather warm and pleasant. The hall stove was taken out this morning and the girls spent the day getting ready for the paper hanger. I

went and selected paper to be put on. I had a letter from Jennie today saying the baby was not very well and Mr. Greene soon came around to hear the particulars.

Friday, April 22, 1881. Lovely warm day. I was over home twice today. After dinner they sent for the baby as Mrs. Sovine was there, so I went too. Miss Roseborough came and gave Maggie a lesson. I like her very much and Maggie seems to improve under her instructions. The plasterer fixed the hall ceiling today and we hope now to be able to get through with housecleaning.

Saturday, April 23, 1881. Very pleasant. To my great surprise Ma came over for a little while this morning, she is very weak but felt that a little walk would do her good. I was at home and busy most of the day doing what I could towards the summer sewing. Miss Fannie Switzer was here with Ralph and Lucy and Mrs. Miller called. Lizzie was here a few minutes also.

Sunday, April 24, 1881. Lovely day but during the afternoon there was quite a wind storm followed by a hard rain. I went to church this morning being the second time this year. Went over to see Ma a little while, she is getting better but very slowly.

Monday, April 25, 1881. Beautiful day, warm and dry. Mary and I took the baby and went up to Lizzie's this afternoon but she was not there so we went to Mrs. Jones' and she was away also then we came back to Ma's and I was very tired. Lizzie was there with her work and Mollie York came in also. I began a cap for baby, crocheted of unbleached linen thread.

Tuesday, April 26, 1881. Quite warm. Maggie went to Miss R. to take her lesson today. Ma is improving slowly but it seems very slowly. I go over two or three times a day usually and she comes over occasionally for exercise. I am feeling better this week and have a good deal of work of various kinds on hand.

Wednesday, April 27, 1881. Weather charming. Maggie went to take an extra lesson today in place of part of one she lost. She took it over home and Miss Roseborough and I stayed to tea. Jimmie could not be there as he had a business engagement. Miss R. read several selections which we enjoyed very much. The Pied Piper of Hamelin being one. Wrote to Mother Ricker. Father R. is 68 today and Mr. Tewksbury 73.

Thursday, April 28, 1881. Weather all that we could ask. The house cleaning began in earnest today, the parlor being began and finished, I had all the books to arrange and our library has grown to such proportions through Pa's generosity that it is quite a work to put them in order. Jimmie, Enos and Carl went to Franklin F'ce today on business for Uncle Drew.

Friday, April 29, 1881. A very little sprinkle this morning which soon cleared off and left us a beautiful day which we improved by cleaning my bedroom. Miss Roseborough gave Maggie her last lesson in Elocution, this afternoon over at Ma's. Baby Mary spent the day over there as the house was too open for her here. Mary Peebles called socially.

Saturday, April 30, 1881. Delightfully warm and bright. With a colored man to help me put down the dining room carpet today and feel through with the worst of house cleaning now. Miss Roseborough took tea with us and after a pleasant visit she bade us good bye as her lessons are done for the present and she leaves next week. We shall miss her very much. Paid her \$9.00.

Sunday, May 1, 1881. Beautiful day, the leaves are coming out rapidly and the maple trees are in full leaf, the peach, plum and apricot in full bloom. I went to church this morning and over home a little while after tea.

Monday, May 2, 1881. Warm and rainy. The paper-hanger came and promised to paper the hall a week hence. Mary Ellen came this morning to ask me to go to Miss Mary Damarin's this afternoon to hear a "talk" from Miss Roseborough on the subject of light reading. The weather was damp but I prepared for it and went.

Tuesday, May 3, 1881. Rained quite hard this forenoon making everything green and fresh looking. Just such a day as delights one. Have been busy with the summer clothing, seeing what could be made to do service this year and what more would be needed.

Wednesday, May 4, 1881. Bright and pleasant. Ma came over here this afternoon and we rode down to the hotel, in the bus with Lizzie. Our trip down there consumed the greater part of the afternoon. Amanda expected to go home tomorrow for a few days but she concluded to wait until Saturday. Wrote to Mother Ricker in answer to a letter from her written yesterday.

Thursday, May 5, 1881. Weather quite pleasant but damp. We had a little rain today but it was warm and pleasant, just the kind to bring out the leaves which are at last coming out rapidly. I tried to stay in bed all day as I was not at all well but after dinner I got up and dressed.

Friday, May 6, 1881. Weather charming but a little damp and cool in the morning so we had fire. Was up all day and did most of Mina's work as she was not able to be up. Finished off baby Mary's little cap which I have been crocheting. Am doing a little every day towards the preparations for summer.

Saturday, May 7, 1881. Rather cloudy this morning but no rain to amount to anything. Amanda went home and Ruth Holmes came to get supper and prepare

for breakfast. Providence evidently is caring for me as Ruth was just ready to come when I wanted her. Mina is better but not able to do much.

Sunday, May 8, 1881. Pleasant but quite warm. There was some talk of having infant baptism at our church this afternoon but it was postponed. There was no evening service as a union missionary meeting was held in the 2nd Pres. church. Willie went with Mrs. White Mr. and Mrs. Prescott.

Monday, May 9, 1881. We had several little showers today and plenty of sunshine as well. The paper hangers came and almost finished the halls. I went to Miss Gossin's to see about my new gray suit. Also to see Miss Switzer about Maggie whose eye is sore and yet she wants to go to school if she can do so without injury as she is now at the head of the school.

Tuesday, May 10, 1881. Warm and dusty. Summer seems to have come in earnest. Have been altering Maggie's everyday dresses. The hall paper is all on and looks very well, the floor and stairs covered will add a great deal to its improvement. I've thought all day of Pa and Ma and tried to plan some way to get them to take a trip.

Wednesday, May 11, 1881. Quite warm and pleasant. Jimmie came home early in the afternoon and put the linoleum in the hall, he cut it to fit and as it is all in one piece it was rather difficult to manage but nice when done. Uncle Jimmie Wood was here after church this evening and promised to present me with a spring hat.

Thursday, May 12, 1881. Bright and warm. Uncle Jimmie sent me a spring hat this morning, a .05 ct one which is much better than its price would indicate, I cut the crown down and it will answer my purpose very well. There has been a great run on these hats and men, women and children wear them as they are large and light.

Friday, May 13, 1881. Very very warm but I feel well and enjoy it. Have been busy with Lizzie's lace dress and blue under dress which her Grandma sent her, they have not been needed so I've not made them up until now. The girls put down the stair carpet and linen today and the hall looks much better. Ralph and Willie went to the Rink but it was closed early as so few attended.

Saturday, May 14, 1881. Very warm and heavy clouds over in the north west look like hard storms in the vicinity. Ma Mary and I were down street this morning selecting bonnets, I got a straw and trimmed it in pale pink. Was very busy all day getting the children's clothes and my bonnet ready for use. Was over home most of the afternoon. Willie spent the afternoon at the skating rink, his first practise on rollers.

Sunday, May 15, 1881. Quite warm and pleasant tho' very dusty. Was not out in the forenoon thinking that the afternoon would be as much as I could stand well.

We took Lizzie (Elizabeth Virginia) and Mary Frances to be baptized. Rich and Lizzie took William Moore P. and Uncle Enos and his wife had their second daughter, Edith Mildred. There were about four others I think. Maggie's oldest bird died this morning.

Monday, May 16, 1881. Turning cooler but it is bright and quite pleasant. I intended cutting out dresses for Lizzie but decided to make Maggie's and got it out of the way. I got so tired out yesterday that I've not felt at all well today. Jimmie had a long letter from Bart.

Tuesday, May 17, 1881. Too cool for comfort without a fire, we had one all day. I was over home with my work, a white dress for Maggie. I am making it out of two new flonces which Mary gave me. Geo Hosford Came in with Jimmie quite unexpectedly this afternoon to make a short call, he had promised to go to Mrs. Tewksbury's to tea.

Wednesday, May 18, 1881. Cool enough for fire all day. Was busy sewing on Maggie's dotted swiss dress which Mary gave her. Sewed more on the machine than I've done for a long time. Ma was here nearly all the afternoon. Did not get a letter from Mother Ricker so did not write this evening. Finished the dress all but the buttonholes and buttons. The surah silk for my polonaise⁴ came today and is very handsome. Mary Ellen was here.

Thursday, May 19, 1881. Still quite cool, people are putting on winter clothes again. Dry and very dusty. Went down street this morning and paid for my bonnet, did a few errands and came home very tired. Mina went home this afternoon for a few days. Finished off Jennie's square for her Japanese silk quilt.

Friday, May 20, 1881. Lovely day and busy as usual. I cut out three gingham dresses for Lizzie today. Late in the afternoon Susan Lester came in to see me. She is chambermaid on the boat but is off attending court. Ma came in after being over to see Uncle Enos' new parlor carpet, they are furnishing the large parlor very handsomely.

Saturday, May 21, 1881. Pleasant but for the dust which comes in at every crevice and settles upon everything, almost discouraging a housekeeper who would like to keep things clean. I finished off one of Lizzie's three gingham dresses today. Maggie went to see Bertie Spry. Willie went with Henry to clean up Ma's yard and

⁴ *Polonaise*: a woman's garment of the later 1770s and 1780s or a similar revival style of the 1870s inspired by Polish national costume,[1] consisting of a gown with a cutaway, draped and swagged overskirt, worn over an underskirt or petticoat. From the late 19th century, the term polonaise also described a fitted overdress which extended into long panels over the underskirt, but was not necessarily draped or swagged.

get the cows and Amanda took the two next ones to see Sarah so baby and I had a quiet time.

Sunday, May 22, 1881. Warm, dry and dusty. I was not out at all, did not feel well enough to go. Ma was over in the morning and said she was going to church. We had the usual lessons at home and I went to bed early.

Monday, May 23, 1881. Lovely day, rather warmer than it has been lately and very dusty. The pink ginghams afforded employment for me today, I got Mary to do some stitching but did enough to tire myself out.

Tuesday, May 24, 1881. Warm and dry but a pleasant breeze kept stirring all day. Have been busy all day fixing skirts and finishing off the pink gingham dresses. Ma made me a nice long visit both before and after dinner and made button holes in a little dress for me. Mary has been in short clothes again today. She sits alone and her long dresses are all about worn out so she will have to wear short ones. Miss Fanny was here. Set out geraniums.

Wednesday, May 25, 1881. Quite warm and very dry and dusty. Have been busy all day cutting out little dresses and skirts. About 3 o'clk, went over home and with Mary to stitch while I basted, we almost half made three little dresses. Mina was in for a call but went back home again.

Thursday, May 26, 1881. Dry and dusty. I was over home sewing most of the day. In the afternoon I took the three children with me as Amanda was out and there was no one to look after them. Have not felt well but kept busy all the time.

Friday, May 27, 1881. Still warm and more dusty than ever. Have been busy again all day, most of the time being spent over home where Mary could stitch for me. Ma slipped off with my bonnet and had some new flowers put on it which she thinks makes it more becoming.

Saturday, May 28, 1881. Warm as ever and more dusty. This has been no exception to the usual last days of the week which are always busy. The three white dresses are about done except the buttons and holes and two skirts besides. I've been mending socks and stockings nearly all day. Mary Ellen came to invite us to go and see their new parlor carpet and furniture but I was not able to go.

Sunday, May 29, 1881. Warm dry and dusty, with clouds of dust every time anything passes in the street. I was not able to go out today, did not even sit up most of the time. The rest went to church as usual and the folks came here as usual.

Monday, May 30, 1881. Some signs of rain but no dampness as yet. Maggie O'Connor came this morning to sew and Mina came back to look after the children so I hope to feel better soon. She made a short silk skirt out of an old over dress

that with new trimming will look very well. Margaret does not seem at all well, has had a regular siege with her eyes, attends school but does very little work.

Tuesday, May 31, 1881. Clouds pass by us and around us and all signs fall in this very dry time. It is a hopeless task to try and keep clean. Maggie cut out and began making my new polonaise which is of handsome Satin de Lyon instead of Surah silk which we ordered but as it is very handsome and reasonable in price we did not complain. Capt Meredith and Maggie were here today.

Wednesday, June 1, 1881. Very pleasant with indications of rain which were verified in the afternoon by a slow rain beginning to fall and a prospect of much good resulting to vegetation and refreshment for all. The polonaise was almost finished by supper time being made of figured satin de Lyon, it did not need much trimming, deep french lace that I've had for 10 or 15 years being all that I put on. Called on Emma Williams while I was down at the hotel.

Thursday, June 2, 1881. More rain which is much needed and thankfully received. The sewing goes on busily and successfully. I've not had time for much else while it is being done. My black cashmere is undergoing repairs.

Friday, June 3, 1881. It rained again today and in the evening it rained quite hard. It is delightful for sewing being cool enough for a little fire. The girl Mina brought to town came to see whether I would want her to take Amanda's place and I told her to come as I can not get along without somebody.

Saturday, June 4, 1881. Cloudy and cool but no rain. We worked steadily all the forenoon, the silk from Wanamaker's⁵ for my black skirt came and Miss Maggie began on the ruffles. Just after dinner Pa stopped and invited me to go buggy riding with him so I left my work about 2 o'clock and was gone all the afternoon. He drove over on the west side and pointed out all the spots of interest, where he went to school, played, worked, ect when he was young. It was delightful and we both enjoyed the ride. Willie was not well and took medicine this evening. Amanda left.

Sunday, June 5, 1881. Very pleasant but Willie was sick in bed and I did not go out today. Maggie's eyes are very much inflamed and she feels badly.

⁵ *Wanamaker's*: John Wanamaker Department Store was the first department store in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and one of the first department stores in the United States. The Wanamaker's Grand Depot opened in time to service the public visiting Philadelphia for the American Centennial Exposition of 1876, and in fact resembled one of the many pavilions at that world's fair because of its fanciful new Moorish facade. In 1877 the interior of Wanamaker's was refurbished and expanded to include not only men's clothing, but women's clothing and dry goods as well. This was Philadelphia's first modern-day department store, and one of the earliest founded in America. A circular counter was placed at the center of the building, and concentric circles radiated around it with 129 counters of goods. The store also accepted mail orders, though it was not a large business until the early twentieth century.

Monday, June 6, 1881. Rained again today cooling the air and settling the dust more effectually. Minerva who took Amanda's place seems to do nicely and I feel very thankful that she can do so. Miss Maggie was busy all day on the silk skirt but finished it after tea. Willie is not so well again this evening. Mattie Wood was here tonight.

Tuesday, June 7, 1881. Weather pleasant. Willie's white waists occupied our attention this morning and will be followed by suits for Carl, dresses for the little girls and various other things. Mattie Meredith came to see Maggie so I sent for her to come home and visit with her.

Wednesday, June 8, 1881. We worked busily all day on things for the children, Carl's suits being the work for the day. Flo McConnell came to beg a day's work from Maggie and promised to let me have the time back from their week.

Thursday, June 9, 1881. Damp and quite cool. Maggie O'Connor went to make Flo McConnell's dress for the party this evening so I spent the most of the day over home working with Mary on pillow covers for Lizzie Jordan, while I was away, Maggie Peebles called and I regret missing her.

Friday, June 10, 1881. Weather very pleasant. Miss Maggie was back this morning and said that Flo's dress was finished last night just as Dr. Gibson called for her and they went as merrily to the party at Mr. Towell's as though Flo had not worked.

Saturday, June 11, 1881. Very pleasant. Was busy all day with the sewing but after tea Jimmie and I went to see the newly furnished parlor at Uncle Enos', met Aunt Maria and Miss Fanny coming to see us and they made their call here later. Maggie Bell and Lucy Rifenberick called in the evening and later still Aunt Mary Sam and Mary Y. Moore called.

Sunday, June 12, 1881. A lovely day but quite warm in the sun. I went to church with Jimmie and the children this morning and taught the children in the afternoon. Maggie came over and said her verses with Willie, then I read to them.

Monday, June 13, 1881. It sprinkled a little today but was pleasant for all. Maggie's eyes seem very bad yet the doctor thinks she will be better soon. Poor child, she has a trying time and is very patient. Jimmie and I went up to take tea at Lizzie's, Mrs. Neal and Maggie Peebles, Bertha and Lew Miller, Nora Franklin, Mary Moore, John and Sallie, and we made up the company. Aunt Maria was here this morning.

Tuesday, June 14, 1881. Rather cool, we had fire in the sitting room in the morning. I was not at all well today and going down street on an errand did not improve my feelings any. We made trimming and put on the waist of my polonaise and after it was all done worked on Maggie's dress until night.

Wednesday, June 15, 1881. Dry and dusty again. Miss Maggie very kindly came back and stayed until noon to finish off Maggie's percale dress, though her time was out yesterday. In the afternoon I made or helped Mina make a pink dress for Maggie's new doll. Sallie Peebles and Ella Murray were here this morning.

Thursday, June 16, 1881. Very warm during the day but a pleasant breeze in the evening refreshed us. Lizzie was here a few moments this morning and both Ma and Mary came a time or two and I have been making button holes and finishing off garments today. Maggie still feels pretty well but one eyelid seems rather more inflamed.

Friday, June 17, 1881. Pleasant but warm all day and late in the afternoon when Ma and I had planned to go to call on two or three persons, a rain came up and prevented us, so we just sewed on. I was over home. Willie is out of school for his vacation and went up to call on Sallie Peebles before leaving.

Saturday, June 18, 1881. Quite pleasant early in the morning but towards noon it became very warm. Ma and I got ready to make a call or two this morning but she did not feel like it when ready so I went with Lizzie down street where we met Maggie Peebles and I went home with her to see Mrs. Neal of Ironton, Libbie Ferguson and the family, then up to Mrs. Tewksbury's to see them and their new furniture and also Libbie Field. Lizzie's 24 birthday. Bade Sallie Peebles goodbye for the last time.

Sunday, June 19, 1881. Quite pleasant. I went to church this morning and heard Dr. Pratt preach a very good sermon. Willie and Carl were with us but Maggie is not quite well enough to go out in the sun. Uncle Jimmie was here a little while in the evening.

Monday, June 20, 1881. Rained in the evening, Ma came over after supper with an umbrella and my waist which she wanted to fit before leaving so we can finish it while she is gone. Capt Cleveland was buried this afternoon and she and Pa went to the funeral. Mary and I worked on the white sack they are making for me. Lizzie came in and trimmed up my walking hat for me then we went over home together.

Tuesday, June 21, 1881. Delightful day. A party consisting of Ma and Maggie, Lizzie, her two children and nurse left this morning to visit Jennie, there was quite a rushing around until they left and then we were quiet enough. I missed seeing Lizzie as she had gone up to her house before I got over home. They all stayed there last night. Miss Varner is going to be with Mary a few days.

Wednesday, June 22, 1881. Weather very pleasant but dusty. Have been sewing some today, there seems to be something for every moment. I was tired and had some mending to do besides after tea so did not write to Mother Ricker. Miss

Varner is with Mary so I left her to enjoy her company today, this morning I should say, was there all the afternoon and had some delicious ice-cream and cake.

Thursday, June 23, 1881. Very pleasant. I spent nearly all of this day over home with Mary as she was helping me sew on a white dress and pink under dress for the children. Miss Lide Varner who has been visiting Mary left early this morning to go home and get ready for her summer trip to her sister's.

Friday, June 24, 1881. Quite pleasant. Mina and I spent most of the day among the trunks, boxes, closets and so forth, putting away things we will not need and straightening up generally. Ruth's mother came and washed and then took the clothes home to iron. Maggie Silcox and Jeannette called this morning.

Saturday, June 25, 1881. Very pleasant but warm. Mina was ready to leave early but Amanda did not come until late. She told me she thought she would come back in the fall. At dinner time Minerva told me she was going home on the next train so I went after Ruth who promised to come in the evening and stay until time to go and then go to Mo with us which will be a great help to me. Ma and Maggie came home at 2 P.M. and Enos came about 5 P.M. from New York.

Sunday, June 26, 1881. Quite pleasant today. Maggie came home to spend the day with us, being the last day we will all be together for some time. I did not go to church, did not feel able to do so and could not get ready anyway.

Monday, June 27, 1881. Very, very warm. Our preparations go on rather slowly. I made a night shirt for Jimmie this morning and after dinner Ma and I made a tour down street ending with a call at the ice-cream saloon for cream and lemonade. When I went home Miss Fanny went with me and after tea Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury called. I saw the comet in the evening and at midnight while taking another look, found that Maggie had a high fever so I spent the rest of the night with her. Willie went to Jennie's for his summer visit.

Tuesday, June 28, 1881. Excessively hot, one of the hottest days for years. Maggie is sick in bed and we called in the doctor who thinks she will soon be better. She insisted upon my packing the trunks to go tomorrow so I put some of the things in them. Mrs. Prescott, Therza Spry and Dell Ramsey were here, also Miss Fanny Switzer for a few minutes. Carl had a visit from Ralph this morning which he returned in the afternoon. Uncle Jimmie called.

Wednesday, June 29, 1881. Weather very oppressively warm. I was almost unequal to the task of getting ready for the start but having help from all the folks I managed to get ready. Maggie is much better and got up before we left. I felt sorry to leave her but all seemed to think it best and she felt willing as long as she was to be with

Ma. We had a hard wind, hail and rain storm in the afternoon, and were almost suffocated for awhile but it became quite cool in the evening.

Thursday, June 30, 1881. Weather delightful since the rain. We had ample time for preparation and left Cin about 8 A.M. Fairly flew across the country and reached St. Louis by 6 P.M. Dust and cinders were the most disagreeable features of the ride but nothing else marred our comfort. Father Ricker went to the city to meet us but missed our train and we took Mother R. by surprise, coming earlier than she thought.

Friday, July 1, 1881. Quite cool in the morning and evening but very pleasant. Father Ricker was detained in the city by a wrecked freight train on the road so he did not get home until after breakfast. We were joyfully welcomed and find the place most delightful. Uncle Drew and his children were here morning and evening. I had a letter from Lizzie Jordan also one from Willie. Mrs. Black, Mrs. Hawes, Mrs. Bushnell, Mr. and Miss Warner, Uncle Drew, Charlie, Jake, Jennie and Mary were here after tea.

Saturday, July 2, 1881. Weather delightful, not quite so cool as yesterday. Both Carl and Lizzie seem tired out and nearly sick this morning. After a good nap Carl was all right again but Lizzie remained sick all day so I had to give her medicine and take care of her. I've not been anywhere yet, spent all my spare time in writing up my book for two week and letters to Maggie and Willie (2). Garfield was shot today by an assassin in the depot at Washington.

Sunday, July 3, 1881. Rather warmer but very pleasant. I was up and down all night with Lizzie who is still sick so I was not able to go to church in the morning but went in the evening and heard Mr. Warner preach a good sermon founded upon the lesson taught Elijah, that God is not in the wind, nor earthquake nor fire but in the still small voice which speaks to man. After church Jake and Mary Barr, Mary Ricker and Ben Edwards, Jennie Ricker and Harry Mudd came up. News from the President rather hopeful.

Monday, July 4, 1881. Warmer than yesterday. Lizzie is much better this morning but Mary is not very well and I am very tired from being up in the night. Spent the day quietly at home but in the evening Mrs. Phelps invited Carl to join the children's procession and all of us to go over and eat cake and ice cream which we did. Saw two balloons. The President's condition is more favorable.

Tuesday, July 5, 1881. Lizzie was sick last night and not very well this morning, consequently I do not feel well. Had letters from home. Walked up to Uncle Drew's in the evening and got very tired. The girls were out so we did not see them.

Carl spent the afternoon with the boys and was completely tired out when he came home.

Wednesday, July 6, 1881. Very hot. I've not felt very well owing partly to my long walk up to Uncle Drew's last night. Jimmie and Father Ricker went to prayer meeting but neither Mother Ricker nor I felt able so we sat on the veranda and rested. I have had a letter from Jennie and Jimmie had one from Willie. Uncle Drew's girls and Mary Barr were here.

Thursday, July 7, 1881. Very hot again. Jimmie went into the city this morning and returned in the evening. I wrote to Pa and Mary (2). Felt better today. The girls were here in the morning with Mary Barr and she went home at 4 P.M. Uncle Drew, his four oldest children and Mr. Montgomery spent the evening here. Sallie T. Peebles died in Cin this afternoon.

Friday, July 8, 1881. Still hot. While we were sitting under the trees this A.M. Uncle Drew came with a dispatch from Mr. Tewksbury saying Sallie died yesterday in Cin. and will be buried at Portsmouth tomorrow. I little thought when I kissed her good bye less than 3 weeks ago that I'd never see her again. She has been an invalid for years yet the news of her death came like a shock to me. We were married almost the same time, within one week and were friends but her ill health and my numerous home duties have kept us apart much of late years. Poor little Mattie will miss her sadly as they never were separated except for a very few days at a time. Sallie Tewksbury died in Cincinnati today.

Saturday, July 9, 1881. Very hot, a little breeze occasionally but it is hot too. I spent the forenoon finishing off a white sack to wear tomorrow as everything I have is too warm. Wrote to the children and Ma (3) and in the evening Jimmie Carl and I went up to Uncle Drew's. It is rather a long walk for me however and I can not go often.

Sunday, July 10, 1881. Excessively hot today yet I went with Father and Mother Ricker, Jimmie, Carl and Lizzie to church. It was Lizzie's first time and she behaved very well. There was no service then in the evening so I stayed at home but the others went over to Mrs. Phelps' to sing awhile.

Monday, July 11, 1881. Still very hot. Mrs. Singleton called to see me this morning and stayed some time. Her son Will is very low with consumption and she is out here to see him. The family live in the city now. About noon there was a prospect of rain which however passed us by. Mrs. Swan called in the afternoon and after tea we returned Mrs. Hawes' call. Mr. Warner called later and spent the evening.

Tuesday, July 12, 1881. Very warm with some signs of a rain which however passed around and did us good. Ruth ironed today and I helped look after the children. In

the evening Jimmie took Carl and me a short buggy ride and upon our return Mrs. Phelps sent me some cake and ice cream.

Wednesday, July 13, 1881. Very sultry, the heat which has seemed to grow more intense for days past culminated in a wind and rain storm this afternoon. No harm resulted from the wind and the rain was very refreshing. Mother Ricker and I went over to Mrs. Phelps' this morning to return her dishes and make a short call. This is the anniversary of the bombardment of Yazer City. 18 years ago. Had a letter from Pa and one from Mary. Wrote to Ella Murray, or finished the letter begun yesterday also one to Ma (2).

Thursday, July 14, 1881. More pleasant today. Jimmie and I went into the city on the morning train and spent the day in sightseeing, doing some errands and street-car riding. Went out on the big bridge and took a look at the river, boats, ect. Jake Ricker met us and took us to dine with him at the English Kitchen, afterwards went with us to Mermod's and put us on a street car to go to the Fair Grounds. Got shoes for Ruth \$3.00.

Friday, July 15, 1881. Very warm again today. Jas is 40 years old today but looks and feels many years younger. We had an extra dinner in honor of the occasion and Uncle Drew's family were invited down to spend the evening and eat ice cream and cake. Jennie baked a cake and Mary made a basket of candy for a birthday present. Wrote to Mattie Boal and Maggie (2). Also a postal card to Willie.

Saturday, July 16, 1881. Still dreadfully hot and close. I've not felt well and done nothing of any consequence, except write a letter to Ma (1). Late in the day Jas took me out in the buggy. Carl went part of the time then we took the two little girls. Misses Augusta and Josephine Murtfeldt spent the evening with us and we walked home with them when they went. Had letters from home.

Sunday, July 17, 1881. Excessively hot during the forenoon but a rain somewhere near made a great change in the air later in the day. I was not out to church owing to the heat and my feeling badly. Spent the forenoon on the bed. In the evening four of the nearest families met at Mrs. Phelps' and held a kind of praise meeting, opened and closed by reading of psalms and prayer. Mr. Warner was present and walked home with us. Jas stayed with the children.

Monday, July 18, 1881. Much cooler and more pleasant. Had a note from Mary sent in a letter from Maggie to her Papa. Took a very pleasant little drive this evening. Wrote to Pa this morning. Mrs. McDowell came and made a long call this forenoon. Wrote to Lizzie (2).

Tuesday, July 19, 1881. Very, very warm and dry. Father Ricker, Jimmie and Carl went to carondelet this morning and returned via St. Louis in the evening, Jimmie

had a bad headache. I wrote a long letter to sister Mary but it did not get off. An overskirt which she made and sent me, came this evening.

Wednesday, July 20, 1881. The hottest day of the season so far, the thermometer being over 100° in the shade. I have felt very badly all day and after working on my overskirt until I was tired I lay down but did not sleep. Got the overskirt fixed so I can wear it. Went to church in the evening. Mrs. Phelps came to ask us to join an excursion to Creve Crew Lake tomorrow but it is too hot to go anywhere. Mary is 10 mos. old. Wrote to Sister Mary, added a note to the letter written yesterday.

Thursday, July 21, 1881. Therm 101° in shade. One of the hottest days of the season. We were invited to go to Creve Crew Lake with some neighbors but it was too hot to risk the trip so we stayed at home. Wrote to Ma, Willie and Spear & Dehnhoff about a music book. (3) After tea we went to call on Mr. Warner and his daughter Mary. Lizzie lost her gold pin.

Friday, July 22, 1881. Hot and close⁶ early in the morning but a rain in the neighborhood rendered the atmosphere cool and delightful all the rest of the day. Lengthened the sleeves in a white waist in the forenoon and after dinner wrote to Maggie Peebles. (1) We all went up to Uncle Drew's after tea, spent the evening, had some music, ice cream and cake. We had a pleasant time and were brought home in the buggy, Willie came after us with the buggy when we went.

Saturday, July 23, 1881. Still quite warm. We, Jimmie and I went into the city and took Carl to see the animals at the Fair Ground. It is a pretty place and there are a good many animals to see but I got completely tired out and came home sick. No letter from home today.

Sunday, July 24, 1881. Breezy and more pleasant. I was not at all well this morning but dressed in time for church as it was the day for Communion and I wanted to be present. It rained just before supper time and was so dark that we had a lamp. Mr. Warner was here a few minutes.

Monday, July 25, 1881. Clear and quite pleasant if it were not for the dust. Spent all the forenoon fixing a white waist for myself. Had letters from Ma, Mary and Maggie with one enclosed from Lizzie. Strange news came in Mary's viz⁷, that Miss Varner is to be married to Mr. Duduit a "fresh" widower, whose wife has been dead about 9 months. It is very surprizing to those who know Miss Varner. Mrs. Phelps' family

⁶ Close: uncomfortably humid or airless.

⁷ Viz: used, especially in written English, when you want to give more detail or be more exact about something you have just written: i.e. "We both shared the same ambition, viz., to make a lot of money and to retire at 40."

and some others are going to Creve Crew Lake to camp for several days, they asked us to go and spend a day with them. Wrote to sister Mary. (1) Paid Ruth \$1.00

Tuesday, July 26, 1881. Very pleasant. Jimmie went to the city to get some medicine for me. Mr. Warner was up to say good bye as he and Mary leave this evening for the East on a visit. Wrote to Amanda and Maggie. (2) Mrs. Halsey, Mrs. Kimble, Mrs. Worthing and Mrs. Withington called. We called at Mrs. Swan's after tea.

Wednesday, July 27, 1881. Delightfully cool and pleasant. Had a note from Ma and letter from Willie, answered both. (2) The folks are getting ready for the picnic tomorrow. Went to church with Father Ricker.

Thursday, July 28, 1881. Beautiful day. We were up early and went on the cars at 7:30 A.M. to Creve Crew Lake to spend the day with Mrs. Phelps and friends camping there. A good many others had chosen the same day for their visit so there was quite a picnic. Six of Uncle Drew's children and six of us went, the folks were comfortably fixed and did all they could for our entertainment. We had a real pleasant time and came home at 7:30 P.M. all well and found baby all right. Went to bed early. Gave Ruth .50 cts.

Friday, July 29, 1881. Very pleasant. This is sister Jennie's Ira Ricker's and Lizzie's birthday. Had letter from Mary with one enclosed from Lizzie. Wrote to Mary, Jennie and a Postal to Spear and Dehnhoff. (2) We all took dinner at Uncle Drew's in honor of Ira's and Lizzie's birthday. He is fourteen and she three years old. It is also sister Jennie's birthday. Mrs. Judd called after I went to Uncle Drew's.

Saturday, July 30, 1881. Warm and dry. No letters today. Jas went to the city this forenoon, returning at 4 P.M. Mr. Wm Dennis was here to tea and spent the evening. Chas and Jennie Ricker came down after tea. I finished off the trimming I was making and commenced a set of table mats for Mother Ricker.

Sunday, July 31, 1881. Hot, dry and dusty. We went to church this morning and heard Mr. Booth preach. He preached a very good sermon but is not so interesting as Mr. Warner. No service any where in the evening.

Monday, August 1, 1881. Still hot and dry. Had a letter from Ma which I answered (1). After tea Jas and I walked up to Uncle Drew's and spent the evening.

Tuesday, August 2, 1881. Still very warm. I am feeling quite well notwithstanding and this morning weighed 111#. Jas had a letter from my father which I answered (1). He says Bertha Overturf died last week and that Mr. Towell's carriage run away

with and several persons thrown out, little Jno Peebles among them. I hope he is not seriously hurt.

Wednesday, August 3, 1881. Hot. Thermometer stood at 102° in the shade this afternoon. Much to our regret, Jimmie took his leave of us this afternoon at 4 P.M. I felt doleful enough to see him go without me. Mrs. Phelps was here in the evening after tea. The folks went to church and I stayed with the children.

Thursday, August 4, 1881. Still hot. Nothing worthy of note transpired. I spent most of the afternoon writing fifteen pages in letters to the home folks. Wrote three (3) one to Ma, one to Jimmie and one to Maggie. The girls were here to say goodbye, they leave in the morning for Indiana to visit Mary Barr.

Friday, August 5, 1881. Hotter than ever. Had letters from Maggie and Mace. Answered the latter (1). This is Lucy Moore's birthday. Went to Mr. Swan's after tea to attend a meeting of the church but there were not enough present for business so we had a social visit. ~~Wrote to Jimmie (1).~~

Saturday, August 6, 1881. Still hot, dry, dusty and sultry. A letter from Jennie was all the mail brought me today. This is Maggie's 10th birthday, wish I could see her. Wrote to Jennie and a card to Jimmie (1). The little Swan girls spent the afternoon and took tea here. Mrs. Swan came over a little while after tea. Cooler this evening.

Sunday, August 7, 1881. The cool night refreshed us a great deal and I felt better this morning. We went to church and finding that Rev. Mullins who was to preach was sick, we went to the Episcopal church and heard Mr. Sheets. It seems lonely without Jas. It is one month today since Sallie Peebles died, how swiftly time passes. I can not yet realize that she is gone forever.

Monday, August 8, 1881. Last night was cool and pleasant and today is hot again. Had two letters from Jimmie and answered them (1). In the evening we went up to see Mrs. McDowell, her daughters were not there. Uncle Drew and his children and the little Swans were here in the afternoon.

Tuesday, August 9, 1881. Hottest day of the season so far. Ther 110° in the shade. Had nice long letters from Jimmie, Ma and Maggie. Answered the first two (2). Went to Mrs. Swan's in the evening, there was a meeting of church people to talk over fixing the church while Mr. Warner is away.

Wednesday, August 10, 1881. Hot and dry. I never saw such a time, it is all we can do to keep up. Had a card from Jimmie. Wrote letters to him and Maggie (2). (This is the 34th Anniversary of my father's and mother's marriage. August 11th.)

Baby Mary is not at all well has a bad cold with cough and is hoarse. This is Uncle Drew's birthday.

Thursday, August 11, 1881. Hot as an oven, atmosphere very oppressive. Card from Jimmie which I answered with a letter (1). A little clouding over looks as though we might have rain. Thermometer stays near the 100 mark or over it most of the time. Baby has a cold and coughs some. Father's and Mother's 34 Anniversary.

Friday, August 12, 1881. The indications for rain were verified this evening and we were blessed with a delightful shower. There was some thunder and lightning, the latter struck the Atlantic mills and burned them and several other houses. Grandpa and Grandma went to the church social at Mrs. Phelps. Baby is not well and I did not go.

Saturday, August 13, 1881. Awoke this morning to find it delightfully cool so I dressed to go to the city for some things I wanted. Went at 10 o'clock and found Uncle Drew going too, so had him for company. He invited me to dine with him at Skinner's and the rest of the time I went alone. Got a sliding pencil for Willie and a lamp for Grandpa. Stockings for Maggie, a pocket book for somebody and looked for pictures for Mary but found none. Gave Ruth \$1.50.

Sunday, August 14, 1881. Still quite pleasant. No service for the Presbyterian Church so we went to hear Mr. Berryman the M. E. Minister. Am feeling very well and baby is better of her cold.

Monday, August 15, 1881. Still pleasant. Baby is still better and I feel very well. Four of Uncle Drew's children and three of Mrs. Swan's were here this forenoon making it very lively for us. Had a letter from Ma and wrote one to Jimmie (1). In the afternoon we called at Mr. Murtfeldt's came home and found a box from home containing a lovely new dress ready to put on, a fine pair of shoes, a silk overskirt and three letters. Oh, but I was happy! I just have the dearest friends at home that ever was. The lamp I bought came also.

Tuesday, August 16, 1881. Weather still pleasant but growing warm again. Had three letters last night in the box and answered Ma's and Jimmie's (2). In the evening Mother Ricker and I went to Mrs. Mitchell's to return her call and also Mrs. McGerke, her mother's call. Came home and had some watermelon and then went to bed.

Wednesday, August 17, 1881. Getting quite warm again. Had a letter from Ma saying I had better go home as the weather is so hot. Answered her's also one from Jimmie and Maggie (3), then wrote postal cards to Maggie Mason and Willie. In the evening, we returned Mrs. Judd's call and stopped at Uncle Drew's awhile. The President is much worse again and all the doctors except one have given up all hope of his recovering, so say the papers. It seems sad and hard to understand. Ruth went to the city and I gave her \$3.00.

Thursday, August 18, 1881. Hot and sultry this morning and before 9 o'clock, we had a nice hard rain, some sharp thunder and lightening which seemed to strike some where near us. Letter from Jas. which I answered (1). Did not go anywhere today.

Friday, August 19, 1881. Delightful day. Had no letter from anyone today but wrote as usual to Jimmie in the afternoon (1). After that Mother R. and I went to return calls at Mrs. Kimball's, Mrs. Singleton's, and Mrs. Black's. It was a long walk but I felt well, enjoyed it and was not much tired when I came back. Was over to see Mrs. Swan this morning and learned to do one or two kinds of fancy work.

Saturday, August 20, 1881. Another lovely cool day which I enjoy. The girls were here this morning. I had three, no four letters and a card today. Wrote to Jimmie and Lizzie (2). Grandpa has gone to the city. Bought a pair of shoes for Lizzie.

Sunday, August 21, 1881. Weather still pleasant but warmer. No service anywhere this morning except at the Episcopal church so we stayed at home and the day proved very long. I am feeling very well.

Monday, August 22, 1881. Still pleasant, though quite warm in the middle of the day. I put the baby to sleep and then went up to Mr. Murtfeldt's for a little while then down to the R. R. office and P. O. for the mail. Had letters from Ma, Mace, two from Jimmie and a postal card from Fox, photographer. Willie is 8 years old today, wish I could see him. Wrote Mary and Jimmie (2) also card to Fox.

Tuesday, August 23, 1881. Very pleasant except in the sun. Nights are cool and refreshing. Had letter from Jimmie and Maggie. Wrote to him and Ma, long letters (2). Charly, Mary, Jake and Jennie were here after supper and we had a nice water melon. We were all weighed today with the following result. I weigh 114#. Carl—38. Lizzie—27. Mary—22#.

Wednesday, August 24, 1881. Quite warm again. Ruth was sick today and I had rather more to do than usual so was some what tired. Had a blue letter today from

Jimmie which did not make me feel any better. Wrote to him, Jennie and Amanda Colgrove (8). Mary Ricker was here. Saw the new comet this evening. The prospect seems gloomy for the President, he is very low. Saw the new comet.

Thursday, August 25, 1881. Still warm, Ther going up to 100° again, over that in some places. Had not one letter from home but a card from Fox and catalogue from Wannamaker. Wrote to Jimmie and Maggie (2). Was at home all day and crocheted on the mats which I am trying to finish.

Friday, August 26, 1881. Very warm but the nights are cool and pleasant. Had a long, blue letter from Jimmie, wrote to him and Ma (2). We are all very well but I am in great perplexity about going home. President seems growing worse daily⁸.

Saturday, August 27, 1881. Still hot and dry and dusty. 4 letters from home and one from Maggie Mason. I answered hers, Jimmie's and Ma's but did not send the latter (3). They want me to come any way, regardless of weather or consequences. I fear to undertake it but must, of course.

Sunday, August 28, 1881. Exceedingly hot and dusty. We, Grandma and I went to the Episcopal church again today and heard a very good sermon but were quite tired out with the long service. Jennie, Mary and Jake were here this evening.

Monday, August 29, 1881. Hot in the morning but a strong wind sprang up and after blowing several hours, we had a little shower. No letters for me today but I wrote to Mary and Jimmie (2). I finished off the fifth table mat for Grandma and had Ruth do them up. No the last one wasn't quite done either.

Tuesday, August 30, 1881. Cool and pleasant in the morning but it grew warmer during the day, then rained a little and when I had written to Ma, Jimmie and Maggie (3), I took the letters to the office and then called at Uncle Drew's. Finished the last mat and handed it over to Ruth.

Wednesday, August 31, 1881. Weather much pleasanter than a week ago. This is Lizzie's anniversary. Married five years. It rained again a little today but under the trees the grass is not wet. Jennie was here in the morning and Mary in the evening. Wrote to Jimmie (1).

Thursday, September 1, 1881. Delightful morning. Mother R. and I went to see Miss Sneed's new house, then to the P.O. had letters from Jimmie which I answered (1). Mr. Warner came home and dined with us. In the afternoon Mrs.

⁸ President James A. Garfield, shot by an assassin in July 1881; the President passed away in September 1881.

Swan, Mrs. Hawes and our folks went with Mr. Warner to see the church. He was here to tea afterwards.

Friday, September 2, 1881. Cool, cloudy and delightful. Aunt Betsey came from the East this morning. I had letters from Ma and Jimmie which I answered (2). Jennie and Mary, Mary and Bessie Barr came down, also Willie and we played croquet until supper time. After tea we went to see Aunt Betsey. The girls were there, of course and Mr. Warner called so there was quite a gathering.

Saturday, September 3, 1881. Cool in the morning but warm in the middle of the day. The girls and boys were here this morning to play awhile. I had a letter from Jimmie which I answered (1). After dinner Aunt Betsey came and spent the afternoon and took tea with us. After that, we walked home with her, it was my last call at their house. Jake had Jennie and Mary and Mary and Bessie Barr out riding.

Sunday, September 4, 1881. Quite warm again today, we all went to church morning and evening and heard Mr. Warner preach two excellent sermons. The first since his return and the renovating of the church. The sun was scorching hot at noon, almost blistering our faces. After evening service Charley, Jake, Jennie and Mary Ricker Mary and Bessie Barr and Frank Lute came to say goodbye.

Monday, September 5, 1881. Still dry and hot. Was busy all day with preparations for the start at 4 o'clock. Grandma prepared a nice lunch for us and Grandpa went to the city with us and gave me \$10.00 as a parting gift. Uncle Drew got my tickets in the city and most of his family were at the depot to see us start. I felt sorry to leave them for they will be very lonely. We, Ruth, the children and I had a whole section in the sleeper and were very comfortably fixed.

Tuesday, September 6, 1881. Reached Cin about 7.30 AM and after going with the children to the Plum St. Depot, Carl and I went up 3rd to Voorheis Miller and Rupel's store, the latter gentleman went with me to see about getting the rebate (\$19.00) on my tickets. I then went alone to do some shopping, after getting my money and tickets walked to depot and left Cin at 9.08 A.M. Had a hard trip home but found everything lovely and a delightful lunch ready for us. Willie came at late bedtime.

Wednesday, September 7, 1881. Warm and dry. Our lovely clean house was all in a turmoil this morning with things strewn from one end to the other. Jennie, Lizzie, Mary, Ma, Uncle Enos and Aunt Mary were here. In the forenoon Fannie and

Mary came and later Miss Fannie was here. I did not get to unpack at all. After dinner we all had to go to the hotel.

Thursday, September 8, 1881. Warm and dry. My 33rd birthday. The new carpet in my room is a present from Maggie and Ma gave me a handsome velvet rug. Jimmie has had new springs and beds on the bedstead and had everything done that he could for my comfort. Mary and I went down street this afternoon and then called at Lizzie's before coming home.

Friday, September 9, 1881. Warm. Was busy all day putting drawers, closets, trunks, boxes ect. in order. I was very tired when it was all done but thankful to be through with it. Jennie is staying up at Mr. Greene's as he is sick and begged for her and the children to make them a visit first. Bart came with her but went back Wednesday.

Saturday, September 10, 1881. Still warm and dry. The little folks had a picnic in the yard this afternoon, Jennie came with her children so I had a nice visit with her and she stayed to tea with us. Mollie York and Flo McConnell called just before tea time.

Sunday, September 11, 1881. Still dry though it seems a little like rain. I went to church this morning with Jas and the children but neither of us went at night as Ruth went out and it had turned a little cooler so I had some trouble getting the children settled and covered up.

Monday, September 12, 1881. Cooler and more pleasant but no rain yet to settle the dust. Mrs. Coyle came and washed but Ruth will iron. I was out most of the afternoon attending to errands. Am looking for help as Ruth only promises to stay until I can do better. She prefers living at home of course.

Tuesday, September 13, 1881. Warmer again. Am busy all the time but do not accomplish much, there are so many steps to be taken for the children. I am trying to get ready for Maggie O'Connor next week. she is at Lizzie's now. Had some delicious peach ice-cream over home. Uncle Sam and Aunt Mary called this evening. After I was ready for bed Ma and Mary brought us more ice-cream.

Wednesday, September 14, 1881. No rain yet, only a few drops in sprinkles which do not wet the walks even. Jennie and her children came to make us a visit this afternoon but Ma told her that she must go home and stay awhile first so she went at tea time, we have hard work to get much of a visit from her.

Thursday, September 15, 1881. It did not rain last night after all, but looks as though it would before morning. This is Ma's and sister Mary's birthday. Jennie gave Ma some of Grandma Smith's hair which she has worked up into a book mark mounted with gold at each end. A very precious present to Ma as well as a great surprise. Grandma died nearly ten years ago and Jennie got the hair then. Letter from Mother Ricker. Mr. E. B. Greene, sister Jennie's father-in-law died this morning about 4 o'clock. it was sudden and unexpected and a shock to all of us. A good man has fallen is the universal verdict. He was truly good and will be greatly missed. Jennie went up to their house immediately upon hearing the news and will remain there during the rest of her stay.

Friday, September 16, 1881. Rained hard in the forenoon and was cloudy all day with light rain in the afternoon. Mr. Greene was buried this afternoon, services being held at the house. Jimmie and I went in the carriage which Uncle Enos provided. He being one of the pall-bearers, Jimmie drove for us. Mrs. Greene has our deep sympathy, she has been sorely afflicted repeatedly but this last loss is greater than all the others. Her mother, sister, daughter and husband have all died in the house which is left to her alone now as her sons are all settled elsewhere.

Saturday, September 17, 1881. Damp and cloudy. Ma and I went to see after girls this forenoon. Amanda was in but did not promise to come and stay. I put up the peaches from one of our trees, they are very nice. Paid Ruth \$2.50. Wrote to Mrs. Swan. Got photo of her children for Mary.

Sunday, September 18, 1881. Cloudy. Jas has an ulcerated tooth and could not go out today so Maggie and Willie went to S.S. and he and I went alone to church in the forenoon. The news from our President was very discouraging yesterday, but a little better again this morning.

Monday, September 19, 1881. Very pleasant, cool morning but bright, sunny day. Miss O'Connor came to help sew a few days. There is no one to help Ruth and I'll not get to do much sewing. Was down street twice, heard discouraging news from the President. Mrs. Draper called to see me. Paid Ruth .50 cts. Later President Jas. A. Garfield, died a few minutes before 11 P.M. after more than 79 days of suffering having been shot on the morning of July 2nd by a man named Giteau, in the depot at Washington. Our nation mourns.

Tuesday, September 20, 1881. We were startled soon after midnight by the tolling of the fire alarm, followed by the smaller bells, which told us plainly that the struggle was at last over and our loved and honored President had passed from earth. He

has suffered untold agonies and been a patient christian through it all. It is well with him now but millions of people mourn and sympathize with his devoted wife, mother and children. It is hard to realize the truth. May God over rule all things for His Glory and our good as a people, and sustain those bereft of their dear husband, son and father. Mary is one year old today.

Wednesday, September 21, 1881. Weather very pleasant. Sewed a little. Was down street to get a few things. Amanda was here to see about coming to live with us again but has not fully decided yet what she will do. Wrote the usual letter to Mother Ricker in the evening.

Thursday, September 22, 1881. Very warm in the sun again. I went down street and got flannel for the little girls' underwear. Amanda decided tonight to go to Mrs. McFarland's where there are no children. I'm sorry to lose so good a girl but would not want her to stay unless she was satisfied.

Friday, September 23, 1881. The Bonanza went down today the first trip in weeks, that she has made. The remains of the President having lain in state two days in Washington and been viewed by thousands of people, are today removed to Cleveland where the funeral takes place next Monday.

Saturday, September 24, 1881. Quite warm. Aunt Mary sent a small girl to me today to help with the children and I took her on trial. Have been busy of course. The sewing has progressed favorably considering that I can do so little to help Miss Maggie. Jennie will want her next week and I'll have her stay here and work with her when I can.

Sunday, September 25, 1881. Weather lovely. We all went to church this forenoon and heard Dr. Pratt preach a good discourse from the Text, "Know ye that a prince in Israel and a good man hath fallen this day." It was a memorial service such as was held in the churches all over this land and in many others in honor of our dead President. The churches and in fact most buildings are draped in deep mourning.

Monday, September 26, 1881. This being the day for the funeral, is set apart by the President as a day of humiliation and prayer, business of every kind being suspended from 10 AM to 5 PM and service in all the churches. We attended at our church which was well filled.

Tuesday, September 27, 1881. Miss Maggie came again today and began on Jennie's work. She was down a few minutes to set things going. I've not done much

as there has been company in much of the time. Ma, Mary, Jennie and Lizzie all being here at one time or another.

Wednesday, September 28, 1881. A delightful rainy day and I made the most of it for Jennie by helping Ma's Maggie all day. Went to prayer meeting with Ma in the evening and then wrote to Mother Ricker.

Thursday, September 29, 1881. A delightful day which Ma and I improved by going out in the afternoon. We went to see Ella Murray but she was not able to see us so after talking awhile with Mrs. Tewksbury and Julia, we walked on up to Mrs. Greene's, saw her and Jennie a few moments only as company came and they were called to the parlor. Mrs. Johnson was sick so we did not stop there and Lizzie was not at home when we reached her house.

Friday, September 30, 1881. Rained a little, if my memory serves me right. Jennie has been here seeing after her work which progresses favorably. Miss Maggie is working on suits for the little folks, having made two dresses for Jennie, a black and white calico, and gingham. Ruth tells me she must leave next week as the river has opened and her mother is boating again.

Saturday, October 1, 1881. A lovely fall day which I have enjoyed notwithstanding I have very little time to notice the weather or anything aside from my work. Went to see Flo McConnell about taking Maggie O'Connor next week and while there saw the train arrive with the remains of Mrs. Glidden, (Eliza) who I did not know was dead until told there. Mr. McConnell also told me that he had sold his share of the Brick works to the Greene brothers, Dwight being the head of the new firm. Mrs. Peebles called. Went to lecture.

Sunday, October 2, 1881. Very pleasant day. Willie was not well so I did not leave him to go to church in the morning but went to Communion in the afternoon with Jimmie. There was no service in the evening.

Monday, October 3, 1881. Rainy day, at least it was so all forenoon. Ruth consented to stay and wash and Miss Maggie stayed today to make up for last Monday when she did not work. After this evening they will be gone and we will miss their services and company. This is Will and Ella Bonsall's 10th Anniversary. Jennie was here a few minutes, she never has long to stay.

Tuesday, October 4, 1881. Pleasant again, no rain but not very bright either. The little girl and I have things all to ourselves now and find plenty to do. Had a nice

letter from Jennie Ricker, have also had one from Mrs. Swan lately but no time to answer either.

Wednesday, October 5, 1881. We are being favored with lovely weather which is a great advantage when I have most of the work to do. The little girl is a very good help but no great dependence of course. I wrote a short letter to Mother Ricker this evening, though feeling little like it. Jennie Lizzie and I made our usual trip to the hotel today for treatment after which I went up to see Mattie Wood at Mr. Peebles'. She was not there but I saw Mrs. Hamilton.

Thursday, October 6, 1881. Was busy today getting things in some kind of order in anticipation of Mattie's visit, she spent most of the afternoon and evening with us, being here to tea. We had a real pleasant time, the children being particularly pleased as she always takes special pains to entertain them.

Friday, October 7, 1881. Lovely day. Ma and Mrs. Phoebe Johnson went out this afternoon to solicit contributions for the Reading Room suppers and after they had finished that they went down in the country after a girl for me, she came back with them and seems as though she might do very well, at all events I was very glad and thankful for her. Mary Ellen and Ralph were here twice on an errand.

Saturday, October 8, 1881. This is my father's 66 birthday so Mary says, I think. Have been hard at work all day getting things in place and showing the new girl how and what to do. Just about dark Emma's brother-in-law came after her saying her father was very low, not likely to get well so she went home for a few days.

Sunday, October 9, 1881. Damp and cloudy with some rain in the forenoon but we managed to miss the showers going to church and returning. As Rachel did not care to go out I went both morning and evening, a rare thing for me to do.

Monday, October 10, 1881. Very pleasant. Rachel washed and I worked hard all day, it was an unusually hard day on me and at night I was quite worn out. Jennie was over home to tea and I went over to see her for a little while then had to come home and get supper for our own family.

Tuesday, October 11, 1881. Was not well but arose and saw to getting breakfast, shivered around until after dinner and then lay down on the bed. Grew worse and worse, sent for the doctor and was quite sick by evening. Lizzie was here most of the afternoon. Had come with her work. Jennie was out to the gate in the buggy but couldn't come in. Emma came back this morning, her father died Saturday.

Wednesday, October 12, 1881. Quite sick all day and Carl keeps me company though he is in another bed. Ma spends much of the time with me and makes things go right about the house despite the new and rather inefficient helps. Dr. Pratt called but I could not see him.

Thursday, October 13, 1881. Still in bed but am some better, Carl is still in bed too but is very good and seems to have no wants. Ma spent this afternoon, taking dinner and tea with Jennie who goes home tomorrow, they were here three times and then Ma went to stay all night with her. Mrs. Greene left Tuesday for N.Y. with Mr. Towell. Jennie has been waiting for Mrs. Proctor to come and keep house for Mrs. Greene but so far she has not arrived.

Friday, October 14, 1881. Still in bed and getting on very slowly, Ma came down early after having seen Jennie and the children start with Dwight for the furnace. Mrs. Gaylord and Hattie were here yesterday to see me and Mrs. Prescott came today and made a long call. She always comes when I'm sick.

Saturday, October 15, 1881. Still in bed and not feeling able to sit up. The folks are very kind about coming in often and do all they can which is a great deal.

Sunday, October 16, 1881. Spent this whole day in bed. Carl has so far improved that he went to Sabbath school but did not care to go to church as he was hungry and wanted to eat something. I taught the lessons as usual. The "Tennesseans" colored singers sang in our church this morning to the delight of all who heard them.

Monday, October 17, 1881. Got up about 9 o'clock and began moving around a little. Find I've lost a good deal in weight and strength. The folks were here as usual. They are now expecting to entertain some of the delegates to the Baptist Convention this week. Maggie Peebles called to see me and invite Maggie to dine with Mattie tomorrow. M and W went to the concert.

Tuesday, October 18, 1881. Rather cool. Maggie attended Mattie's birthday dinner in company with Isabel and Linn, John Peebles, and Emma and Julia Ramsey. After school she went back and stayed until after tea, coming home about dark. Wrote to Jennie Ricker at Vassar.

Wednesday, October 19, 1881. Weather very pleasant. Have been up and about all day. Wrote to Mother Ricker in the evening and then hurried to bed quite tired. Lizzie was here with John this afternoon and made me a nice visit. She is expecting a visit from Ella Wright soon. Baptist Con is in session and our folks have some delegates and are attending the meetings, most of them.

Thursday, October 20, 1881. Weather delightful. I sauntered out to do some errands and call at Lizzie's this afternoon but missed her of course. Came home very tired but had to see after the supper. The girl does not seem capable of getting a meal on the table alone. Mrs. Pratt called here this forenoon to see me. Mary is 13 months old.

Friday, October 21, 1881. Lovely day and I've been busy all the time going as far as I possibly could to have things right for the family. Have had no visitors today except Carrie Jones and her baby. Have written up for three weeks and a day and am tired.

Saturday, October 22, 1881. Lovely day. The kitchen girl wanted to go home today after her winter clothes so I told her it was useless for her to come back as she could'nt do the work. Mrs. McFarland came in just before she left and will stay a few days until I can find somebody else. I am feeling pretty well again and made pies for Sunday. Maggie Mason called to see me.

Sunday, October 23, 1881. Very pleasant in the morning but it rained hard late in the day. We went to church as usual, no I'm mistaken, Dr. Pratt was away and we did not go to church, no one except Maggie and Willie who went with Uncle Jimmie to the Baptist Church and he came to dinner with them. Mrs. Jos Peebles died in Cin. O.

Monday, October 24, 1881. Clear again. Mrs. Mc— washed part of the clothes and gets along very well with the work. Emma was out awhile this morning to see her Grandfather. Ma and I went this afternoon to see Lizzie, and Ella Wright who is visiting her, after a short stay Ma went up 2nd street and I came home. Rich, John and Maggie Peebles went to Mrs. Jos Peebles' funeral.

Tuesday, October 25, 1881. Weather pleasant and things going on as usual. I have been busy making and mending stockings which is an endless task and when a day's work is done it does not look like much.

Wednesday, October 26, 1881. Weather just delightful. Lizzie brought me a new girl to try so I placed her under Mrs. Mc's instructions and left, not wishing to get sick again as I did teaching the last one. Ma and I went calling after dinner and called upon Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Pond, Mrs. Emma Williams, Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. Geo Johnson and Emma Jennings, just home from Col. Mrs. Jones and Maggie Mason, Mrs. Prescott, Mrs. White, Mrs. Chas Nichols, Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Towne.

Thursday, October 27, 1881. Weather still charming so we went out again after dinner to enjoy it and make some more calls. Mrs. Mc and the new girl are doing finely so I feel quite easy. We called upon Clara Pursell, Julia Young, Mrs. Kline, Aunt Mary Moore, Ella Overturf, Ella Bonsall, and I went alone to Lettie Kinney's and Mary Murphy's.

Friday, October 28, 1881. Rainy, dark and dismal all day. Jas went to Granna today on the boat to see Maj Boyd. The apples and cider for butter came today so we worked at it until 9 o'clock in the evening and had the satisfaction of seeing about 4 ½ gals sealed up in jars.

Saturday, October 29, 1881. Pleasant again. The apple butter was finished by noon today and then I left Mrs. Mc to put it away. Baby and I went over home to dinner after which Ma and I made another calling tour. Went first to Mrs. Tewksbury's gate and talked awhile with her then called upon Mrs. Tracy, Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Beyerley, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Greene, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Dr. Fulton with her two daughters-in-law, Mrs. Joe Fulton being the bride. Also called upon Mrs. Ewing who was away. Lizzie and I took tea over home. Mrs. Mc went home. Began taking milk, 2 qts daily from Ma.

Sunday, October 30, 1881. Rainy again. Jas did not get home until nearly noon so Carl, Lizzie and I went to church together, leaving the others home. It rained hard at night and none of us went out.

Monday, October 31, 1881. Rainy and gloomy all day. Went over home a few minutes in the morning then came back and ripped up Maggie's school-dress which I afterwards washed and Ironed, preparatory to making over. Emma Voorheis and Katie made me a nice call notwithstanding the weather. Carl is not well.

Tuesday, November 1, 1881. Bright and pleasant again. Carl was quite sick all night so I was up several times to give him medicine, and have stayed with him all day, at the same time have been busy with Maggie's dress which has progressed very well. Lizzie and Ella Wright called in the afternoon.

Wednesday, November 2, 1881. A lovely, warm, spring-like day which I enjoyed greatly and spent mostly out of doors. Lizzie and I went to the hotel early in the morning and after dinner Ma and I went up to see Ella Wright and Lizzie who went down on the boat later in the day. We also made calls at Mrs. Draper's, Mrs. Cotton's, Mrs. Helfenstein's and Mrs. Spry's. I came home and began taking cold, consequently could not go out again.

Thursday, November 3, 1881. Rather dark and gloomy, with some rain. This is our 11th Anniversary and we were asked to spend the evening at Mr. and Mrs. White's, it being their 20th Anniv. I had to go to bed sick at dark but Mrs. White kindly sent me a plate full of supper and some ice cream by Ma when she came home.

Friday, November 4, 1881. Pleasant again but I am not well enough to go out of the house, having quite a severe cold. Mrs. White sent me more ice-cream today, I appreciate her kindness very much, I have never yet met her and feel doubly indebted to her. She was out the only time I ever called. Lizzie came home this morning and was here twice. Finished off Maggie's school dress which I have been making over.

Saturday, November 5, 1881. My cold is some better owing to vigorous treatment and I have been busy all day, have swept, put drawers in order and so on. Jas sent by Mary to Phila and got me two beautiful suits of red flannel under wear which I need and appreciate. They also ordered a nice gossamer which is very acceptable. Got shoes for Emma \$1.35

Sunday, November 6, 1881. Delightful weather still and we are thankful while we enjoy it. We went to church in the morning and at night I stayed with the little ones while Maggie and her Papa went.

Monday, November 7, 1881. A steady rain all day which at times was quite hard. Ma went to Cin on the boat and had planned to have me go with her but the weather was too damp. I wrapped myself in my gossamer and went over to see her before she left. Was sorry to miss the trip with her but did not feel that I ought to go and leave the children. Mary has a cough and Carl is not at all well.

Tuesday, November 8, 1881. Another delightful day, the morning was rather cloudy but when the sun was well up it cleared away the clouds. I'm glad Ma has such a pleasant day in the city. Mary and I went up to Lizzie's in the forenoon and she and the children came down after dinner. I finished up several pieces of sewing off the shelf in the closet. Wrote to Mrs. Swan in the evening.

Wednesday, November 9, 1881. Cloudy with some rain again. Ma got home with her range which is nice and suits her exactly. I have been over there twice today and the last time she and I went to call upon Mrs. White who was not in. Wrote to Mother Ricker. Paid Lottie \$4.00 two weeks' wages.

Thursday, November 10, 1881. More pleasant again. Was over home in the morning and then came back and busied myself here, the shelf of things to be

mended does not seem to get cleared off very fast. The new range which is being put up over home is making a good deal of work and takes longer than we thought it would. Mrs. White called to see me.

Friday, November 11, 1881. Very pleasant, too pleasant to last long. I sewed a good deal though as there is some work for Carl which he needs. I was going up to see Mrs. White's presents but she was out again so I did not get there.

Saturday, November 12, 1881. A steady rain fell all the forenoon. Emma had expected to go out home but the weather presented. She is paid up to date I gave her \$1.15 cts today. all that I owed her. Ma, Mary and Lizzie were here this afternoon. I was busy with sewing and did not go out any where after dinner.

Sunday, November 13, 1881. A very pleasant day. Jimmie and the children went to S.S. as usual after which we went to church, all of us except Carl who is not yet well enough to go. He does not improve very fast. A new calf in the stable raised a great commotion among the children.

Monday, November 14, 1881. Pleasant and bright but rather cool. Ma and I were out awhile, not it was Carl who went with me to see Maggie, Mary Peebles and afterwards to Mr. Tewksbury's to see Jennie and ask about Ella Murray. Got a new silver thimble.

Tuesday, November 15, 1881. Frosty and cold in the morning. Ma and I went to the shop and were weighed this morning, I weight 111 $\frac{3}{4}$. In the evening Jimmie and I went to Lizzie's to tea, Lou Miller and his wife, Chas Nichols and wife Nora Franklin, John Peebles, Mrs. Burton and ourselves being all the guests present except May who helped Lizzie. Cousins Duvall and Niel Young called to see us today.

Wednesday, November 16, 1881. More pleasant, I have been at home all day however except a few minutes in the morning spent over home. Fixed Maggie's school cloak, had calls from Mrs. Geo Newman and Mrs. S. B. Jennings in the afternoon. Wrote to Mother Ricker.

Thursday, November 17, 1881. Weather exceptionally pleasant for the season. I was over home in the morning as usual and then came back to busy myself with the numerous trifles which take up so much time and leave so little to show for my trouble.

Friday, November 18, 1881. Not very bright but quite warm and pleasant for the season. After dinner I began a letter to Jennie but Lizzie and John came to stay awhile so I laid it aside and having a slight headache in the evening, did not get it finished as I had hoped.

Saturday, November 19, 1881. Rained hard all forenoon and was dismal all day. Emma wanted to go home but was disappointed again. I did not feel well and retired as soon as the little folks were settled. No, I finished the letter to Jennie first.

Sunday, November 20, 1881. Cold and frosty. Jas and the two older children went to S.S. but Carl was not well enough to go. We went to church as usual, learned lessons in the afternoon and Uncle Jimmie came to see the children.

Monday, November 21, 1881. Gloomy and dismal all day. In the forenoon Lizzie and I went over home and agreed to go this afternoon to call upon Mrs. Sallie Davis Gates and some others, if the weather permitted, but it rained, sleeted a little a snowed a little so I put away summer clothes and sorted over things generally instead of visiting.

Tuesday, November 22, 1881. Pleasant. Lizzie sent word that she could go this morning so I sat in state all forenoon waiting for her, went over home a few minutes before noon. After dinner we went and called upon Mrs. Gates, Mrs. Dan McFarland Jr., Mrs. Joe Dunlap, Mrs. Howard Dunlap, Addie Greene and her mother. Julia Beyerley was out, as were also Mrs. Tremper and Mrs. Jennings, we met them on the street.

Wednesday, November 23, 1881. It has been turning colder all day, we have had rain, snow and sleet and it seems like real Thanksgiving weather. I wrote to Mother Ricker as usual after getting a letter from her today.

Thursday, November 24, 1881. Real cold. I hurried to get to church and after dinner I hurried to get some underwear ready to put on Lizzie as it is so cold. Uncle Jimmie took dinner with us. Aunt Mary Ellen, Ralph and Lucy and Ma came to see us. I did not go anywhere except to church.

Friday, November 25, 1881. Bright and pleasant though rather cold. Emma went home after dinner and so I had to make a trip to the stores before she left. Paid her in full and bought her things for her. Was up to see Lizzie, fixed Maggie's white-fur cap.

Saturday, November 26, 1881. Bright and not quite so cold. Mrs. Graham brought back the cap she tried to clean and I tried it but gave it up also. There was quite a large fire last night on the N.W. Cor of 2nd and Market. Jas took the children to see the ruins this evening.

Sunday, November 27, 1881. Quite frosty but not so cold as it has been. We went to church in the forenoon as usual and Jas went in the evening with Maggie and Willie. I went early to bed, being very tired.

Monday, November 28, 1881. Delightful, much warmer than it has been lately, also bright and clear. Emma came back at noon to my relief as I find I am not able to take all the steps that must be taken in the course of the day. Mrs. Spry, also Mrs. Pursell and Tamzin called today.

Tuesday, November 29, 1881. Lovely, bright, warm day. After dinner I took Lizzie and my work up to sister Lizzie's as she is not well. Ma and Mary being there we made quite a family party. Finished off a mitten for Willie and began bordering a hood for Maggie.

Wednesday, November 30, 1881. Warm and rainy. Was busy with small jobs all forenoon and after dinner Ma and I went to the hotel. Took Carl as far as the barber shop, called for him on my way back and went up to see Lizzie again. Wrote to Mother Ricker.

Thursday, December 1, 1881. Not very pleasant, Lizzie went up to spent the day with John and William Peebles, we missed her very much at home but she enjoyed her day and came home well and happy. Sister Lizzie is not at all well. Ma has been sick in bed all day.

Friday, December 2, 1881. Rather pleasant. Was over to see Ma awhile, she is better. I also went up to see Lizzie awhile in the afternoon. She is better also but not out yet.

Saturday, December 3, 1881. Ma is able to be out again, she seldom stays in long, as soon as she is able to go at all, she begins moving about as she feels badly when confined to the house.

Sunday, December 4, 1881. Weather changeable. Mr. Tewksbury sent word early this morning that Ella Murray died about 5 o'clk A.M. We can not say we are sorry that she is relieved from her suffering, but will miss her and feel sorry that she could not have been spared longer in health.

Monday, December 5, 1881. Weather cloudy and almost cold enough for snow. Ma, Mary and I went to Mrs. Tewksbury's after dinner but as we could do nothing for them, we did not stay long. Was in to see Lizzie a few minutes. Went to Mr. Ewing's and Mr. Reilly's to see what they had new in their stores.

Tuesday, December 6, 1881. As we had no word from Uncle Drew Ricker, I was a little surprised to meet him at the door this evening but we were all glad of course. He will stay with us while here.

Wednesday, December 7, 1881. Not cold, but damp and chilly. Aunt Ad. Ricker and Cousin Bessie Hosford from Ironton came at noon and after dinner we all went directly up to Mr. Tewksbury's to attend the funeral which was held at the 1st Pres. ch. and Dr. Pratt preached a good sermon. The Ironton folks returned on the night train and Uncle Drew with them.

Thursday, December 8, 1881. I am almost sick again today and not able to go out. Uncle D. came back on the 6.30 P.M train and will leave for home tomorrow. I wrote to Mother Ricker this evening. We have cards to Anna Cook's wedding on the 14th she is to marry Jos R. Monfort of Cin. The family live now on Walnut Hills Cin.

Friday, December 9, 1881. We had lunch for Uncle Drew in time for him to leave on the 11.30 train for home. Had a letter today from Mother Ricker and wrote notes to Mr. and Mrs. Cook also Rena Sturges who sent us wedding cards. She married Mr. Emerson H. Brush on Dec. 2nd at Geneva Lake Wis.

Saturday, December 10, 1881. Have not been well today. Ma came and sat awhile with her work. Grace Helfenstein and Mrs. Jno Jones called. also Aunt Mary Moore and Mrs. Kline.

Sunday, December 11, 1881. A little snow, a little sleet and a good deal of cloud made up the weather for today. I have a very bad cold and remained within doors all day. The others went to church as usual.

Monday, December 12, 1881. A rainy gloomy day, I feel some better than yesterday still have more aches than are comfortable. Have done some sewing and writing and want to write to Jennie before stopping.

Tuesday, December 13, 1881. Rained all day and I was not out of the house though better than I have been. Ma and Mary were here and I spent most of the time knitting on Maggie's mitten.

Wednesday, December 14, 1881. Rainy and gloomy all day. I went over home a little while in the afternoon and took a few stitches in Ma's new satin Dolman which she and Mary are making. Had a letter from Jennie and wrote one to Mother Ricker.

Thursday, December 15, 1881. More pleasant though quite cold. Went over again to help with the cloak but there was nothing I could do until after dinner so I went again in the afternoon. and have not done much after all.

Friday, December 16, 1881. Quite cold and frosty. Was over home all the forenoon and did what I could. After dinner I went to sit awhile with Clara Pursell and had a pleasant visit.

Saturday, December 17, 1881. Not so cold and somewhat clearer. Have been at home all day busy as I could be, putting things in order and cleaning up. After dinner I was favored with calls from Mrs. Will Green, Mrs. Joe Dunlap, Mrs. Eggleston Gates, Maggie Peebles and Ma and Mary.

Sunday, December 18, 1881. Lovely overhead but muddy under foot. We attended church with three of the children in the morning. Maggie not feeling well was excused from going.

Monday, December 19, 1881. Cloudy and damp but not very cold. Mary and I made a tour of the stores in the forenoon and after dinner we went to call upon Mrs. Dudit. (Miss Varner) Mrs. Geo Holman nee Sadie Wait, both being brides, and Mrs. Will Silcox, none of them were at home so after a little shopping we came home quite tired with so long a walk.

Tuesday, December 20, 1881. A rainy, rainy day. I was out most of the forenoon in quest of suitable articles for the children to buy for their Christmas tree, visited Lizzie and spent the afternoon over home sewing on fancy aprons for the tree.

Wednesday, December 21, 1881. Rainy. Have been out all day. Was up to see Mary Ellen after dinner, she has been to Cin again. Was up to see Lizzie also today, neither she nor Rich are well.

Thursday, December 22, 1881. Rainy again. I am out every day trying to find things for the children to try and go in the rain wrapped in a gossamer so I've taken no cold and rather enjoy the gloomy weather. Feel sorry for Lizzie who was sick last Christmas also. I am not doing anything for anybody except a little work. Cannot buy presents this year.

Friday, December 23, 1881. Rained again. Dressed a doll for Clara Ricker and have six others on hand to be finished for Christmas. Was out all afternoon doing errands for Lizzie who is not able to be out yet. Opened the box from Kirkwood tonight. It was filled with happiness, my share being handsome napkins, table cloth, towels, hdkfs ect from Father and Mother R. Uncle Drew and Aunt Betsey.

Saturday, December 24, 1881. The sun came out and it did not rain today. Jimmie and I dined at Uncle Enos' where the children had spent the forenoon robbing a Christmas tree.

Sunday, December 25, 1881. Weather quite warm, we had windows open at noon when we dined. Jimmie was sick this morning so the four children went alone to church, he was better and went in the evening.

Monday, December 26, 1881. Rained again this morning but not after dinner. Sister Jennie and the children and Uncle Jimmie dined with us. After which the children had their tree and all the little cousins and big Aunts came to see it. They have made most of the purchases and preparations and enjoyed it accordingly.

Tuesday, December 27, 1881. Wet and gloomy. Spent the forenoon over home and the afternoon with Lizzie who was getting ready to go to Cin to hear Adelina Potts sing in The "Messiah" tomorrow night. Wrote to Aunt Betsey.

Wednesday, December 28, 1881. Lovely bright forenoon but later it clouded up and looked like snow. Was over home to see how they were. Had a letter from Mother Ricker and answered it in the evening. The children's Christmas was prolonged another day by Pa who came at noon loaded with presents for all the little folks, trumpets, horns, dolls, and a tea set for Maggie. Jennie and I went to the hotel after dinner and then took a little walk to do an errand before coming home.

Thursday, December 29, 1881. Weather colder with a few stragglng snowflakes. I went over to see Mrs. Towne this morning but she had not returned from Cin so after a short visit home, Jennie and Bartie came home with me to spend the day. Ma and William Peebles, who is staying there while his father and mother are away, came over and made a visit. Miss Fannie Switzer was here.

Friday, December 30, 1881. Turned cold very fast as it has done many times before on Friday. Rich and Lizzie came home this morning and after dinner, Ma, Jennie and I went up to see her. She was without a girl and hard at work, trying to warm up the house. I also called upon Mrs. Towne, both she and Lizzie attended the concert

and could not express all the pleasure they felt in hearing the fine music. Mr. and Mrs. Towne leave next week for Washington D.C.

Saturday, December 31, 1881. The last day of this year is quite cold with a little snow on the ground. I have been busy as usual without being able to see what I have done: House cleaning all the forenoon and washing the children after dinner being the principal work. Tomorrow will be Communion Sunday, consequently we had preparatory lecture this afternoon. I went to that and afterwards went one or two places with Lizzie, coming home almost chilled through. Was over home a few minutes on an errand. Came home and gave Maggie permission to pop corn which occupied all the time until supper. Instead of retiring early as I had intended, it was rather late and just at midnight the fire alarm sounded and we looked out to see the foundry all in a blaze. It burned very fiercely for some time but fortunately did not spread beyond that building. There was not much sleep for any of us the rest of the night as Jas did not get home until nearly 3 o'clock.